

2022 Endorsement Questionnaire- General Election - City Elections

Email *

parkerforfremont@gmail.com



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 *

Keith Parker

City and zip code of residence.

Fremont, 94536

What is your campaign website address?

<https://parkerforfremont.com/>

What is your campaign email address?

parkerforfremont@gmail.com

What is the office that you are seeking? *

- City of Alameda, Mayor
- City of Alameda, City Council
- City of Alameda, School Board
- City of Albany, City Council
- City of Albany, School Board
- City of Berkeley, City Council, Dist. 1
- City of Berkeley, City Council, Dist. 8
- City of Berkeley, School Board
- City of Berkeley, Rent Stabilization Board
- City of Dublin, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Dublin, City Council
- City of Dublin, School Board (short term)
- City of Dublin, School Board, Area 5
- City of Emeryville, City Council
- City of Emeryville, School Board
- Cit of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 3
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 4
- City of Fremont, School Board, #3
- City of Hayward, City Council
- City of Hayward, School Board (long term)
- City of Hayward, School Board (short term)
- City of Livermore Mayor

- City of Livermore, Mayor
- City of Livermore, City Council, Dist. 1
- City of Livermore, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Livermore, School Board
- City of Newark, Mayor
- City of Newark, City Council
- City of Newark, School Board
- City of Oakland, Mayor
- City of Oakland, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Oakland, City Council, Dist. 4
- City of Oakland, City Council, Dist. 6
- City of Oakland, School Board, Dist. 2
- City of Oakland, School Board, Dist. 4
- City of Oakland, School Board, Dist. 6
- City of Piedmont, City Council
- City of Piedmont, School Board
- City of Pleasanton, City Council, Dist 1
- City of Pleasanton, City Council, Dist. 3
- City of San Leandro, Mayor
- City of San Leandro, City Council, Dist. 1
- City of San Leandro, City Council Dist. 5
- City of San Leandro, School Bd., Area 2
- City of Union City, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Union City, City Council, Dist. 3
- City of Union City, City Council, Dist. 4

New Haven School District, #4

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?

Asian American and Pacific Islanders are a vital part of our community. I have long believed that the diversity of Fremont is one of our greatest strengths as a community. This endorsement will reflect the inclusivity and diversity the is integral to my campaign.
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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).

Bay East Association of REATORS.

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?

17 years

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

I have a Bachelors Degree from Arizona State University

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

I am currently with SambaNova Systems as Director of Product Marketing, I have been there for one year. Previously, I was with Pavilion Data Systems for about 2 years as Director of Product Marketing, and Espressive before that for 1 year. I left Espressive as I was recruited into Pavilion. The person who recruited me into Pavilion left and joined SambaNova, then recruited me there.

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

I have been an active and engaged member of the community, organizing my neighbors for causes that I believed important, but I have not been a member of a formal organization.

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

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.

I have participated in city council meetings and directly spoken out against discriminatory actions by others in council meetings.

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?

I do as the Fremont City Council currently has four members that are of Asian ancestry. The position I am seeking will not take one of those seats.

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 believe there needs to be more direct outreach to underserved communities and I am advocating for increased funding for positions in the police department for community outreach officers and for dedicated city employees to directly engage with those marginalized members of the community.

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

Fremont has large populations of East Asian, Central Asian, and West Asian populations. While those are the largest groups, Pacific Islanders are also a large ethnicity in Fremont.

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

One of the most at risk APA communities in Fremont is the senior population, as the rising cost of housing is a significant challenge for them.

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?

I would say that the thing I have become most aware of in the last 2 years is the level of racism that Asian Americans face. As a long time resident of Fremont, many of my friends and neighbors are of Asian descent. A large percentage of the people that I work with are of Asian heritage. These are my friends and colleagues. I did not realize the level of harassment that they would be faced with as a result of the Covid pandemic and I am now much more aware of the difficulties that they face.

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.

Any type of harassment, whether it is verbal or physical, cannot be tolerated. Every person deserves to be treated with respect. I will continue to engage in open dialog with those whom I disagree with politically, but I will never tolerate abuse or disrespect to another person based on ethnicity. As a result of the racism that has come up due to the Covid pandemic, I often found myself challenging those that used racist language. I have never, and will never, sit by while this type of racist language is used.

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?

Most of my interactions are not with any particular organization, but the people who make up my community. These are my friends and neighbors that I see everyday. I am running for office to make my community a better place. These are the people that I am running to serve.

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

I have not endorsed anyone at this time, but am open to engaging with other candidates and doing so.

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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