

2024 Central Committee Questionnaire

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

Email *

zac@zacbowling.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 *

Zac Bowling

City and zip code of residence. *

94501

What is your campaign website address?

<https://zacbowling.com/>

What is your campaign email address? *

zac@zacbowling.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. *

Unified Voices For Democracy

Are you an APA Caucus member? *

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement? *

I am seeking the Caucus's endorsement because I deeply value the pivotal role the Asian and Pacific Islander community plays in shaping our region's social and political landscape. My goal is to ensure that the diverse voices within our AAPI community are not just heard, but actively represented in decision-making processes. The Caucus's endorsement would not only bolster my ability to advocate for our AAPI community but also signify a shared commitment to inclusivity, equity, and representation.

In my efforts to represent the needs of our entire district, I recognize that the AAPI perspective is often underrepresented or overlooked in broader political dialogues. With the Caucus's endorsement, I aim to bridge this gap by bringing AAPI concerns and viewpoints to the forefront of our political agenda. This includes addressing issues like racial discrimination, advocating for equal opportunities, and promoting cultural understanding and respect.

Moreover, your endorsement would be instrumental in amplifying our collective efforts to engage the AAPI community in political processes, from voter registration drives to educational forums on key issues. It's crucial that we work together to increase AAPI participation and representation, not only in Alameda but also in the wider political sphere.

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? *

Been a resident in Alameda of and on for the last 12 years and I've owned a home here for the last 6 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 a battle-tested Democrat with extensive experience in grassroots organizing and political campaigning, making me an ideal candidate for the Alameda Democratic Central Committee. My commitment to the party is lifelong and unwavering. I've been instrumental in driving local campaigns, notably measure Z, measure A vs B, and various school parcel tax initiatives, showcasing my ability to mobilize support and achieve tangible results.

As the president of the City of Alameda Democratic Club, I've honed my leadership skills and demonstrated my ability to unify diverse groups towards common political goals. My role goes beyond mere administration; I actively use this platform to engage and energize our community members.

Moreover, my leadership in addressing Alameda's critical issues, such as the housing affordability crisis and homelessness, speaks volumes about my commitment to local concerns and my effectiveness in advocacy and policy influence. I've been at the forefront of several housing organizations, striving to create impactful solutions, including lobbying for new housing legislation at the state level.

My unique position as an admin of the two largest community online community forums in Alameda has not only amplified my reach but also allowed me to foster a spirit of unity and collective action. Through these forums, I've successfully rallied our community around crucial causes, significantly aiding organizations like the local food bank and animal shelter.

Adding to this, I've been proud to be a two-time elected delegate (ADEM) to the state Democratic Central Committee for AD-18. My time as a delegate has been marked by significant achievements. In this role, I have successfully campaigned for new legislation and additions to our party's platform. My experience at the state level has equipped me with understanding of the legislative process and the intricacies of party politics. I'm now eager to leverage this experience at the county level, aiming to contribute even more effectively to the Democratic cause.

We face a daunting challenge ahead with the 2024 election. It's a pivotal moment where we must turn out voters to keep the White House and reclaim the House. As Democrats, we are up against escalating hate and racism from the right, and it's imperative that we stand united to secure our future against these elements. In my role as a Democratic leader, I am committed to ensuring that we take all necessary local actions to contribute to our national success. This includes mobilizing voters, promoting inclusive policies, and strengthening our community's resolve to fight back against divisiveness and hate.

In summary, my blend of political activism, community leadership, and passion for addressing local issues aligns perfectly with the objectives of the Alameda Democratic Central Committee. I believe my track record, skills, and unwavering dedication make me a standout candidate for the Committee, and I seek your endorsement with a commitment to bring positive change and strong democratic values to our community.

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? *

Over 33% an growing. Indian, Chinese and Filipino ethnic groups making up the majority in most of parts of the district.

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? *

I see the growing preference among Asian Americans to register as NPP is a call to action for the Democratic Central Committee to become more relevant and responsive to their needs. I see it that we must all work together to intensify our engagement within communities through culturally sensitive outreach, ensuring our policies address their specific concerns such as immigration, education, and combating racism. Strengthening ties with AAPI organizations and ensuring representation within our leadership are critical steps. Additionally, fostering political awareness among the youth and tailoring our communication to be more inclusive and diverse will help us connect more effectively with Asian Americans, demonstrating that the Democratic Party is genuinely committed to their interests and values. We need to show that the Democratic Party is the party that is going to work for them.

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. *

Enhanced community engagement through joint forums and town halls with AAPI organizations, increasing more diverse representation in the party, and a focus on policy that matters to the AAPI community.

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

Of those that come to mind I know that Sheng Thao, Malia Vella, Rob Bonta, and Jean Quan have recieved the central community endorsement vote.

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.

I have not been a member of a central committee except as a non-voting club delegate for the last few months so I don't have too much experience with the resolution passed more than more than a year ago. But going forward I think it's important that focus on the importance of thoughtful, inclusive discourse when proposing and adopting resolutions, particularly those that might impact members of the APA communities. The CC's decisions can significantly influence the community's perception and engagement with the Democratic Party. It's vital to strike a balance that respects and acknowledges the multifaceted nature of the issues.

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

As we have seen with recent resolutions, I don't believe so. If I'm elected I will work to evaluate closer our process with how our resolutions are reviewed by the Resolutions Committee. There is definitely room for improvement. While the current process has a framework, perhaps we come up with ways where we can take in broader community engagement into the equation before resolutions are brought up to CC for a vote.

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

I don't believe they have been. Resolutions can be powerful but it's important to understand where they can impactful. Resolutions can be useful for driving policy and voter influence but that requires also targeted resources to make the influence of the central committee be felt on local and state policy makers. I don't think CC has done enough on this front. Especially on the issue of helping local-income Alameda county residents. I think we can do a lot more and it will be one of my missions if elected to the central committee.

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.

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