

## Green Party Questionnaire for Alameda City Council candidates

Dear Candidate,

For the upcoming November election, the Green Party of Alameda County will again be making endorsements and publishing them in our Voter Guide. 20,000 copies will be printed and distributed in northern Alameda County, and copies will be sent to all Green Party members.

To assist us with our decision-making process, we would appreciate it if you would fill out the questionnaire below and return it no later than August 27. In addition, please be aware that in order to provide our readers with additional information, we are planning to post your questionnaire responses to our website.

Also, PLEASE REPLY BACK NOW to this e-mail, so we know that you have received this message!

Thank you,

Greg Jan  
Green Party of Alameda County

### QUESTIONNAIRE

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

Please email your responses to: [GPAC-VoterGuide@yahoogroups.com](mailto:GPAC-VoterGuide@yahoogroups.com)  
In the subject line, please include "Alameda City Council".

If it is not possible for you to email, please mail your responses to:  
Alameda City Council Questionnaire  
c/o Green Party of Alameda County  
2022A Blake Street  
Berkeley, CA 94704

Please respond by Saturday, August 27, 2016

1. When choosing between development and preserving/enhancing open spaces, how would you make your decision?

Whenever possible, we need to preserve and enhance our open space because once it's gone, it's gone. We're doing that at Alameda Point, our blighted former naval air station, where ample land has been set aside for a wildlife refuge in the Northwest Territories, for a flourishing least tern colony and nesting area, as well as for the continuation of the Bay Trail, Depave Park, and more. We're also creating a passive park with walking and bike trails and a community garden on a former railroad right of way, the future Jean Sweeney/Beltline Open Space Park. We also need to develop areas for homes and jobs, but not at the expense of open space.

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?

I think the EBRPD, as the nation's largest regional park district could be a valuable partner with the City in administering parks and open space at Alameda Point. Informal talks are already underway.

I have also endorsed former State Senator, Ellen Corbett's campaign to represent Alameda on the EBRPD Board. I got to know Ellen when I co-chaired the successful campaign to build Alameda's new Main Library in 2000 (endorsed by the Green Party!) Then Senator Corbett was a valuable ally in our effort to secure State Library Bond funding and her knowledge of Sacramento and collaborative style will serve EBRPD and Alameda well.

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

Creatively.

1. By getting more commuters to rely on public transit, rather than single occupancy vehicles we will have less congestion on our bridges and through the Tube. But we have to make sure public transit options are available and reliable. I work closely with the 3 transit agencies serving Alameda - AC Transit, BART (via shuttles) and WETA, our ferry provider - to improve and increase these transit options.
2. Parking for ferry riders at both the Main Street and Harbor Bay terminals has been a challenge due to lack of public transit, or reliable public transit to the terminals. I worked with City administration to open up the parking lot of the "O" Club at Alameda Point, which faces Main Street, for Main Street ferry riders. They did and this created 141 new parking spaces for the cost of re-stripping the lot. For Harbor Bay ferry riders, I got the Public Works Department to remove the "No Parking" signs on North Loop Road, in front of 2 day care centers. This allows parents of young children to park, drop off their children, then take the free Harbor Bay Business Park shuttle to and from the ferry. I am also working with the management

of our golf course to arrange for a portion of that parking lot to be made available to ferry riders who would then be picked up by a free (and preferably, emission-free) shuttle.

3. Providing more bicycle infrastructure. During my time on the City Council I advocated for, and saw approved, a cycle track along Shoreline Drive and extending bike lanes on Central Avenue from central Alameda west, past 3 schools, all the way to the Main Street Ferry Terminal. Another way we can address our traffic and parking issues is to get more people riding bicycles for transportation, rather than cars. If parents and schoolchildren have safe bicycle access to school, some parents will let their kids ride to school, rather than dropping them off in cars.

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

The City's budgets for law enforcement and code enforcement are funded from two separate sources. Law enforcement funding comes from a combination of the General Fund and grant funding, while Building Code Enforcement is largely self-funded, e.g. from the cost of application and permit fees. But both of these areas involve safety - public safety (police department) and health and safety issues (code enforcement) and both are priorities for me. During the budget process, our departments let the City Council, through the City Manager know their funding needs and the City Council establishes its priorities for this funding. My public safety priorities are safe neighborhoods, streets and business districts; my code enforcement priorities are safe, habitable buildings with code-compliant utilities.

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

In the last year, our Public Works Department surveyed all City buildings and compiled a report with excellent, sometimes startling, photographs to illustrate the condition of these buildings. Public Works then made recommendations to the City Council for the highest, medium and lowest priority buildings to be repaired or replaced. We have allocated funds to address these needs, as recommended, over the next several years.

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

Our City Council enacted a rent ordinance to limit the most egregious practices of landlords that led to displacement of Alamedans, including people with low and moderate-incomes. As an ordinance, it can be modified to meet evolving needs and circumstances. We also need to build more housing, especially affordable, transit-oriented housing, because skyrocketing rents are also a function of supply and demand.

And we need to pass the Alameda County Affordable Housing Bond this November because it provides a dedicated funding stream, per city, for the construction of affordable housing.

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

Assemblymember Nancy Skinner (ret.)  
Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan  
Alameda County Supervisor Richard Valle  
AC Transit Board President Chris Peebles  
AC Transit Board Vice President Elsa Ortiz  
BART Director Robert Raburn  
BART Director Rebecca Saltzman  
EBMUD Doug Linney  
Alameda Firefighters Local 689  
Alameda Police Officers Association  
Alameda Labor Council  
Building & Construction Trades Council of Alameda County  
Carpenters Local Union 713  
Operating Engineers Local 3, District 20  
Teamsters Joint Council No. 7  
UA Local 342 Plumbers & Pipefitters  
Alameda City Council Member Jim Oddie  
Former Alameda Mayor Beverly Johnson  
Former Alameda Mayor Bill Withrow  
San Leandro Mayor Pauline Cutter  
Deputy Mayor, City of San Mateo David Lim

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 raised about \$25,000 so far, and will keep fundraising to be able to produce literature and mail to reach as many voters as possible. I also believe in grassroots politics and have been walking door-to-door almost daily for 2 weeks. I am proud that the majority of my donations come from individuals and range from \$25 to \$500. I would not accept campaign contributions from any source whose principles I cannot support, e.g. proponents of shipping coal through our ports (not that they've offered).

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