

2024 Central Committee Questionnaire

We expect the responses to be based on each candidate's individual lived experience.

Email *

holowe@aol.com

Basic Information

Endorsement Questionnaire



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. Caucus members attending our Endorsement meeting on January 13 will be provided a ballot to vote. Only candidates who have submitted their completed questionnaire will be listed on the ballot. Questionnaires must be submitted by December 28 at 5 PM.

Personal Information

Candidate Name *

Harold Lowe

City and zip code of residence. *

Oakland 94606

What is your campaign website address?

Pending

What is your campaign email address? *

holowe@aol.com

What is the office that you are seeking? *

- Central Committee AD 14
- Central Committee AD 16
- Central Committee AD 18
- Central Committee AD 20
- Central Committee AD 24

Are you an incumbent? *

- Yes
- No

Are you a registered Democrat? *

Yes

No

Are you on a slate? If so, please identify. *

Empower Oakland

Are you an APA Caucus member? *

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement? *

I value the organization and its mission to make a way for Asian Democratic leadership and promote central issues supporting the Asian community. To receive an endorsement means that the APA accepts that I will uphold these standards.

If we endorse you, will you use our name in your campaign materials? *

Yes

No

Maybe

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

My entire life; I have never lived anywhere else. 55 years.

Please list what experiences most qualify you to serve on the Central Committee (e.g., education, work, volunteer, life experiences, political campaigns) *

I'm 4th generation Oakland and Berkeley, over 100 years here. My service to Oakland began at an early age; from school President in both elementary and high school, by age 17 representing Oakland during an international anti-racism conference in Paris and serving as the first Chair of the Youth Advisory Commission, and the first Oakland Rotary Club #3 Peer Counselor for the Enterprise Institute. Over 45 years, I've had dozens of roles supporting our community, particularly our youth. I didn't even leave the district for college, studying African American Studies (Social Science concentration) at CAL, and Public Administration (Public Policy) at Cal State Eastbay. Professionally, I've been a financial planner for two decades, and I'm currently a Board member with a startup financial tech firm, creating a new credit evaluation system for the underserved. For the last decade, I've also worked as a diversity consultant, improving engagement opportunities, and creating relationships for local, small, minority and women-owned businesses and union construction workers. I have worked on dozens of campaigns, including strongly supporting and working on behalf of Lena Tam for Supervisor. I was fortunate to meet hundreds of people in our community when I sought Oakland City Council's District 2 last year, where the majority of Oakland's API live. Being between 1/8th and 1/16th Chinese, I'm passionate about supporting the API community in the County. I became a member of the Chinese Chamber to make good on my commitment to bring together the African American and Asian communities in Oakland.

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS - Central Committee

1. What percentage of the district in which you are running are of APA heritage? And what are top three Asian ethnic groups? *

The majority of the district is in Oakland; Oakland is 16% Asian; Alameda's Asian percentage of population is nearly double that. The top three Asian ethnic groups are Chinese, Vietnamese and Japanese.

2. Asian Americans are the fastest growing population in Alameda County and are in the majority in three cities. While the majority are Democrats, a growing number are registering as No Party Preference. How can the Central Committee be more relevant to these communities? *

The Central Committee must make the Democratic Party platform supportive of Asian interests. A great deal of engagement comes with supporting leadership which understands the needs of the community. Economic opportunities and public safety have been a great divide, as I believe the Asian community wants to align itself with Democrats, but it's been difficult to find Democrats who want to align themselves with Asian interests.

3. List three ways in which you could help the CC promote a greater awareness of issues of concern to the A/PA communities and support greater representation on elected bodies. *

Listening to these communities to determine their main concerns. Promoting leaders who show core competencies in meeting the needs of the API community. Providing engagement and access in forums and through materials which communicate directly to the community.

4. Please name local Asian American candidates the Central Committee has endorsed in the past 10 years. *

The Central Committee has a better track record in endorsing Asian candidates outside of the district. In district: Sheng Thao, Nikki Fortunato Bas, Janani Ramachandran, Phong La, Rob Bonta, Aimee Eng, Wilma Chan come to mind.

5. Proposing and adopting resolutions is one of the main functions of the CC. Some of the resolutions over the past several years impacted members of the APA communities. Please comment on what you think of those resolutions. *

* Incumbents - response is required.

There is a tendency to be one-sided in the resolutions; in the most current--The Israel-Gaza Resolution, is an immediate call for a cease fire, accusing Israel of ethnic cleansing with no acknowledgment of the Hamas attacks on Israel. A few months earlier, the CC adopted a strongly worded resolution to oppose the recall effort against Pamela Price, a move I believe was not in the interest of the CC, and the process smacked of intimidation. In 2020, the CC adopted a resolution to oppose candidates accepting campaign contributions from law enforcement, but no such practices from questionable nonprofits.

6. Do you believe that the vetting process for Resolutions is adequate? Please explain your response. *

I have real concerns that the following questions are unanswered or not practiced: Are the resolutions based on Democratic issues in the County? Are the resolutions based on Democratic policies? Are the resolutions based on individuals and not the position or the Party? Are the resolutions given time for debate and deliberation from alternative sides? The vetting should not be seen as impulsive, exclusive, or decidedly tipping the scales to specific issues or people.

7. How impactful have the past resolutions been on the quality of life for low-income Alameda County residents? *

I cannot recall any resolution which has been enriching to the lives of low income Alameda County residents.

Thank you for completing our questionnaire.

Please submit your responses by Dec. 28, 5 pm. Our Zoom Endorsement Meeting is scheduled for January 13 beginning at 10 am. 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