

2022 Endorsement Questionnaire- General Election - City Elections

Email *

Leethomasformayor@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 *

Lee Thomas

City and zip code of residence.

San Leandro, CA

What is your campaign website address?

Leethomasformayor.com

What is your campaign email address?

Leethomasformayor@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?

Its important to have a Mayor that will represent all minorities and who is willing to build relationships with minority communities to help in the advancement of society. I feel confident that I have the ability to support caucus mission in helping the advancement of the API community in San Leandro.
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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).

San Leandro Mayor Pauline Cutter, Council Members Pete Ballew and Deborah Cox, State Assembly member Bill Quirk and the Alameda County Firefighters Association, Local 55.
Please review my website Leethomasformayor.com for additional top endorsements.

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 I have lived in San Leandro

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

I have a B.S Degree from the University of San Francisco in Organizational Behavior and Leadership and a Master Degree in Public Administration from Golden Gate University

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

I feel this question is not pertinent to the running for of the office of Mayor and quite personal. I can tell you that I work for OUSD.

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 am a member of the San Leandro Rotary Club and the founder of the San Leandro New Shoes for School program.

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.

While I have not been involved in any organized anti Asian events, I can promise you that as the next Mayor of San Leandro, I will do everything possible to ensure we build a community awareness campaign or a commission to support and address any anti Asian violence in the city of San Leandro.

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 because to my knowledge we have only had one Asian city council member to serve in office in San Leandro.

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?

We need to hold basic civic classes on how to run for office and appoint more for immigrants to city commissions. We can also create changes by increasing the awareness with junior and seniors in high school with the hopes they become involved in city government later.

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

While I don't have the individual break down of ethnicities, I can tell you that San Leandro has a total of 14,131 voter with a break down of 7,420 household voters

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

It unfortunate but I personally feel with the rise and violence against the APA community everyone is at risk. Its sad and upsetting and we need to create stronger laws that will invoke greater consequences for hate crimes.

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 have learned that the Asian Community is under attack and something needs to be done at the state level and federal level to send a signal that this behavior will not be tolerated and we as a state and nation have zero tolerance for this behavior.

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.

As Mayor I will use the office to ensure we create awareness campaigns to support Asian Communities. I believe we must also reach out to African American community leaders to get their support to advocating to stop hate crimes against the Asian community

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?

The best resource I could have is by establishing a regular meeting a few times a year with APA community groups and organizations.

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

At this time I have currently not endorsed any Asian American candidates running for office because of my own race for office.
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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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