

# 2022 Endorsement Questionnaire- General Election - Special Districts

Email \*

marguerite@young4ebmud.org



Thank you for your interest in being considered for an endorsement by the Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County. Please answer each question in 250 words or less. Be honest and direct. Please note: your questionnaire will be posted on our website for Caucus members to review. Please submit your responses by Tuesday, Sept. 6 by 5 pm.

## Personal Information

Candidate Name \*

Marguerite Young

City and zip code of residence.

Oakland 94609

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What is your campaign website address?

<https://young4ebmud.org>

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What is your campaign email address?

[marguerite@young4ebmud.org](mailto:marguerite@young4ebmud.org)

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What is the office that you are seeking? \*

- AC Transit Board of Directors, Ward 3
- AC Transit Board of Directors, Ward 4
- BART Board, Dist. 6
- Dublin San Ramon, Area 5
- EBMUD, Ward 3
- EBMUD, Ward 7
- East Bay Regional Parks District, Ward 3
- Livermore Area Rec and Parks District
- Fairview Fire Protection District
- Oro Lomo Sanitation District
- Eden Area Healthcare District, Area 3
- Eden Area Healthcare District, Area 5
- Peralta Community College District, Area 3
- Peralta Community College District, Area 5
- Peralta Community College District, Area 7
- AC Transit - At-Large
- Other: .....

Are you the incumbent?

Yes

No

Are you a registered Democrat? The APA Democratic Caucus can only endorse registered Democrats

Yes

No

Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

There is a significant AAPI population in my district especially Oakland.  
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List ONLY the top 5 endorsements that you have received. (Please reference your website if you want to alert us to more).

Central Labor Council of Contra Costa, Building Trades of Alameda and Contra Costa, AFSCME local 444, Nikki Fortunato Bas, more endorsements here <https://www.young4ebmud.org/endorsements>  
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If we endorse you, will you use our name in your campaign materials?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

How long have you lived in the district that you are seeking to represent?

since 1990

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**Educational background:** What schools have you attended, date graduated, major and degree(s) earned.

UC Berkeley Bachelor of Science -- Resource Economics 1980, Merritt College Landscape Horticulture 1995-1997

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**Employment:** List the last three (3) paid positions, indicating name of employer, job title, and length of employment.

Rivernstream Consulting (self) 2022 to present, SEIU Assistant Director Climate and Environmental Justice (2003-2021), Clean Water Action CA Director 1997-2002

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What are the names of any community or nonprofit organizations with which you have been an active volunteer in the past 3-5 years.

Board of Directors, Clean Water Action, Carpe Diem West, Friends of the River

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1. What actions have you taken to address anti-Asian discrimination/bullying/harassment?

Please explain in what capacity you have acted and whether any of these actions were prior to 2020. (i.e., as an elected representative, member of commission/board/organization, and/or as an individual.

Strongly supported EBMUD's positions speaking out against Asian Hate and including AAPI in our diversity equity and inclusion strategy. SEIU work on Climate and EJ has included working with APEN and making sure that our own program focused on issues related to AAPI this goes back to 2017 at least.

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2. One out of every 3 Alameda County residents is of Asian ancestry but are underrepresented in elected office and make-up 28% of all eligible voters in the County overall. Do you believe the legislative body you are seeking to represent has adequately served Asian and Pacific Americans? Why or why not?

No, we have only had one AAPI elected board member. I have endorsed April Chan who is running for Ward 7. However we work closely with AAPI stakeholder organizations and have increased AAPI representation in our staff and leadership including our GM.

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3. One-third of Alameda County residents were born in another country. Do you believe that the needs of immigrants have been adequately addressed by the office you are seeking to represent? What changes are needed to better center their needs?

I would like to see our materials made accessible in more languages and our website translated into more languages. I have asked that we explore the feasibility of offering translation services and expect to hear about this in our next budget cycle. Recognizing that many immigrants struggle economically when they first move here, we also offer the most generous customer assistance program in the state to help people access clean safe water without it being an economic burden.

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4. Please identify the three largest APA ethnicities in your district.

Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese

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5. Please identify the most at-risk APA community in your district and explain why.

Those living in apartments or other dwellings that don't have proper ventilation/AC due to increase in extreme heat and those who may have old water pipes which deliver sub par water through rusted galvanized plumbing even though the water at the service connection is very good. I would think some older parts of chinatown would fit this description.

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6. What have you learned about Asian Americans in the past 2 years that you were previously unaware of and how has that impacted you?

Covid has revealed a level of hate that shocked me.

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7. How do you think microaggressions and verbal harassment against Asians and other marginalized community members can be better addressed and what will you commit to doing? If you have intervened in the past, please describe what you did.

Act forcefully as an ally to call it out when I see it. This topic is addressed in our anti racism work at the district and will make sure as a board member that we are focused on this in our training and culture change work.

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8. What resources (people/organizations) will you tap to increase your knowledge and understanding of the on-going needs of the Asian and Pacific Americans living in your district?

We have an AAPI Affinity group of our employees, I will look to them for guidance.

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9. Please list any Asian American candidates you have publicly endorsed.

April Chan, Nikki Fortunato Bas, Danny Wan (helped run his ebmud campaign), Rob Bonta (assembly and ag)

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Thank you for completing our questionnaire.

Please Submit your responses by Sep. 6, 5 pm. We will be holding several zoom endorsement meetings covering all three regions of the County before the end of September, tbd. Only those candidates completing the questionnaire will be on our endorsement ballot. No changes to your responses can be made after it is submitted.

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