

# 2022 Endorsement Questionnaire- General Election - City Elections

Email \*

mel4livermore@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 \*

Mel Chiong

City and zip code of residence.

Livermore 94551

---

What is your campaign website address?

mel4livermore.com

---

What is your campaign email address?

mel4livermore@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
- 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?

As a first time candidate, it would be invaluable to have support from a community with shared experiences as an immigrant running for an elected office.  
.....

List ONLY the top 5 endorsements that you have received. (Please reference your website if you want to alert us to more).

Trish Munro, Brittni Kiick, Gina Bonnano, Lori Souza, Lida delos Santos

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?

24 years

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

University of the Philippines, 1986, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

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

1. Allied Bank (Philippines), HR Officer, 3yrs; 2. SGV & Co. (Philippines), Senior-Management Consulting Services, 1 yr; 3. Xavier School (Philippines), Department Head-Psychological Services, 4 yrs

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

Livermore Filipino-American Organization, Livermore Indivisible, Livermore Pride

---

## 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 was a speaker at a 2020 anti-Asian hate rally in Livermore, organized by Livermore Indivisible and Tri-Valley for Black Lives. The rally had more than 200 in attendance.

---

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?

To an extent, yes. Livermore is predominantly a white community with only about 12% Asian voters, certainly a result of historical racial inequity. However, in the 24 years of residency here, I feel the city is welcoming and has good relationship with the Asian and Pacific Americans community.

---

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?

Yes, but the city can always do better communicating directly with immigrant communities regarding current issues in order to gain more active participation.

---

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

Indians, Chinese, Filipinos

---

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

I do not believe there is an at-risk APA community.

---

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?

With Covid19 onset, Asian American youth have become more vulnerable as they have been associated ignorantly with the disease by way of name calling and other verbal abuse.

---

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.

Dialogues and other community-wide events should be encouraged among different communities to learn among each other. Cultural events are also effective in bringing respective traditions and cultures to the forefront to educate how differences bring about diversity, which in turn lead to dynamic communities. In 2020, I was a speaker at an anti-Asian hate rally in Livermore. I mentioned how presenting each other's differences can reduce gaps so we can live in the same space without fear.

---

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?

Livermore Filipino-American Organization, Shiva-Vishnu Temple among others

---



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

I have not made public endorsements

---

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.

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms