

# 2022 Endorsement Questionnaire- General Election - City Elections

Email \*

team@georgesypop.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 \*

George Syrop

City and zip code of residence.

Hayward, CA 94542

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What is your campaign website address?

georgesypop.com

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What is your campaign email address?

team@georgesypop.com

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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
- City 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?

I would be the only Asian-American on Hayward City Council if elected. I want to be in community with other Asian Americans in the political community to better address our needs if elected.  
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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).

I have received the endorsement of over 20 elected officials and several more community leaders. Please visit [GeorgeSyrop.com](http://GeorgeSyrop.com) for more information. My top 5:

Alex Lee - CA State Assemblymember  
Aisha Wahab - Hayward City Council  
Sara Lamnin - Hayward City Council  
Building & Construction Trades Council of Alameda County  
California Working Families Party

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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?

20+ Years

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

UC Berkeley - BA in Political Science 2015, Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in City Planning 2021

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

Agora Systems - Product Designer for 2y9m, Reserve - Digital Media Producer for 6m, Dray Technologies - Creative Director for 2y3m

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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.

Hayward Community Coalition, Friends of the Public Bank East Bay

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### 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.

As an individual: I have participated in community meetings hosted by organizations advocating against anti-Asian violence in 2020 and promoted fundraisers that supported impacted community members. As a commissioner: I have joined the APA Dem Caucus and have begun participating in Phong La's monthly AAPI Roundtable to better understand the needs of AAPI community members across the county and across identities.

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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?

Hayward recently passed a resolution condemning anti-AAPI behavior, however I believe the city should establish a committee with community leaders from various Asian & Pacific Islander ethnic groups to help inform future policy decisions, develop more cultural programming, and provide feedback related to existing city services & resources.

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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?

Hayward helps fund and promote various resources for immigrants, but oftentimes residents are unaware of these services. I believe the City should improve its outreach efforts to increase utilization and strengthen the relationship between the city and its immigrant population. Ensuring city services are culturally competent, community-informed, and provided in multiple languages is critical. The city's website currently offers several languages, and I want to ensure the actual services being provided are offered in several languages too.

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

Filipino, Chinese, & Indian

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

Any AAPI community members who are undocumented are the most at-risk due to their vulnerability to state and xenophobic violence and their difficulty utilizing public resources.

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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?

I've learned more about the historical tensions between the AAPI community and other communities of color over the last two years. I've had to come to terms with racism within the Chinese community and now find meaning in my own identity by fighting for solidarity between oppressed ethnicities as we work to overthrow white supremacy together.

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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.

I believe it is important for Hayward to develop a culture of community accountability and would like to implement restorative justice practices when a resident is a victim to verbal harassment and/or microaggressions. I would be proud to partner with the Hayward Unified School District to educate students, teachers, parents, and other community members on how to identify when harm has been caused, how to intervene, and how to facilitate restorative justice circles.

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?

Filipino Advocates for Justice, APA Dem Caucus, Gurdwara Sahib of Hayward

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

Aisha Wahab, Alfred Twu

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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