

QUESTIONNAIRE

GREEN PARTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY 2014 ENDORSEMENT DECISION

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Andrew Park will bring the rare combination of policy experience, community development and understanding neighborhood priorities to the City Council. He's worked with neighborhood groups, merchants, the police and city leaders to improve public safety, business districts and our community. In addition, Andrew's commitment to our public schools ranges from volunteering at his children's school to organizing tutoring sessions that prepare high school students for post-secondary school opportunities.

Note: You may respond to any question with a link to your website or other posted positions. For the yes/no questions, please answer yes or no and if you wish to add to your answer, feel free to do so.

1. Motivation -- Why did you choose to run for City office?

Every day, as a community leader, I work with neighbors and business leaders on your most important issues – responsive police services, thriving business districts, healthy neighborhoods and opportunities for youth. So, when Council President Pat Kernighan announced that she would not seek re-election, many of the community and business leaders I'd worked with through the years encouraged me to run for City Council. Running for office was not on my radar—I enjoy the work I do organizing in my community to make a better life and create a healthier community for my family, my children, my neighbors, my local public schools like Manzanita Community/SEED, Bella Vista, Franklin, Roosevelt and Oakland High schools, and the youth of Oakland. Only after repeated encouragement from those who know my tireless work as an organizer, and after consulting with my wife and family, did I decide to take the next step in working to improve the lives of more people and run for City Council. I did not have to move into the District to run for this office

You will not find anyone with a deeper commitment to Oakland. My parents immigrated to Oakland when I was a child. While they worked hard at their own small businesses here, I attended Oakland public schools and was fortunate to receive guidance and support to fulfill my own dreams. After graduating from UC-Davis, and receiving my doctoral degree in ministry at the GTU in Berkeley, I returned to Oakland where my wife and I send our children to our neighborhood public school. We are active, involved parents there. I have a vested interest in working with stakeholders to Move Oakland Forward Together.

2. Program and Priorities -- Elected office provides the opportunity to proactively lead by placing new ideas on the agenda for consideration and development. What are some specific ideas you intend to pursue if elected? What do you believe are the main priorities for the City?

Upwardly mobile jobs for those that are holding the tension rods of struggle is my top priority. In order to get there, an elected must know and have the intense desire to engage communities and commitment to make policies work for people so that they don't end up being hurtful.

Thus, public safety is a priority—it impacts quality of life issues across the board and makes it difficult for entrepreneurship and small businesses to thrive. I would use the lessons I have learned as co-chair of my Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council 17Y, where peers across the city want to know how they can emulate our innovative programs that bring the community, businesses and the police together to reduce and prevent crime. It's not necessarily a new idea as much as a new approach---as an organizer, and simply, doing the hard work of doing real work.

I am an organizer and would take the same approach to new policy agendas that I do as a community organizer. Meet with residents, stakeholders and issue advocates to hear their ideas and concerns and work together at the grassroots level—from the outside in as well as the inside out—to pass policies that improve people's lives, whether it's about safer neighborhoods, improved public transit and pedestrian and bicycle safety, parks, infrastructure, housing, schools or other issues.

The main priorities are public safety, thriving business districts, healthy neighborhoods and opportunities for youth and working families.

3. Qualifications -- Please give a brief summary of your background and qualifications for the office of City. If you are a current City Government elected official,

what issues can you point to in your time as an elected official that have had a positive impact?

As the Administrator of the Physical Education Program, at the University of California-Berkeley, I am responsible for a multi-million dollar budget. My job is to find resources for program funding and think of creative ways to allocate that money so that it will benefit the most people. That's exactly the kind of business, real-world budget and bureaucratic experience that will serve you well when I am elected to the Oakland City Council. I am skilled in making bureaucracy work and spending limited resources wisely.

My work with the Oakland Police Department, City leaders, and staff have given me an inside view in how Oakland gets things done, and how we can do them better. As co-chair of my Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council, I build trust between residents, merchants, victims of crime and police officers to find innovative ways to reduce crime. And as founder and Executive Director of the community-based non-profit group "Trybe Inc.", I help create positive community and educational experiences for local youth. I have served as a board member for organizations dedicated to community and business development, improving infrastructure and making our neighborhood parks destination places.

4. Local groups -- Are you affiliated with any of the active Oakland groups? Such as TOLA, Make Oakland Better Now, Block by Block, Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club, GO Public Schools, OCO, or any other. Describe your involvement and why you feel this group is worthy of your support.

I am an active leader with many local neighborhood Oakland groups and organizations including:

- ***Executive Director of the youth organization Trybe Inc.,***
- ***Co-Chair of NCPC 17Y,***
- ***Friends of Bella Vista Park board member***
- ***Manzanita Recreation Center (Advisory Board)***
- ***District 2 Community Development Block Grant, Vice-Chair (former)***
- ***Central City East Project Area Committee, Board Member (former)***
- ***OCO Leader at my children's neighborhood public elementary school***

I have put my volunteer time and effort in the areas listed above. But this work is not done in a vacuum and we are often most effective when we partner or

collaborate with other groups. As an organizer, I see the value of meeting with groups and stakeholders of differing perspectives to find common interests and expand the base of support for important policy decisions.

5. Local activities -- Other than local politics, are you involved in any other Oakland based community activities that you would like to share with us? This can range from volunteering in your school to being in your church baseball league.

See answer in #4 and other answers throughout this questionnaire. Local organizing is my history and passion.

6. Budget -- If you were on council for the next budget in 2015 how would you act differently from the council members dealing with the budget in 2013? What do you think is the cause of the current budget crisis?

City of Oakland has a \$1 billion annual budget. It is a big challenge to do it right under the best circumstances, but the divisions in the city council, resulting in simultaneously-released competing budget proposals with competing budget priorities didn't help. While Oakland faces pressures from reductions in state funding and unfunded long-term obligations, such as pensions, this is more than a math problem. There is a trust problem: the city needs to open up its books, so that the citizens can understand when services need to be cut or taxes need to be raised. Open Budget Oakland (openbudgetoakland.org) shows what can be done with a little transparency (using budget data from data.oaklandnet.com)---we need more of it; we need more citizen participation. Most importantly, there is a leadership problem. The city council needs to stop the infighting, make the difficult decisions that benefit the city as a whole, and address the long-term problems. As a city councilmember, I will continue what I have done as a community organizer and an administrator at UC Berkeley and serve as a unifier.

7. Youth -- Describe the condition of youth in Oakland? What would your priorities for youth be for Oakland government and how would they get implemented and paid for?

As mentioned in previous answers, I moonlight as the founder and Executive Director of Trybe—a local non-profit dedicated to creating positive opportunities for youth and working families. I didn't need a non-profit in order to engage and organize youth but it helps to keep it sustainable and scalable.

Our focus ranges from tutoring high school students to prepare them for becoming the first in their families to pursue post-secondary school goals, to finding job training and employment to participating in community events from park clean ups, to thank you picnics for the police to peace walks. We have found over 50 youth jobs.

When I was young and growing up in Oakland, I had lots of challenges and opportunities. Many of my friends are dead. Fortunately, I found positive role models who believed in me and encouraged me to pursue my dreams and attend community college and then a 4-year school. I have been giving back to my community by mentoring youth and recruiting others to do so as well most of my adult life. This work will continue to be a priority for me. There are many successful programs for youth—and some not so successful. Make no mistake though, funds will be difficult to find for these programs and it will take creative means to leverage dollars from other sources—the federal government, the state, the county, non-profits, foundations and others to make this happen. I have the experience and commitment to make sure we serve the needs of our youth.

8. Police -- How do you think our community policing is going and what are the next steps? Describe the current relationship between the residents and the Oakland Police. Do you suggest any changes? Do you support Restorative Justice programs and how should the city be involved, if at all.

See previous answers on my role as co-chair of NCPC 17Y. I believe in community policing and we need more of it. My experience as chair of NCPC 17Y only reinforces my commitment to community policing. In my neighborhood, the once tense and untrusting relationship between residents and the police has improved. It took years of organizing to achieve this and unfortunately took some high profile violent crimes to bring together residents, victims of crimes, families of victims, the police and City leaders. Today, a good portion of the far too many homicides in my neighborhood have been solved by a combination of good police work, resident cooperation and witnesses coming forward. We have been able to not only build trust but create positive opportunities for youth.

Community policing works. It sometimes involves the police but always involves the community.

I am regularly called into restorative justice meetings to be a support to local youth at the respective schools. Restorative justice is a proven model to bring more healing to a community after a crime, rather than more pain, division, and sense of hopelessness. For instance, when the new Bella Vista garden was vandalized by local youth, EBAYC partnered with Friends of the Park and the NCPC to engage the youth, rather than punish and incarcerate the youth. At the end of the summer, park stewards and parents were able to hear apologies from these youth, who worked all summer to restore the garden. This is a beautiful example of the potential of restorative justice and how a 'crime' can miraculously be used to bring the community together, rather than destroy it. There is more that the City can do to assist those working on the ground on restorative justice and I will bring my experience on this issue to the council.

9. Development Projects -- What are your thoughts and views about the West Oakland Army Base, The upper Broadway-Valdez Triangle, Oak to 9th and other projects?

West Oakland Army Base: the project needs to continue with concern for its local impacts. The developer needs to abide by the local hiring jobs agreement, and we need to push for local hiring in ongoing operations once the project is completed. Area air quality monitoring should be continued to ensure adverse impacts to West Oakland residents can be quickly addressed.

The upper Broadway-Valdez Triangle: this is a good opportunity to capture retail dollars that we lose to neighboring cities like Emeryville. The city recently completed the environmental impact report (EIR) and now need to provide the right incentives to attract the developers who will provide most of the development funding. We also need to ensure sufficient community benefits are provided by the developers.

Oak to 9th: with the recent ground-breaking at Brooklyn Basin, this is the chance to realize the community benefits agreement (CBA) negotiated in 2006 for the project and increase the supply of affordable housing for Oaklanders. This should also be used as an opportunity to create a true mixed-income community where lower-income residents also enjoy all community amenities provided to higher-income residents.

Other projects: with the recovery of the housing market to pre-recession levels, we need to ensure that the surrounding communities share in the prosperity, just as they have been asked to share in the sacrifices during the hard times. The city should take an active role in negotiating CBAs to ensure shared prosperity.

I believe in local hire but it is not working. Developers are not meeting goals and workforce development is clogged. We need engagement and implementation now. This takes leadership and courage.

10. Police Misconduct. What are your thoughts and how do you feel Oakland should deal with it? How would they get the Oakland Police past the current oversight under Judge Henderson?

The progress on the negotiated settlement agreement with Judge Henderson on The Riders case continues, with 17 of 22 tasks in compliance and the rest in partial compliance. OPD should continue this progress and complete Phase 2 of the agreement. Furthermore, after the oversight is complete, OPD should maintain the gains made during this period. This is sustainable only if the police is part of the community, serving the community. As a co-chair of my Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council, I connected my neighbors with the

police department, making community policing effective. As a councilmember, I will make sure that we replicate the successes of NCPC 17. I believe in the current leadership of OPD but they need support. I am not afraid to support the police when the police are on the side of the community.

We also need an independent police commission so that discipline of officers is taken away from the City Administrator and Police Department. But even more, we need to somehow address arbitration. Former city managers have fired dozens of police officers to only be overruled in arbitration only to demoralize both OPD and the community.

11. Housing & Gentrification -- Increasing rents, dislocation, and gentrification have been in the news. What policies do you advocate to assure that Oakland tenants are protected and that Oakland remains an economically and racially diverse city?

We have many of the necessary policies already in place: just cause ordinance, Ellis Act regulations, capital improvement pass-through limits, among others. What we really need is educating tenants, particularly lower-income or limited-English-proficiency tenants, on the protections they enjoy and the rules landlords are required to follow. Again, this is implementation and engagement, to do the real work of being in and reaching out to communiti. I live in the San Antonio district, one of the most economically and racially diverse parts of the city, and I have dedicated my life to serving my neighbors and connecting them to city services. I will continue to do that as a councilmember representing the District.

We need to value what is already here rather than just what is coming in. New money and resources are great but so is what is already here. I liken it to beans and rice. My family cannot eat with plain old good rice. We can have all of the fancy fish, meat, and tasty sauces but if the rice is not done, then we cannot eat the meal. Rice and beans are the staple, the consistent thing we grew up on and love, that nourishes and gives life. I have that Oakland soul to value what is already here.

It is about who is dictating the terms of the conversation. Is it people from the outside, gentrifiers themselves who are leading the effort to stop gentrification? Or can we have some indigenous leaders who understand that Oakland is NOT Brooklyn or San Francisco or whatever other parallels are being drawn diverting peoples' attention from the real issues.

12. Environment -- What do you think the Oakland City government should be doing about the environment?

Oakland has been a leader on many issues, from global warming to zero waste to bicycle friendly options to encouraging green tech companies to locate in our city. But the City can do more. We are in a drought and need to do more to reduce

our use of water and find creative ways to capture and reuse grey water. Water has the attention of Oaklanders and now is the time to seize the moment and bring stakeholders together to find ways to reduce waste and maintain our infrastructure. I look forward to meeting with stakeholders and environmental policy leaders to address what they see as key policy initiatives. As an organizer, I often rely on the skills and expertise of others to see how we can organize on the grassroots level AND the sound policy level to achieve important goals.

Again, I would work on more engagement here to apply policies rather than think of new policies. For new policies, I would have the bottom 12% in mind. These 45K people are the ones living in public housing. Instead of bike lanes, which are great, why not use the first few million of a given measure to buy bicycles for these families? This way, we'd have a biking constituency like no other place in America demanding bike lanes, safe routes, etc.

13. Satisfaction of Residents -- How do you think the average resident feels about city government? How would you rate the satisfaction level?

I have been doorknocking for months. It is pretty clear that Oaklanders are discouraged by the lack of leadership, entrenched bureaucracy and political infighting. Oaklanders love their city and take great pride in it, but they are not satisfied with the status quo.

14. Accountability -- How do you propose making yourself accountable and accessible to the citizens of Oakland?

As an immigrant, I don't use the word "citizen" much. I would serve all the residents of my very diverse and immigrant heavy district—both citizens and non-citizens. As said before, I approach working on policy as an organizer and if elected, my staff and I would meet with stakeholders to see how we can work together on important policy issues. We would meet in the District, at City Hall and in the neighborhoods. I would not be running for office if I did not see serving on the city council as an opportunity to use the office to organize for positive policy change. It is an opportunity not to be wasted.

15. Do we need an Oakland Progressive Alliance akin to the one in Richmond, and if so, who should be members?

I would be willing to hear from progressive advocates and stakeholders to see how we can work together for positive change. Oakland is different from Richmond In sheer size alone. I've worked in West Contra County and the problems are deep there as well. We have a lot of work to do to achieve this sort

of Alliance, starting with the leaders of these progressive groups being out of touch with rank and file, but I would be more than willing to help.

16. Governance -- What kind of relationship could you have with other office holders? Who do you see as a working majority on council and who can you work with?

I've learned from my life organizing in the community that you need to establish respectful relationships with office holders. I would take the same approach as a colleague on the city council. You never know when someone you are in opposition with on one issue can become a key ally on a different issue. As long as you are honest, consistent and passionate in your opinions—colleagues will respect you—whether they support your position or disagree. And sometimes, the hardest colleagues to work with are people that share your opinion. Governance really comes down to having solid people skills, working professionally through differing opinions and being straightforward with colleagues on the council. Working majorities change depending on the issue and I expect to be able to work with everyone—when we are in agreement and when we are not. I am not cut from a political cloth, but from a neighborhood organizing cloth. I am also a person of faith and come from the faith-based organizing.

17. Endorsements -- Who has endorsed you so far? Who do you expect to endorse you? Who do you endorse in the other City races? Include your #2 and 3 choices for your own race and note that this year the City races are Mayor, Council seats, School Board seats and City Auditor.

I am proud to earn the support of countless neighborhood leaders and activists. See my website for endorsements at:
<http://www.andrewparkoakland.com/endorsements>

You will find the front-line workers such as rank and file laborers, principals, teachers, after-school directors, non-profit leaders and neighborhood activists.

18. Campaign Funding -- How much money do you currently have for this race? How much money do you plan to raise? Where will the money come from? Describe sources of financial contributions for your campaign that you would refuse to accept (if any).

Over \$40,000 has been raised. The goal is \$100,000. I expect to get the limited public financing money from the City. My money has come from District 2 residents, Oaklanders, friends, family members and others with a stake in Oakland. I will continue to focus my fundraising on these sources. It has not come from developers, big business interests, PACs or other special interests. I would not accept money from the Koch Brothers or any of their ilk.

19. Checks and balances -- How do you view current the relationship between the Council and Mayor? Any comments on the same question for the Auditor and City Attorney? Are there any changes they would propose to the city charter?

The relationship between the Council and the Mayor is not healthy. Rather than focus on what's best for Oakland, the relationships among elected office holders is tinged with infighting and politics at its worst. We can do better and I would work to improve the governance and relationships of elected officials. If I can get neighbors who vehemently disagree with each to find common ground to work together, I think I might have just as good luck with elected officials.

I would need to meet with those advocating for city charter changes before making any decisions or commitments.

20. Money in elections. -- Does Oakland need campaign finance reform? If so, what kind?

Oakland's campaign finance laws seem to be working. At least from my personal first time as a candidate experience running for the city council.

But it would be great if we could somehow reduce the limits of how much a person could raise and support to make it no more than \$30K. I am not looking forward to having to spend so much on mail. More than campaign finance reform, we need redistricting. Cutting up the districts so that under-represented people have more power in City government is something we need now and I would work with groups who are championing this effort.

21. Anything Else? -- Is there anything else you would like us to know about you?

My commitment is to District 2 residents. I am not your typical politician and didn't have to move into District Two to run for this office. Elective office should not be used as a springboard for the next political opportunity. Nor should it be a new hobby. It is a commitment to improve your lives and make the City of Oakland work for you.

You won't see a long list of career politicians, special interests and Political Action Committees endorsing my campaign. But you will recognize your neighbors, your local business owners, and your community's leaders.

You deserve an independent, locally-rooted voice on your City Council ready to deliver what you have a right to expect: safety and a good quality of life.

Yes or No questions (follow with an explanation if you want to add one)

-- Do you support the renewal of Measure Y? Yes

-- Do you support the minimum wage proposal? Yes

-- Are you in favor of a police commission? Yes

-- Do you support Dan Kalb's proposal on oversight and transparency? Yes

-- Are you in favor of receiving public complaints against police officers at the Civilian Police Review Board? Yes

-- Would you vote for using eminent domain to abate foreclosure crisis? **Richmond has taken a novel approach to the foreclosue crisis using eminent domain. I am not adverse to using eminent domain to save a neighborhood from being destroyed by foreclosed and distressed properties, but I would want to learn more in detail to see if this is the best and only option available. Also, social impact bonds are something to look at and organize around for foreclosures. I have personally helped 7 households keep their home by walking them through the loan modification process.**

-- Do you support Ranked Choice Voting? Yes—I am running in a RCV election

-- Would you support Proportional Representation? Not at the moment. But I would be willing to meet with proponents to hear their concerns.

-- Do you support diverting people from prosecution if they participate in a restorative justice program? Yes—depending on the crime. I currently work in the community on restorative justice.

-- Do you support Community Choice Aggregation? Yes

-- Would you vote to allow more grey water systems? Yes

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this questionnaire.