

**QUESTIONNAIRE
GREEN PARTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY
2014 ENDORSEMENT DECISION**

Name: [Dianne Martinez](#)

Phone: (510) 346-5329

Email: emeryvilledianne@gmail.com

Website: www.martinez2014.org

Line of work: [Television Producer](#)

1. What are three major issues in Emeryville that need to be addressed now? What creative ideas do you have to address these issues?

A) Creating opportunities to reduce car trips (bike paths):

I am a proponent of supporting our city's general plan, which calls for increased bike paths and accessibility for bicycles and pedestrians. As a citizen, I realize that a general plan loses strength when the City Council does not prioritize its implementation. I will be a strong supporter of these bike paths. As a mother who intends to send her children to public school in Emeryville, I am seeking safe bicycle routes for my own family, and for all families who consider commuting by bicycle.

B) Creating opportunities to reduce car trips (Emery Go Round):

I intend to work with staff and stakeholders to find viable options to support our city's shuttle service, and serve its expanding ridership. The upcoming Alameda County Transportation Commission's upcoming measure may provide a source of funding for local shuttles in our region, but Emeryville's needs should be heard loud and clear. I will be an advocate for this critical shuttle service.

C) Environmental impact of development, including parks and open spaces:

When Temescal Creek Park was re-vamped (re-opening in 2013), City Council faced public outcry over a plan that sought to remove eucalyptus trees that were known roosts for local hawks. The city

worked with concerned citizens to maintain the trees and revise the plans to incorporate the needs of local flora and fauna. In keeping with our community's desire for parks and open spaces, I will advocate for the ideals of our general plan, but will also be a voice for smart development that considers the impact changing landscapes for our local wildlife.

2. Who has endorsed you so far (groups and individuals of note)?

**Mayor Jac Asher
Councilmember Ruth Atkin
Councilmember Nora Davis
Councilmember Jennifer West
UNITE HERE! Local 2850
Residents United for a Livable Emeryville**

3. How much money do you currently have for this race? How much money do you plan to raise? Where will the money come from?

I have raised over \$4,000. I intend to spend \$10,000-\$15,000, but I have a goal of raising \$20,000. I am running on a slate with Scott Donahue, so our expenses are shared.

4. Why did you choose to run for this office? What strength/ skills would you bring to the Council?

With Jennifer West stepping down from City Council, Emeryville is losing the voice of a young parent in city government, as well as one of Emeryville's most progressive Council Members. I believe that I can provide a strong voice for the residents (and parents) of Emeryville, advocating for the values our neighbors hold most dear – issues such as bike/ped access improvements and carbon emission reduction that improve the lives of families and protect our environment.

I am a television producer with experience managing projects from San Francisco to Siberia. I'm able to process large amounts of information and drill down to what is important. I know how to

research complex issues, ask direct questions, and most importantly, listen.

5. What major Emeryville development of the last 10 years do you least respect and why? Most respect?

It definitely breaks my heart to see the complete teardown of an old building that could be re-vamped. This recently happened at 3900 Adeline, where an older brick-building has been removed to make way for new housing.

The developments that I value the most in Emeryville are our relatively new and/or improved parks and open spaces. Temescal Creek Park is a place that has been given a new life with well-used play structures for children and a dog park. This was done while preserving mature trees, with minimal disturbance to the predatory birds that call the park home.

6. How can we attract more families into Emeryville?

We need to strengthen the partnership between the city and the school district, improving the state of education in Emeryville. With the completion of the Emeryville Center for Community Life (including a K-12 one-campus school) on the horizon, there seems to be some time to guide this relationship to the benefit of the surrounding families and community. I for one would like to push for a bicycle path alongside the ECCL. This path is already in the general plan for the city, but we need strong voices on City Council to ensure that the plan's spirit is executed. Without strong support, this path could very well be left out of final construction. As it is, it has been relegated to a nebulous "Phase 2" of construction that has no attached date.

7. Traffic is a major problem in Emeryville and with all the development in the pipeline it seems likely to get worse. How would you work to lessen this?

I am in support of managed parking solutions (meters, permits) that would promote alternate modes of transportation (biking, walking) to

Emeryville Businesses. Simply put, with all of the retail development that has occurred in recent decades, and the associated non-local traffic and carbon emissions it brings into our community, we must do as much as we can to get cars off the road and encourage alternative forms of transportation, particularly bicycle and pedestrian opportunities.

8. The Emeryville Center for Community Life is now under construction. Are you in agreement with the present vision for its use? What new ideas or changes would you suggest or support? How do you feel about its present sources and level of funding?

As a parent with preschool-aged children, I am concerned about a single campus for K-12. However, I myself came from a school that taught students from kindergarten through 9th grade. I think this model can succeed, but only with strong leadership and community involvement. I would like to foster and support community engagement with our schools. I mean that on a personal level, as a parent who intends to be involved in my own children's educational path in Emery Unified.

I mentioned in a previous answer that I am a proponent of a bicycle path adjacent to ECCL. As a candidate, and more so as a parent, I am passionate about implementing this path.

9. What is your opinion about developers signing community benefit agreements in Emeryville? Please include in your answer specific reference to the (former) Sherwin-Williams property.

I think it's one thing to sign a CBA, and it's another to carry it out with transparency and meaningful community involvement. I'm grateful for community watchdogs, such as Residents United for a Livable Emeryville, who have taken developers to task in an effort to incorporate neighborhood serving (and job-creating) businesses into developments like the one at the Sherwin-Williams site. Ultimately, though, I think the onus is on the developer to execute a plan that is true to the spirit of the CBA, and that includes data to support the viability of proposed retail spaces.

10. Without the re-development agency, how can small business be encouraged to come to Emeryville?

One way is to hold developers to task in executing CBAs that outline space for local-serving retail. Another way is to support businesses that stimulate alternate modes of transportation. The recently-approved bike corral at the forthcoming site of the Commonwealth Pub is an example of City Hall supporting a small business.

11. Do you believe that transparency in city decisions has improved in the past five years? Does this still need improvement? What changes would you suggest or support?

I would like to commend City Councilmember Jennifer West for being an active conduit between the city and its citizens. Her blog provides critical coverage of the decisions that affect us every day. Should I be elected, I intend to carry the torch and stay in touch with the electorate through digital media.

City council meetings are already live-streamed and shown on local cable, however I think a media campaign with print ads at bus stops and targeted on-line ads would be helpful to let people know about this resource.

12. How do you see the role of the city manager in Emeryville with regard to both connection to the city council and the public? Can you comment on changes in this with our new city manager and your opinion.

In the past, there has been criticism over the possibility of “back room deals” when a previous city manager dedicated standing meetings to representatives of the business community. It seems that our new city manager, Sabrina Landreth, is more liberal with her time and willing to hold open office hours to meet with anyone in the community. Yet although Ms. Landreth readily deals with the public directly, she ultimately reports to the council. My understanding is that she acts in order with this chain of command.

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

I'm a fan of hot yoga, I'm an amateur coffee roaster, and I filled out this questionnaire while listening to binaural beats.