

Name: Leo Ram

Line of work: Real Estate/ Developer

1 --- Qualifications: Please give a brief summary of your background and qualifications for the office of City Council. 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 a background in real estate, rehabilitation of homes and preserving older homes. I have lived in Hayward for over 20 years and I think the main issue in our future will be decreasing our energy usage. I support the possibility of a solar panel requirement for all new homes and redevelopment of the downtown area. I would increase police patrols in areas where crimes are higher. School issues are important to me. Why does Hayward have one of the lowest rated school districts?

2 --- Local groups: Are you affiliated with any of the active Hayward or other local citizen

Environmental advocacy groups, most vegan groups.

3 --- What are some of the largest issues in Hayward that need to be addressed now? What creative ideas do you have to address these issues?

1. Clean up of certain areas.
2. Development of certain areas.
3. School Lunch
4. Schools
5. Increase numbers of police officers.

4 --- Who has endorsed you so far (groups and individuals of note)?

None so far, have had a few interviews.

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

I will bring a fresh approach to the city, working with the city on numerous projects.

6 --- Given the issues with campaign finances at the national level, we regard transparency in fundraising as highly critical at this time -- how much money do you currently have for this race? Are all your donors publicly listed

on your website? How much money do you plan to raise? Where will the money come from?

No Fund raising. Self funded

7 --- The Hayward Police Department has been steadily increasing bike patrols in the Downtown area, which has helped with connecting with the community and has shown to be very effective. Do you support expanding these patrols in other neighborhoods around the City?

Yes, Increase patrols.

8 --- Do you consider environmental stewardship and sustainable development as core parts of your vision for Hayward's future?

Yes

9 --- Will you work closely with EBRPD and HARD to expand protected open space and add to the Bay Trail wherever possible?

Yes

10 --- How do you plan to get the city to expand solar panel coverage of roofs of all city owned buildings as well as parking lots, as soon as practicable?

Possible proposing a lease option.

11 --- How do you plan to encourage industries with huge roof areas (especially in South Hayward) to also get solar panel coverage of their roofs?

12 --- Are you committed to making sure any further parking comes with commensurate levels of EV charging infrastructure, making provisions for future EV ownership growth?

Very committed. I drive an EV vehicle myself

13 --- Will you make sure that any future development (infill or rehab) is LEED certified or Green Point Rated, and further that provisions are made for significant water conservation and reuse of water on site, given that climate change models show California will be getting steadily drier into the future?

Yes

14 --- The Downtown Traffic Loop has been a disaster for Hayward with documented slower traffic on routes in and around the downtown, and a degradation in level of service in the reverse directions (such as north on Mission) to "F," which is being hidden by the Alameda County Transportation Commission. Pedestrian crossings are longer and more difficult; people have to drive longer distances to get through downtown and to downtown; there is cut-through traffic in neighborhoods, murderous lane changing challenges, and jack-rabbiting speeds between lights. Downtown is an expressway, not a destination. Will you work with Councilmember Marv Peixoto to end the Loop?

15 --- The City thoughtlessly decided to destroy a multimillion dollar building, the old library, which has potential to serve as a community center. It could be saved by change orders and saving of demolition costs, but first needs to be studied concerning its value, the interest of people in making it work, costs and other planning to see how it compares with other options. Will you support spending \$3,000 for an appraisal so that we will at least know the value of the building before it is too late?

Yes, I support that.

16 --- The Maple Main project and the Lincoln Landing projects are proposing large scale parking structures, with buildings five and six stories high for the North side of Downtown. They have huge increases in parking and subsidizing parking. There are viable alternatives for lower rise buildings for a comparable population, designed to encourage walking and shuttle bus to downtown and BART rather than driving up Foothill out of town. Will you support parking reduction and alternative transportation? Will you support parking ratios of one half space per unit or lower based on alternative mobility policies?

Yes, I support local transportation companies.

17 --- Taxis and ehail, and carshare/rental, are increasingly important for mobility with less car-dependency. Will you support big projects like those above only if they can credibly achieve over 50 percent reductions in Vehicle Miles Traveled and 50 percent or fewer trips by personal car? How much greenhouse gas reduction by new developments will you support, and how will you do it? Will you support the long-overdue relocation of the taxi stand at Hayward BART, designating a place close to the exit of the station for pickup, and implementation of Flywheel by Hayward cabs?

Yes

18 --- Will you support rapid bus -- fast, frequent, free -- in the downtown corridor and to Cal State Eastbay?. Will you support land-based finance and RFP management of operations? Will you support early public involvement in discussion of City application for funds from the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program?

Yes

19 --- Is there anything else you would like us to know about you?

As a vegan, I will support the most sustained way to use our planet.

Thank You

Leo Ram