

Mike McMahon for Alameda Auditor

Green Party of Alameda County Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire

Mike McMahon

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<http://www.mikemcmahon.info>

1. Motivation --

The position has gone unopposed for too many election cycles and no one knows the elected position exists.

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 Auditor or Treasurer?

The charter article that created the Auditor position was appropriate when the charter was created 100 years ago. In 2016 the position is no longer necessary. I would work with City Council in examining the need for amending the charter to remove the position.

3. Qualifications -- Please give a brief summary of your background and qualifications for the office of Auditor or Treasurer. If you are not an incumbent, what specifically in your background do you believe qualifies you for this position? If you are an incumbent, what issues can you point to in your time as an incumbent that have had a positive impact? As an incumbent what can you tell us about your service in your current position, and share with us the decisions you have made in this capacity that you believe made a difference for the City. In addition, you have never faced a competitor in your previous campaigns. Why do you believe this is now the case in the current election?

I have accounting degree and over five years of public and private auditing experience. In addition, I served for 12 years on the Alameda School Board giving me a unique perspective on how fiscal conditions impact policy decisions.

4. What do you believe is Alameda's most important financial issue? What suggestions or policy changes would you offer?

Every California city faces challenges of fiscal sustainability. Alameda is no different. The role of auditor is not to propose policy changes. The auditor can translate complex financial reports into comprehensible information that connect expenditures with policy decisions made by the City Council. By providing this type of information, Alameda citizens are in better position to participate in civic dialogue.

5. Accountability -- Concretely and specifically, how will you make yourself accountable to the voters who elect you? How can the voters participate in holding you accountable if you are elected?

In former elected position as School Board member, I created a website to communicate with Alameda residents. By providing access to information I had to make decisions I gave voters an opportunity to determine the soundness of my actions. I would plan to do the same if elected.

6. 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 plan to raise enough money from individual contributors to pay for the \$2000 candidate statement fee in the voter pamphlet.

7. Endorsements -- Who has endorsed you thus far?

I have no formal endorsements.

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

If you want to understand the role of the auditor go here: <<http://www.mikemcmahon.info/auditor.htm>>