

## QUESTIONNAIRE

### GREEN PARTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY 2014 ENDORSEMENT DECISION

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1. Motivation -- Why did you choose to run for City office? I love this city. As someone who has lived here for nearly three decades, raised a family here, and volunteered in the community by serving on the Boards of several organizations, I am tired of hearing about how Oakland is "a city with great potential." The moment for acknowledging our potential has passed; it's time to realize some significant gains. The dominant narrative of Oakland is all about crime and the absence of real public safety. Crime affects everything here in a negative way. It hurts our school system, it depresses property values, it makes it difficult for Oakland businesses to thrive, it deters and retards other business investment and development coming into Oakland--which also means that Oakland's unemployment rate is higher than all surrounding cities, and it occupies way too much of our elected officials' time and attention, even if they do a poor job of addressing it. Oakland needs a mayor who will make public safety a priority. I am willing to be that mayor.

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? As indicated above, I am very concerned about public safety and the need for economic development in Oakland--and I intend to be focused on addressing these priorities for the city. For public safety, for the short term, that means addressing staffing levels for the police department (900 officers minimum); new and creative strategies for child prostitution and trafficking, illegal dumping and tagging; continued investment in violence prevention programs (I am partial to mentoring programs, restorative justice programs, and hospital or medical aligned street outreach programs)--that are also evaluated by a metric of reducing violence. Since most crime is also usually connected to poverty, the longer term solution requires smarter approaches to dealing with poverty--and here I intend to focus on employment, access to quality education, affordable housing, and access to healthcare. The particulars for this plan are spelled out in detail at <http://www.joetuman.com/crimeplan>.

In order to pay for this and provide the economic development I mentioned above, I will need to help existing businesses here in Oakland, and attract new business development. To this end I will leverage the 9 sectors for employment that are natural strengths for Oakland (health care, commercial space, technology, neighborhood and major anchor retail, food production, hotels

and hospitality, arts/sports/tourism, green jobs and construction. Half of Oakland's 10 largest employers are public sector; they account for 60% of the 34,562 jobs that the top ten employers produce. As we grow, Oakland has to adjust the ratio to include more private sector jobs-mostly because the public sector jobs do not all go to Oakland residents AND the public sector employers do not pay taxes to the city. I will focus on assisting existing businesses-small and large-and attracting 500 new businesses to Oakland. The specifics for this plan can be seen at: [http://www.joetuman.com/economic\\_plan](http://www.joetuman.com/economic_plan)

Additionally, I am concerned about housing needs for Oakland. Consider for a moment what characteristics attract you to a city: quality of the schools, a sense of safety, the availability of services, the accessibility of public transportation, the diversity of the community, etc. Certainly, as well, we consider the availability of housing. As a city, Oakland needs more housing units beyond current inventory, both for sale and rent. More units also need to be identified for subsidized (section 8) housing. I support more density population growth in downtown Oakland, and to a limited extent in Jack London Square; such growth, however, comes with the expectation that there will be businesses to provide services for the growing population. The recent 10K program succeeded in bringing thousands of new people into the downtown area-but we have yet to see a proportionate number of retail businesses capable of meeting the needs of this population. As a consequence, they often spend their dollars elsewhere-and all too frequently in other cities. Obviously that is not just an economic problem but an environmental one as well, needlessly increasing VMTs. Similarly, growth in the number of housing units available in existing neighborhoods is dependent upon the availability of parcel spaces, or the potential to create more multi-unit apartments or condo spaces. Neighborhoods also need more careful attention from the city about districts for retail, including space for basic services (shoe repair, dry cleaners, lock and key shops, etc) as well as grocery stores and other retailers for clothing, furniture, electronics appliances and bicycles to name a few. The paucity of these throughout Oakland again helps create the exodus for Oakland retail dollars into other communities-and leaves Oakland neighborhoods underserved. My vision for both the downtown and the neighborhoods also includes a commitment to continue expanding bicycle lanes throughout the city as part of a larger grid connecting neighborhoods and the downtown. As a cyclist, I would like to see more people on bikes or walking-instead of so many people driving cars.

As for education, please consider that supporting my efforts to win this race will eventually net you (for the first time in our history, I believe) **a teacher in the mayor's office**. Not a former school board member. Not a parental PTA member. Not someone with opinions about schools and a desire to tell you how to do your job better. Instead: a teacher. Someone with thirty four years of teaching and classroom experience (I began teaching while I was still in law school). Even though the Mayor has only an advocacy relationship with OUSD, the School Board and our Superintendent-I am not going to forget my roots. I will continue to be a strong advocate for public education and Oakland schools.

I very much support the idea of making more of our schools (especially those under-performing schools in West and East Oakland) into neighborhood and community centers. We can encourage this by funding after-school programs not only for extra-curriculars, but also for completion of homework *before* students go home. We can also use these schools as meeting places for parents who might benefit from support groups, assistance with helping their children for school and the

like; doing this connects neighbors and promotes more of a sense of community. It also makes the school desirable for people to visit.

Additionally, I believe we must work on decreasing truancy (especially for AA males) which can lead to dropping out of school all together. While OUSD has an initiative to target AA males, as an educator I am persuaded that the intervention for these young people must occur between 3rd and 6th grade, and revolve around being certain that learning skills and study skills are acquired and in place before students finish middle school. Additionally, I am a big believer that if we are to keep students motivated to remain in class, we have to invest in teacher development. Great, not just good, teachers are what keep students coming back to class. Our poorest schools rely heavily upon Teach for America teachers to supplement meager school budgets. We have to invest in these young teachers--many of whom are good--and make them great teachers who desire to remain at OUSD past the 5 years they may give with the Teach for America program.

Finally, I am aware that to prepare future generations of workers to compete for the 20 million jobs this country will produce in the innovation sector of our economy, we must do a better job at promoting math literacy at a progressively younger age for children. As mayor I will source dollars for pre-school math literacy programs-going all the way down (age appropriate) to one year olds. Math is a universal language that should be accessible and learnable for every human being. As a university professor I see too many students who come to school with an aversion for math, and a fear that navigating it is beyond their abilities. I know this is nonsense. In my judgment, helping students to learn and retain this in school can be greatly enhanced by pre-school programs that promote an early joy of math for pre-schoolers.

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?

I have been a department head at the university for several years, managing approximately seventy teachers and staff. In this time I have been responsible for scheduling, regular performance assessments, new hiring, and a very large program-review for accreditation, as well as managing the day-to-day needs of the department. We have approximately 900 undergraduate student majors and a large graduate program. To my knowledge, I am the only mayoral candidate in this race (excluding the mayor with her current experience) to have management experience in a union environment. Additionally, I have served on the boards of several non-profits who have done advocacy with the city regarding public safety, budgeting and good government. I possess significant institutional knowledge of the way city government works, and also have existing relationships with all members of the CC, as well as the current (and former) city administrator, the current and last several police chiefs, and several members of city staff.

In contrast with most of my opponents, I should add what I will bring to the Mayor's office is a focus upon making a positive impact on public safety and economic development, affordable

housing, education and creating jobs Unlike my opponents who *talk about* transparency in their campaign rhetoric , I am actually modeling it by having published extensive plans for public safety and economic development many months in advance of the election, so that voters and stakeholders have a chance to inspect my ideas and understand my intentions. Finally, unlike other candidates, I am a current union member.

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 assume you mean political and civic organizations, along with professional associations. In Oakland that would include a work group on public safety sponsored by the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce (meeting regularly with the mayor's consultants for OPD, as well as OPD Chief of Police, the US Attorney, the District Attorney, members of the Justice Department and the FBI, along with lead consultants for Ceasefire and street outreach programs-to assess police staffing, compliance with the NSA, and proposed reforms within OPD); a Measure Y Audit Group called the "Adults in the Room," (organized by Rashidah Grinage and PUEBLO) the organization "Make Oakland Better Now," (board member-focused upon safety, budget and transparency issues for city hall), the non-profit group "Running for a Better Oakland," (mentor for numerous youngsters, training them for the Oakland running festival); GO Public Schools (focus upon teacher development-also invited to visit and lecture in some schools-for example, see video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSXOw-5NuYg>); TOLA (invited to speak with TOLA fellows-for example, see video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tfAKx9dXISQ>); the John George Democratic Club; the Metropolitan Greater Oakland Democratic Club, the Stonewall Democratic Club.

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.

As indicated above, I enjoy mentoring and coaching young and developing runners in Oakland. I also volunteer my time in West and East Oakland with park and street clean-ups.

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?

As a candidate for Mayor, I am unclear if this question was intended for me?

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?

I think this very much depends upon which young we are talking about? Foster kids? Kids from single parent families-where, perhaps, the parent is a grandmother and mother may be a teenager? Children from lower income, middle income, or upper income families? Children from what ethnicity or heritage and culture?

There are a sizable number of children in Oakland who live in poverty. They reside in areas of East and West Oakland with the 20-25 most under-performing schools. They exist in environments with the highest truancy rates in the school district, the greatest drop-out rates, the highest crime rates, the most violence, and the least resources of space or activities (like safe parks, clean streets, open pools or fully funded and accessible recreation centers) that would allow kids to be kids. Most of these children are black or brown. Their condition is not good. We must do better by them.

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.

Let's start by being clear about what is meant by community policing. For some people this is mostly about establishing collaboration between the police and members of the community. For others the term suggests more civilian oversight and control of a police department. Our city government describes community policing as "a partnership between the Police Department and the residents of Oakland to prevent crime and solve neighborhood problems. Community policing is at the heart of the City's official approach to public safety, as outlined in **Resolution 79235**. Community policing goes beyond traditional policing to build a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship between the police and the community by:

- \* Encouraging active citizen involvement in policing efforts.
- \* Focusing on issues of ongoing public concern.
- \* Providing continuity of service to the community
- \* Ensuring active involvement on the part of problem-solving officers and neighborhood services coordinators in the affairs of the community.
- \* Encouraging beat officers, problem-solving officers, and neighborhood services coordinators to initiate creative responses to neighborhood problems.
- \* Developing the capacity of residents to speak and act effectively on their own behalf.
- \* Strengthening and building groups and organizations so residents can advocate for their own interests.

In general, I think the city has created a partial infrastructure for community policing through a network of NCPC's, along with alliances made with some parts of the faith-based community, and to a lesser extent the CPAB. In my experience, many of the NCPC's enjoy good support from the community, and with the recent push to geographic policing within five regions, we have been able to move towards community policing. At the same time, it would appear that the CPAB has for some time been mostly used for public relations more than actual input from the community. Does the Mayor take their reports or suggestions to heart? Do CC members bother with CPAB's recommendations? Hopefully this will change-but the results to date have been underwhelming.

As for interaction with individuals and community groups, it is obvious that chronic understaffing issues for the police department have greatly compromised the ability of OPD to meet all of its obligations to community policing. How can we expect timely response from our patrols when the number of calls vastly exceeds to the number of officers patrolling and/or their capacity to respond? How reassured are people in different parts of this city when they call in to report a crime and are told (absent a report involving a gun) to "file a report online"--? And for those residents who feel a contentious relationship with some members of OPD, how do we realize the full potential of community policing when there are still lingering hard feelings about racial profiling or abuse of authority directed especially at officers who often are not residents of this city? There are indeed some members of our community who are upset with the police because they fear them. There are others who are upset because the police cannot (for the reasons above) respond; they feel vulnerable and unprotected. There are many who are angry about having to resort to pay for private patrols.

So how would I correct this? For starters, give CPAB some real power. Enough to make them more than an afterthought for our electeds. Also, staff up on the department so that officers can respond *and also* patrol in greater numbers. I say this not because staffing up would produce more arrests, but rather because the visible projection of law enforcement would discourage bad decisions and encourage good decisions. It would also reassure community members who feel unprotected and ignored right now. As for the hard feelings between some members of our community and the police, the long-term solution is to recruit more Oakland residents to become police officers, and in a way that continues to mirror the diversity of our community. All officers should be culturally competent.

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? I am glad the Army Base is being developed, and agree that a logistics center makes sense for a port that is only at about 40% of capacity. I am NOT happy about the number of jobs that will be produced, and very much dismayed that less than 13% of them are going to African Americans-and probably less than that number to those from West Oakland. That is not okay with me. As for developing Broadway Valdez, let me save my comments until we get a clearer picture of how much and what kind of retail will come in. The Oak to 9th project should bring new housing-which is a good thing-but also create a demand for more city services (e.g., a new fire station?). It is not clear how that will be budgeted for.

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? I do not approve of misconduct, and I want every employee who works for me-not just the police-to know that they must treat every citizen the same. Equally. If you can't do that, you will not work for me. Getting us past federal oversight is less about convincing Judge Henderson, and more about convincing the federal monitor/compliance director that OPD is in compliance. The problem with this now is that this same monitor has multiple contracts with other cities for the same work-meaning we do not get 100% of his time. Yet we are expected to pay top dollar for his service. There is little incentive for him to certify us in compliance with this arrangement. As mayor I would go to Judge Henderson and demand that he ask the monitor to resign from his other contracts, or set a time certain for certification. Otherwise, the financial nature of the set up will keep us in federal oversight (code for receivership) indefinitely.

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?

As a city, Oakland needs more housing units beyond current inventory, both for sale and rent. More units also need to be identified for subsidized (section 8) housing. I support more density population growth in downtown Oakland, and to a limited extent in Jack London Square; such growth, however, comes with the expectation that there will be businesses to provide services for the growing population. The recent 10K program succeeded in bringing thousands of new people into the downtown area-but we have yet to see a proportionate number of retail businesses capable of meeting the needs of this population. As a consequence, they often spend their dollars elsewhere-and all too frequently in other cities. Obviously that is not just an economic problem but an environmental one as well, needlessly increasing VMTs. Similarly, growth in the number of housing units available in existing neighborhoods is dependent upon the availability of parcel spaces, or the potential to create more multi-unit apartments or condo spaces. Neighborhoods also need more careful attention from the city about districts for retail, including space for basic services (shoe repair, dry cleaners, lock and key shops, etc) as well as grocery stores and other retailers for clothing, furniture, electronics appliances and bicycles to name a few. The paucity of these throughout Oakland again helps create the exodus for Oakland retail dollars into other communities-and leaves Oakland neighborhoods underserved. My vision for both the downtown and the neighborhoods also includes a commitment to continue expanding bicycle lanes throughout the city as part of a larger grid connecting neighborhoods and the downtown. As a cyclist, I would like to see more people on bikes or walking-instead of so many people driving cars.

For low income communities affordable housing is critical and very much threatened by the influx of new residents with money into poor areas. We have to be honest about this: it is not illegal to buy or sell property in these areas, and it can benefit a city to have new residents-BUT legal or not, it is never a moral thing to force or displace people simply because they are poor. I support laws that prevent or slow down the process of evicting people in these situations-but the bigger reality is that Oakland needs (and is committed to) more affordable housing, and as a city needs

more quality property that qualifies for section 8-AND is maintained in good quality as such. I have spent days on streets in West Oakland seeing houses that are section 8, filled with trash and the terrible living conditions. This is not acceptable, either. It is not saving people to keep them prisoner to poor sub-standard public housing.

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

I am very much a believer in the idea that market place competition creates an environment for better services. Our options for renewable energy in Alameda County (and Oakland in specific) are very much limited by the reach and authority of PG&E; we would do well to have other options-such as those created potentially by Community Choice Aggregation (CCA). By pooling the accounts of ratepayers in Oakland, the city could become an aggregator and purchase renewable energy such as solar or geothermal or others-instead of relying upon private utilities to make these choices in an environment where the utilities and the state PUC dominate all choices. In an ideal situation, I would want a CCA to create more opportunities for efficiency, reliability of service at competitive and affordable rates, cleaner energy and a more open and transparent process for renewable energy selections. Two major obstacles for this in Oakland would be as follows. First is the question of city infrastructure-would this require a new agency or department, staff and the like. I mean this in the nicest way-but I must be honest: is a city that struggles with basic services like public safety or infrastructure repairs like filling potholes, ready to take on CCA? Would this be better accomplished at the county level? Second is the question of liability. If the city assumes this identity by pooling the accounts of ratepayers-are all ratepayers liable or vulnerable to the risks of competing in an energy-bidding market?

I am also a supporter of the "complete streets" strategy; The vision for a "complete streets" outcome is the product of a movement for smart growth in our cities. A street becomes complete when it allows access and space for all means of transit through any and all of the following possibilities: sidewalks, bike lanes (or wide paved shoulders), special bus lanes, comfortable and accessible public transportation stops, frequent and safe crossing opportunities, median islands, accessible pedestrian signals, curb extensions, narrower travel lanes, roundabouts, and more. The end goal is to reconceive how streets are designed and what purposes (or whose purposes) they serve. Instead of focusing primarily upon vehicle traffic and drivers, the goal is to design streets more effectively to also serve pedestrian walkers, cyclists and users of mass transit. Advocates for smart growth have (somewhat generically) suggested that implementation be broken down into five steps, including:

Planning for Implementation: Assessing current procedures and activities and planning for the full implementation of Complete Streets

Changing Procedures and Process: Updating documents, plans, and processes used in transportation decision-making, from scoping to funding, and creating new ones if necessary

Reviewing and Updating Design Guidance: Updating or adopting new design guidance and standards to reflect current best practices in providing multimodal mobility

Offering Training and Educational Opportunities: Providing ongoing support to transportation professionals, other relevant agency staff, community leaders, and the general public so that they



understand the Complete Streets approach, the new processes and partnerships it requires, and the potential new outcomes from the transportation system

Measuring Performance: Creating or modifying existing metrics to measure success in accommodating all users on the project and network levels.

I would add to this that all city efforts for this should coordinate with county ACTC and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

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

I think that most residents are not happy with the quality of service they get from government. It is my experience that many of them complain to me and give city hall poor marks.

14. Accountability -- How do you propose making yourself accountable and accessible to the citizens of Oakland? By being present, open and available. I will hold regular office hours for any member of the public (or of city government). The hours will be posted-and any subject can be discussed. All on a first come, first serve basis. I do this at school as a teacher and as a department head, and I know that it works. I will also promise never to duck a reporter's questions.

15. Do we need an Oakland Progressive Alliance akin to the one in Richmond, and if so, who should be members? I am unsure what this refers to, so I am unable to comment.

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 will have a good and collegial relationship with all other members of government (and yes, I can count to 5 for voting purposes on the city council, even with the changes coming after the election). I will also have good relations with the County Board of Supes, as well as mayors of other cities in the county.

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.

Endorsers constitute a big list. Here is what I published for the ballot:

MARGARET GORDON  
HELEN BULWIK  
ANNETTE BENYAMIN  
MILTON B. COX

HAROLD LOWE  
ANGELA YOUNGLOVE  
ROBYN HODGES  
ALTON JELKS  
CHAD BLACKWELL  
ALEX MILLER COLE  
GINO BARTALOTTI  
JENNIFER GIBBS  
CHERYL MOORE  
MARTHA PAUL  
BRIAN FRANCISCO  
VINCENT LEUNG  
SCOTT LAW  
GAYLE AKINS

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). I have raised close to a quarter of a million dollars already, and I will try to raise to the cap. My money is predominantly local-almost 80 cents on the dollar from Oakland residents.

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? I think the relationship is strained by the fact that the mayor has so many people eying her seat because they think she is vulnerable. I do not have any charter changes for this at this time.

20. Money in elections. -- Does Oakland need campaign finance reform? If so, what kind? It would be great if the elections were publicly financed, and everyone got the same amount to spend. Assuming no other IEs, candidates would then focus on issues and reaching voters- instead of always obsessing over money.

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

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

-- Do you support the renewal of Measure Y?

I will support it, but I am very unhappy that the CC did not commit to a bigger number of police officers than 678 (the very number of cops supposedly on the books as of the date of their meeting), knowing full well that some 60 of those officers were actually funded by federal COPS

grants, which do NOT constitute a permanent source of funding. In that sense, the CC and the Mayor have only committed to paying for 618 officers in exchange for having voters agree to another ten years of this parcel tax.

-- Do you support the minimum wage proposal?

It is obvious that our middle class is shrinking locally, and that we are becoming an increasingly class divided society between rich and poor. It is also obvious that our economic recovery has been slow and still missing living wage jobs. I absolutely agree with the need to increase the minimum wage. I would prefer an approach that actually includes public outreach to small local businesses to determine the economic impact of wage increases on their viability AND one that factors in a regional (if not statewide) commitment to this so that small businesses are not tempted to leave one city and more to another to avoid this increase. I also am concerned about the effect of this on non-profits.

-- Are you in favor of a police commission?

I am unclear what you mean by police commission? Can you clarify? This is not, I presume, a civilian complaint board.

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

Yes, absolutely.

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

I am conflicted about this as this time. On the one hand, I understand how some people would feel more confidence in a process for complaints about police conduct-if that process was supervised by citizens. At the same time, I am watching a department with a massive morale problem. That low morale is not enhanced by the creation of a commission that must be operated by civilians because of the belief that OPD cannot be trusted to police its own conduct.

-- Would you vote for using eminent domain to abate foreclosure crisis?

I have extreme concerns about eminent domain. In the wrong hands, it can be used unjustly, and in ways that make challenging its outcome very difficult.

-- Do you support Ranked Choice Voting? It is the system we have, until somebody puts it back on the ballot. In general, I do not like this system. I would prefer to go back to a primary and a general election. Do not believe it has removed the influence of money. And I think voters are

more confused by the challenge of having to pick for one election amongst a large number of candidates.

-- Would you support Proportional Representation? In theory-but you need to provide more details. The devil is always in the details.

-- Do you support diverting people from prosecution if they participate in a restorative justice program?  
Yes, absolutely.

-- Do you support Community Choice Aggregation?  
Yes, absolutely.

-- Would you vote to allow more grey water systems?  
I NEED TO RESEARCH THIS