

## Lena Tam for Alameda City Council 2016

### QUESTIONNAIRE GREEN PARTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY 2016 ENDORSEMENT DECISION

Tam for Council 2016 \* P.O. Box 6231 \* Alameda, CA 94501 \* FPPC No. 1387962 \*  
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1. When choosing between development and preserving/enhancing open spaces, how would you make your decision?

**I agree with our community's guiding principles for environmental sustainable and economic re-development that preserves and enhances open space. I have and will continue to promote policies that drive compact housing units within healthy neighborhoods that encourage transportation options such as buses, bike paths, and walk-able streets that minimize car use. These type of neighborhoods promote alternatives to urban sprawl, helping to protect our nearby open spaces and regional parks. Redevelopment plans must include housing for all income levels, particularly those that currently commute because many are forced to seek housing in the urban fringe of the Bay Area. The availability of housing is important to reducing sprawl impacts as well as traffic from long-distance commuting.**

2. The East Bay Regional Park District could play an instrumental role in parks and open space at Alameda Point, particularly at the Northwest Territories and Enterprise Park. What role would you like the park district to have?

**The East Bay Regional Park District allocated \$6.5M in Measure WW funds to build a regional park at Alameda Point, and the long-term plans in 2006 included a 26-acre park near the shoreline trail with a natural resource planning area. This should continue to be the long-term use of the funds. I would like to see the City and EBRPD work together to create a continuous Bay Trail and manage the open space and parklands designated in the Environmental Impact Report for Alameda Point.**

3. Traffic and parking are important issues for many Alamedans. Considering budget limitations, how would you address these issues?

**We need to grow as a transit-oriented community by increasing transit ridership that reduces automobile congestion. Transit must provide value for both the public and private sectors in order to secure both private and public funding. There are increased opportunities for public funding for transit in the Bay Area and in Alameda with the passage of regional measures like BB. We also need to look at infill housing and growth that is located within an easy walk of a**

**major transit stop, generally with a mix of residential, employment, and shopping opportunities designed for pedestrians without excluding the auto. Transit-oriented redevelopment in Alameda can be new construction or redevelopment of one or more buildings whose design and orientation facilitate transit use. Specifically, Alameda's access to many transit options, including the ferries, buses, or even a privately funded local shuttle from Alameda Point to BART, would need to connect with an existing system that is adequately funded from a combination of increased ridership, federal and state dollars that provide both capital outlay and continuing operating funds. The worst case scenario would be to build a transit-oriented project and then have residents continue to rely on single-occupant vehicles because we do not have a good regional public transit system.**

4. Alameda has a limited budget for law and code enforcement. Which issues would be your highest and lowest priorities?

**Our community has identified traffic congestion and bike/pedestrian safety as an area that should have the highest priority in law enforcement. Code enforcement on issues that affect the public health and safety of our residents should have the higher priority, particularly in the habitability of the homes in Alameda.**

5. How would you pay for repair and replacement of Alameda's aging infrastructure?

**I would work with regional partner to leverage available funding and collaboration with utility districts. For example, EBMUD is undertaking a program to replace 15 miles of aging, leaky pipelines per year, and the City needs to replace sewer mains. These investments can be coordinated to minimize cost and neighbor disruptions, while repairing and upgrading roads.**

6. What would you do to reduce displacement in Alameda of people with low and moderate incomes?

**I support rent stabilization that allows the City Council to address the problem of displacement to bring relief for residents quickly. During my prior tenure on the City Council, we partnered with a number of organizations, including Eden Housing to negotiate with property owners that resolved landlord and tenant issues, enabling residents to stay in their homes or help them find housing in Alameda.**

**Alameda is facing similar issues in the Bay Area on the availability and affordability of housing. During my tenure on the Alameda City Council (2006-2014), I was a strong advocate for using matching redevelopment funds to build affordable and workforce housing, resulting in the 38 affordable units at Shinsei Gardens, 18 units of housing for the disabled at the Jack Capon Center and 62 affordable units at 2428 Central Avenue. All these units are close to the AC Transit bus route. There should be an allotment of affordable housing to help families**

**facing evictions. I hope to encourage similar units on transit corridors at Alameda Point.**

7. Who has endorsed you so far? Who do you expect to endorse you?

**I have received endorsement from a cross-section of elected, appointed and community leaders, including California State Controller Betty Yee, Board of Equalization member Fiona Ma, County Supervisor Wilma Chan, Assemblymembers Kansen Chu and Evan Low, former Mayors Marie Gilmore and Bill Withrow, along with Alameda School Board and Health care District members. I am in the process of seeking endorsements from other organizations.**

8. 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 currently raised about \$10K and expect to raise about \$40K for this race. My contributions have come from individuals and campaign committees of the elected officials that have endorsed me. I do not expect to receive contributions from unions or developers.**



