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Current occupation: District Director, Assemblymember Rob Bonta

1. Motivation -- Why did you choose to run for this seat? What personal attribute makes you best suited for the position?

As your Councilmember and Assemblymember Rob Bonta's District Director, I work with the community for the results we need.

Together, we've:

- established Central Alameda's Emergency Operations Center;
- maintained our 911 response times;
- and supported the Community Paramedicine Program, providing life-saving services for at-risk people/patients.

With you, I've fought for Alameda's fair share of money to fix local streets/potholes while installing pedestrian crossing lights, undergrounding neighborhood utilities, and maintaining our roads before they're more expensive to fix in the future.

We've finally broken ground at Alameda Point with Site A after more than 20 years of planning, bringing jobs, housing, and much needed infrastructure improvements to the former base.

My priorities:

- 1) 911 Fire, Police and Emergency Medical Services: Alamedans who need help, should get it fast. Alameda Hospital must continue to stay open.
- 2) TRAFFIC! We must reduce traffic congestion for our quality of life.
- 3) Housing/ Homelessness: I'll work to expand housing options our children and local workforce can afford. Compassionate services will provide effective transition from the street for the homeless.
- 4) Quality of Life: I'll continue to protect our small-town character and maintain services all generations need -- senior health/nutrition programs; city-school partnerships; school safety; and low-cost recreation programs for all ages.

Public Safety/Neighborhood Leaders, Senator Nancy Skinner, Assemblymember Bonta, Supervisor Wilma Chan, and many others endorse my re-election. I'd be honored for the Green Party's support as well.

2. 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?

Some of the things I've brought forward to council via referral include:

- Allow cannabis business in Alameda
- Pedestrian safety improvements
- Traffic congestion improvements on Island Drive
- Sanctuary city
- Divestiture from Wells Fargo (along with Vice Mayor Malia Vella)
- Bike sharing
- Wetlands Mitigation Bank
- Grocery worker protection ordinance
- Bird-safe building ordinance
- Harbor Bay ferry parking solutions
- Ban of flavored tobacco sales, including menthol, in Alameda (along with Councilmember Mataresse)
- Investigation of Donald Trump (along with Vice Mayor Malia Vella)
- Condemning bias, prejudice, discrimination, violence, and anti-Semitism

I would bring referrals as necessary to support issues related to these values and my priorities.

3. Housing affordability - What *further* measures can Alameda take to provide more affordable units?

Our current inclusionary requirements include 25% at Alameda Point (thank you to Renewed Hope!) and 15% in the rest of Alameda. I think we need to do more to incentivize workforce housing. I'm proud of the accessory dwelling unit ordinance we've passed as well as our universal design ordinance, helping people age in place.

There are also additional tenant protections we can take to keep our current residents in their housing, including just cause eviction protections and cleaning up our current rent ordinance, although that would be made more difficult if Measure K passes and the ordinance becomes enshrined in the Charter.

One of the most complicated things I've encountered as a councilmember is the funding for affordable housing. In fact, some of our proposed funding sources for the 25% affordable housing at Alameda Point has fallen through, putting those blocks of the project in jeopardy. Trump has made tax credits less desirable, cap and trade funding has been very competitive – increasing the pressure on affordable housing funding. I supported the county affordable housing bond, but we've used over 50% of our city-specific funds on "gap" funding for existing projects, rather than to leverage other affordable housing dollars. I'd like to see us use the remaining funds, and the county pool funds, to leverage more funding.

I'd also like to see Alameda push HUD for more Section 8 vouchers and incentivize property owners to offer their properties to Section 8 tenants, including sign-up bonuses and interest free loans for property improvements (Oakland did this for up to \$2,500 in improvements). This would have to be a Housing Authority program.

Alameda should consider our own housing bond, similar to Measure O on the ballot in Berkeley this year. Additionally, our housing element will need to be recertified by the council elected this year, so that will provide us an opportunity to identify affordable housing opportunities. Perhaps a new Governor will be more sympathetic to restoring redevelopment, but I'm not counting on that idea as a magic bullet to solve the problem.

4. Open Space -- Alameda has opportunities for improving public recreation and open spaces. What are your priorities?

My priorities for open space are

- Continue to fund our recreation and parks budget to allow all Alamedans to continue to enjoy our existing parks
- Support funding the completion of Jean Sweeney Open Space
- Support creation of a passive wetland park in the "Northwest Territories" of Alameda Point – I brought a referral to establish a wetlands mitigation bank at Alameda Point, which would have made wetlands permanent and allowed Alameda to generate revenue. I believe staff felt it was too complicated and they chose not to pursue this idea.
- Support efforts to create "Enterprise Park" and "Depave Park" at Alameda Point as quickly as possible.

5. Transportation -- Do you have any specific priorities to increase public transportation and reduce traffic in the city?

The council during my term, approved a transportation choices plan, with aggressive goals for reducing single occupancy vehicle trips in and within Alameda, which will reduce traffic and reduce CO2 emissions. The plan had 2 overarching goals:

- Goal 1: Estuary crossings/decrease drive alone trips at estuary crossings, especially during peak periods
 - Expand transit, bicycling and walking to/from Oakland and BART
 - Expand transit and carpools to/from SF
- Goal 2: Alameda trips/increase the share of walking, bicycling, transit, and carpooling trips within Alameda
 - Expand transit and achieve a low-cost or "free" rider experience within Alameda
 - Improve bicycle and pedestrian safety within Alameda
 - Improve mobility for all modes within Alameda

I am supportive of the projects identified in the plan, but wanted to highlight a few that I support:

- Alameda Shuttle
- Bicycle Master Plan – Central Ave. bikeway
 - I did the original Bike Share referral.
- Vision Zero safety plan
- Ferry access, parking improvements, and service expansion

- Alameda Point BRT and bus frequency increases (19 line brought back during my time on council, with AC Transit service to the west end ferry stations a top priority for the next expansion)
- Long term: Bike/pedestrian bridge, BART to Alameda

I've supported the Broadway Jackson project to help alleviate traffic congestion through the Posey Tube.

I've worked on RM3 through my day job to help bring transit funding to Alameda/Northern Alameda County, specifically \$300M for ferry capital enhancements, \$100M for AC Transit capital projects, and \$35M/year for ferry operating expenses.

I've also led the effort to improve pedestrian safety and traffic congestion on Bay Farm Island by pushing for:

- Crosswalk beacon Mecartney and Belmont (near Leydecker Park)
- Extended left-hand turn lane onto Robert Davey Drive to alleviate morning traffic back-ups (decreasing engine idle time and GHG emissions)
- Stop light at Mecartney and Island Drive
- Just announced – crosswalk beacon at Island Drive/Mecartney – completed by end of Sept.

6. Climate adaptation -- The city is about to update its climate action plan. What local climate change adaptation should the city be pursuing now and what funding strategies would you advocate?

As I mentioned earlier, I still believe in the idea of a wetlands mitigation bank at Alameda Point. Preserving wetlands at the point is a critical resilience element in the fight against climate change.

We've done a few things in advance of our climate action plan.

- Alameda Point MIP (Master infrastructure Plan)
 - Flood protection measures against 24" of sea level rise and 100-year tidal event (in fact, this is our standard for new waterfront development projects)
 - Perimeter levee system – account for sea level rise until the end of the century
- Transportation Choices plan – reduce single vehicle occupancy trips. I support the projects listed in this plan.

I supported Mayor Spencer's straws on demand referral, which has started to trend! I also expanded this to require all take-out containers from restaurants be compostable.

I voted against delaying 2020 goals for Zero Waste Implementation Plan.

I've served on the Stop Waste board and on the Recycling Board (currently President). I've supported and pushed for an expansion of the plastic bag ban. We've also pushed to reduce food waste.

In the future, we need to improve multi-family and commercial diversion rates. I would like to pursue policies to incentivize developers to design new projects in a way that does this.

I'd also like to see sea-level rise infrastructure be a priority in a future city infrastructure bond, including focusing on:

- Flooding and adaptation measures
- Pump station renovations
- Storm drain repairs, lagoon upgrades

7. Income inequality -- What do you propose the city could do to lessen the income gap in the city, including in city government?

Wage inequality is a significant issue facing our nation, state, county, and city.

I support an increase to the minimum wage in Alameda earlier than the state's minimum wage increases. This has been stalled by staff for nearly two years, as a referral to do so was submitted in the Fall of 2016. We are behind our neighbors and should not wait for the state's timeline to get to \$15/hour for a minimum wage.

The Proposal I supported in June when staff came to council for direction, included raising the minimum wage to:

- \$12 in Jan 2019 (one year ahead of state)
- \$13.50 in March 2019
- \$15 in March 2020 (vs. 1/2022 for larger employers, 1/2023 for smaller employers <26)
- Annual CPI increases starting in 2022 (vs. 2024 for state)

8. Electoral Reform -- Currently, Alameda uses a plurality system of voting in which a mayoral candidate could win with as little as a third of the vote. Would you support moving to a ranked-choice voting system for Alameda's mayoral race? Explain your reasoning.

No, I would not support. This is not an issue that I believe any of my constituents have brought up to me during my time on council. I think our current system of electing the Mayor is working just fine.

9. Viability -- Please name your major endorsements so far and how you plan to win. Describe sources of financial contributions for your campaign that you would refuse to accept, if any.

As the incumbent, I am running a professional campaign with consultant, mail program, and ground campaign.

You can find my endorsements on my website at <https://www.oddie4alameda.com/endorsements>

Highlights: BOE Member Fiona Ma, Sen. Nancy Skinner, EBRP Director Ellen Corbett, Supervisor Wilma Chan, School Board Members Gray Harris & Jenn Williams, Vice Mayor Malia Vella, AC Transit Board President Elsa Ortiz, AC BOE trustee Amber Childress, Robbie Williams, Assemblymember Rob Bonta, Assessor Candidate Phong La, Assemblymember Sandre Swanson (ret.), Sen. Don Perata (ret.), Assemblymember Tony Thurmond, City of Alameda Democratic

Club, Alameda County Democratic Lawyers Club, Alameda Central Labor Council, Building Trades & Construction Council of Alameda County

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

Just a quick comment on unfunded liabilities...We established an OPEB trust fund to help meet our OPEB liabilities – since I’ve been on council, that fund has increased from \$500,000 to \$12.6M at the end of FY18/19. One of my opponents opposed these concrete efforts to address this liability – he even voted against the ministerial act of moving the funds from one budget line item to another, which if not approved, would have been an unfair labor practice and a violation of the city’s public safety contract. We also put in place a council policy to set aside 50% of our reserves over our 25% goal, resulting in another \$9.6M put into the pension trust fund as of the end of FY18/19, which has already saved us \$1M/year in future pension liabilities according to city staff. We’ve done this just in the last two years.

I’ve been honored to be your councilmember for the last four years.

I’ve learned a lot from my time serving you. And every day I’ve worked to provide the best service to the community.

I humbly ask for your vote and an opportunity to continue...

...To continue providing you the best safety services possible – the services you deserve.

...To continue taking on the challenges we face – income inequality, housing, sea level rise, traffic – we’ve made progress in all of these areas – they are not insurmountable – but there is more to do. Tackling these areas requires both experience and shared values – I believe I have the right combination of both to “continue” and solve these issues together.

Again, I’d be honored to serve you for another four years and humbly ask for your support.