

Sierra Club

Questionnaire for 2010 City Council Race

General Approach

As a Councilmember, we would be working with you to help Alameda develop environmentally, equitably, and economically. As long as economic growth equates to material growth requiring materials from outside of the local area, such as large homes and automobiles and other possessions, there will be a tension between economic development and environmental stewardship. What will you do to promote sustainable and equitable economic development for Alameda and the surrounding region? (Provide details of examples of your commitment to the environment in the general information section below)

I will promote sustainable economic development in Alameda. As the Chair of the City's Economic Development Commission, I have worked to cultivate economic growth in an environmentally-responsible way.

The VF Outdoor project at Harbor Bay Business Park is a good example of the type of development I would support on the City Council. It makes both economic and environmental sense.

The VF Outdoor project is an exciting project from an economic perspective. Alameda recently attracted VF Outdoor (The North Face, JanSport, Eagle Creek, etc.) to relocate their corporate headquarters to Harbor Bay Business Park. VF Outdoor will build a five-building campus of all new construction. It will generate \$3M in tax revenues over 12 years and another \$3M in AMP commercial rate energy payments. It will become one of highest property tax sources in the City (as well as one of the largest private employers in the City with 650 jobs). And it will be a catalyst for additional quality development, as high quality companies attract other high quality companies.

The VF Outdoor project is also exciting from an environmental perspective. It is LEED Gold certified and comes complete with renewable energy integrated in the campus design (solar awnings, wind turbines), greenhouse gas reducing landscaping, on-site stormwater absorption/harvesting, and an edible garden.

The VF Outdoor project is representative of the balance that must be struck between economic development and environmental stewardship. I will strive to strike this balance on the City Council.

Additional details regarding my commitment to the environment and what I will do to promote sustainable and equitable economic development for Alameda and the surrounding region are contained below, specifically in the section entitled "General Information About Your

Environmental Commitments” and the sub-part under question #6 entitled “What roles will alternative energy sources such as hydropower, geothermal power and solar power play in Alameda’s future? What is the City doing and what more could it do to conserve energy?”

Regional Development

1. Do you think it is important that Alameda consider regional issues when developing Alameda Point, such as regional jobs housing balance, housing for those who cannot afford to pay market rate rents, water supply and regional transportation systems? What would you or your major supporters like to see developed at Alameda Point? (Bill Smith)

Yes, I believe it is important that Alameda consider regional issues when developing Alameda Point, such as regional jobs housing balance, housing for those who cannot afford to pay market rate rents, water supply and regional transportation systems. What we develop at Alameda Point will be not only a critical City asset, but a very important regional asset. We, therefore, must consider regional issues.

I believe that we should pursue sound and thoughtful development of Alameda Point. Alameda Point is one-third of our City and lies in a prime Bay Area location. But the use of Alameda Point is not currently being optimized. It has been approximately 15 years since the Navy left and the Point, to a large degree, is lying fallow.

But we do not just need any development, we need the right development.

I believe that we need to consider our full range of options for Alameda Point. Community input will be critical to what we ultimately decide to do.

Any decision I make regarding how best to develop Alameda Point will be guided by three critical principles: (1) Financial soundness, (2) job creation, and (3) traffic mitigation.

Guided by these three principles, I believe that we should move the development of Alameda Point along with a degree of urgency, while also moving thoughtfully and carefully.

If done right, we can improve the quality of life for all Alamedans and create wonderful public amenities for the entire community to enjoy (parks, open space, sports fields, thriving waterfront business districts, commercial, retail, etc.—in short, a world class development) while also creating jobs (including, but not limited to, green economy jobs) and generating tax revenue (transfer tax, property tax, sales tax, utility users tax, business license fees, Alameda Municipal Power (AMP) payments, and building permit and inspection fees), which revenue will support other programs and services that our community values, such as our schools and our public safety (Police and Fire).

I believe that we should also provide mixed-income housing at Alameda Point, including low-income housing and housing for those who cannot afford to pay market rate rents. This is

particularly important in view of any job creation that occurs at Alameda Point, in order to create a jobs-housing balance.

2. Alameda has an outstanding solid waste recycling program and has worked well with CASA to implement it. What do you think can be done to improve our solid waste recycling program and do you think the City will meet the County's landfill waste reduction goal (Ruth Abbe)

In 1990, Alameda County voters passed Measure D (Alameda County Source Reduction and Recycling Initiative) which set a countywide goal of reducing waste going to landfills 75% by 2010. The Alameda City Council adopted the 75 percent goal in May 2008. Reducing waste going to landfills saves money and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. The city has already met and exceeded the State's ambitious 50 percent recycling goal and achieved 67 percent diversion from landfills in 2008. The city is now poised to achieve the goal of 75% reduction, if it has not already met or surpassed it.

The City's solid waste recycling program can always be improved. The City can:

1. Stimulate sustainable local enterprises that use discarded products
2. Develop strategies to advance "upstream" waste prevention strategies such as product redesign (e.g. using less and better materials, providing longer product lives by developing more durable products, having products that are repairable and easily disassembled at the end of their useful life), process re-engineering, and low-impact lifestyles.
3. Encourage use of Alameda FreeCycle, perhaps with an advertising and/or social networking campaign, which helps recycle items within our community and keeps them out of our landfills, thereby reducing waste and helping the environment.
4. Consider a zero waste goal, once the 75% reduction is met.
5. Consider implementing mandatory requirements--including mandatory recycling, product bans (for hard-to-recycle materials like plastic bags), and disposal bans (for recyclable materials like cardboard)

3. A number of citizens and civic groups, most notably the League of Women Voters, are concerned about a number of actions taken or proposed very recently either by the City staff alone, or by Council members. Do you share some of these concerns, and whether or not you share them, how do you think they could be best addressed? (Jon Spangler)

Appropriate process is critical to good government. This includes proper public notice, a real opportunity for adequate public input and discussion, transparency, and accountability.

I support, and will continue to support, open, transparent, and accountable government. I am very familiar with openness, transparency, and accountability from my work on the Alameda Hospital Board, Alameda's Economic Development Commission, Alameda's Social Service Human Relations Board, and my role as a Deputy City Attorney at the San Francisco City Attorney's Office. I am accustomed to a culture of openness, transparency, accountability, and sunshine and will promote it as a Councilperson. The City's role is to serve the public. The City government is the people's government. Therefore, City leaders must be accountable to the voters.

As a City Councilperson, through direction, oversight, and accountability, I will work to ensure that staff provides full compliance with both the letter and the spirit of all laws and guidelines regarding open, transparent, and accountable government.

I have promoted open, transparent, and accountable government in the past. I was instrumental in ensuring that the City of Alameda Health Care District followed a more open and inclusive process for its regular meetings. I spearheaded the effort to film meetings and make the videos available to members of the public on the internet. I also worked to ensure that all meeting agendas were posted and available well in advance of meetings.

As a City Councilperson, I will make myself accountable to the voters who elect me by holding regular community / townhall meetings. At these meetings, voters can directly participate in holding me accountable as they will have the opportunity to ask questions and hear from me in person. And, perhaps more importantly, I will have an opportunity to hear from them. In addition, I will make myself available to voters through email and telephone.

I would also propose reconsideration of City Council meeting times so that they do not regularly run so late into the evening and into the next day's early morning. Late night meetings with critical decisions on important City business occurring after midnight when public participation is likely to be at a minimum is far from optimal from a public process and public accountability perspective.

4. The US Fish and Wildlife Service refused to accept the runway area from the Navy to create a Wildlife Refuge. The Veterans Administration has, however, at least preliminarily, expressed a willingness to accept responsibility for this land, including remediation of the toxics. Do you have a preference as to which federal agency accepts the runway area and an adjacent dump site from the Navy? Do you support the establishment of a National Wildlife Refuge for the runway area and dump site? (Arthur Feinstein)

If possible, it would be preferable for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to accept the runway area and adjacent dump site. And I support the establishment of a National Wildlife Refuge for the runway area and dump site.

Unfortunately, whereas the Veterans Administration has expressed a willingness to accept responsibility for this land, including its liabilities, such as toxic remediation, the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service was unable to do so.

If the VA is to take over this land (and seek to develop a health clinic, columbarium, and other facilities¹), it must do so in a way that protects the endangered species located there, specifically the California Least Tern and California Brown Pelican. The VA must also provide assurance that any residual contamination that is transferred with the property will be properly remediated. If this proves to be a problem, then other options should be considered, including moving to a different location (such as one that is closer to public infrastructure—roads, utilities, sewage, etc.). Another option would be for the Navy to retain responsibility for the cleanup, complete the cleanup, and convey the property to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to create a National Wildlife Refuge.

5. Alameda Point Environmental Restoration (Dale Smith)

Alameda Point is a Superfund site and the Navy plans to leave some contaminated materials in place and impose deed restrictions, some in perpetuity, on the land when it is transferred. Based on what you've heard:

- What percentage of the base has been transferred or is ready for transfer?

My understanding is that approximately 40% of the base is transferred or ready for transfer. As for portions of the base that have actually been transferred, the area that is now Bayport has been transferred. Bayport is a master-planned, 87-acre community built on a site of a former naval supply warehouse and base housing (East Housing, Coast Guard Marina Village).

- What percentage still requires remediation or is in remediation?

Approximately 35% of the base is undergoing active cleanup. And another approximately 25% of the base is under investigation for determination of how best to conduct the cleanup. The Navy has spent nearly half a billion dollars on cleanup to date. The Navy plans to spend another \$120M on cleanup.

¹ Alameda Hospital is not currently considering moving its facilities to Alameda Point.

- Are residential standards the same as unrestricted use?

My understanding is that, no, residential standards are not the same as unrestricted use standards. Unrestricted use means “unrestricted” for all future uses, so clean that the land could be used in any way future generations see fit.

Residential standards are a lower standard of cleanup. For example, for multifamily dwellings, the standard could preclude residents’ use of land for gardens. This raises questions regarding whether children playing in the dirt on such property would face adverse impact to their health and exposure to toxic chemicals. “Restricted residential” standards would allow a site to be used for day care centers and nursing homes. However, such standards do not appear to be protective of sensitive populations, as there would appear to be risks to infants and senior citizens.

It seems to me that houses, schools, daycares and playgrounds should not be built on capped sites or landfills. Residential clean-ups should meet the level for unrestricted use. And residential areas should be permanently cleaned up, not temporarily covered up.

The toxics at Alameda Point pose potential hazards to both people and other living things. Do you think existing cleanup standards are adequate? Do they protect other living things as well as humans? (Dale Smith)

I certainly worry about the adequacy of existing cleanup standards and know that others do as well. Some Bayport residents have had concerns regarding the cleanup standards. For example, some wondered if it was safe to garden. Others worry about the cleanup standards as they will apply to any residential development that occurs at Alameda Point.

My understanding is that the existing cleanup standards are designed to protect humans and some other living things, but not necessarily all other living things. For example, pets, livestock, agricultural and horticultural crops, and soil fauna such as microbes and earthworms, may not be included among those the standards are designed to protect.

6. Alameda energy policy (Al Weinrub)

- What would be your plan for dealing with the impact of Oakland Airport being under water in a few decades, as shown in San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission maps (http://www.bcdc.ca.gov/planning/climate_change/maps/16/cbay_east.pdf)?

Global warming and the resulting sea rise are major challenges for Alameda and the surrounding region due to our proximity to the Bay. In anticipation of sea rise, mitigation efforts can be pursued including use of fill to mitigate 18 inches of expected sea level rise. Possible easements can be identified for a future levee system in the event sea level rise exceeds 18 inches. Another option would be to build a levee system to entirely address sea level rise. Of

course, regional, national, and global efforts to combat global warming and the resulting sea rise should also be pursued.

If projections that the Oakland Airport will be under water in a few decades prove true, we need to consider building a new airport further inland or located at elevation, above the expected level of sea rise.

- How would you create major transportation hubs with high-density housing, especially low-income housing?

Alameda Point is an ideal place to develop a transit-oriented community that features an array of housing types for a variety of income brackets. Such a development will be climate-friendly and less auto-dependent. Such a development will help reduce carbon emissions.² Such a development will also make a contribution to regional needs for less expensive housing. If we can convert a brownfield to a sustainable mixed-use development and create infill, rather than sprawl, it will be a major success.

The transportation component of any such development will be critical. We are an island, with limited means of ingress and egress. We need to get optimal use from our bridges and tunnels without overutilizing them (which would lead to traffic and gridlock). This can happen in a number of ways.

1. It is important to encourage people to make more trips on modes other than single-occupancy-vehicle (i.e. walking, biking, carpooling, car sharing, public transport—bus, ferry, etc.). This will provide access and mobility to, from and within Alameda while alleviating congestion. Because of Alameda's flat topography and moderate climate, Alameda is an ideal location for bicycling. The Bicycle Master Plan should continue to be used and improved.

2. If walking, bicycling, carpooling, and public transport capture a higher percentage of all trips made by our residents, our community will enjoy the following benefits: green house gases will be reduced, congestion will be reduced, individuals will be healthier, streets will be safer.

3. Education on transportation choices for children and adults is essential. Elementary school "safe routes to school" programs provide tools for children and parents to make transportation changes and understand the positive changes a walk to school has on individuals, families and communities. The public high school in Palo Alto had a program where students pledged not to drive solo to school and it became very popular.

² The City of Alameda has the lowest greenhouse gas emission rate per capita in Alameda County. The transportation sector is responsible for about 54% of Alameda's greenhouse gasses.

4. We must work to strengthen the City's relationship with the newly-formed Alameda County Transportation Commission (CTC)³, Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), and other regional agencies to maximize funding opportunities, including planning/study funds to explore, and perhaps utilize, express bus, bus rapid transit, local circulator shuttles (such as the Emeryville “Go Round”), park and ride lots, and water taxi service.

- What are the biggest barriers to green job development in low-income communities and how would you overcome these barriers?

I think the two biggest barriers are as follows:

1. Lack of training opportunities for members of low-income communities. Any green job development policy needs to include specific opportunities to train (often through apprenticeships) members of low-income communities and communities of color. If it does not, then those members of low-income communities who have had disadvantages in educational, job, and other opportunities may have a difficult time getting the green jobs, as they might not have the experience and skills to compete. In order to overcome these barriers, I would support a robust training program for members of low-income communities.

2. The lack of will to utilize the talent, energy, and interest of communities of color and low-income communities. I believe that equity must infuse our thinking and that all of our communities, including our low-income communities, must be highly-valued. We must have the will to promote green job development in our low-income communities. My brother Marc Bonta is an environmental leader (Executive Director of the Center for Diversity and the Environment) and addressing this issue is one of his top priorities.

- What characteristics must a business development project have for you to consider it sustainable economic development that would benefit the local community?

In order to consider it a sustainable economic development that would benefit the local community, a business development project would need to have many of the requirements I discussed earlier under “General Approach” above as relating to The VF Outdoor project. It would need to harmonize both economic and environmental goals. It should include LEED certified buildings built with sustainable materials (recyclable, low waste, etc.), built with an environmentally-friendly design, and using low-flow toilets, water-saving landscaping, a strong recycling program, alternative energy, such as solar and wind power, etc.

³ The CTC resulted from a merger of the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency (ACCMA) and the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA).

- What roles will alternative energy sources such as hydropower, geothermal power and solar power play in Alameda's future? What is the City doing and what more could it do to conserve energy?

Alternative energy sources such as hydropower, geothermal power, and solar power will play an increasingly important role in Alameda's future. If Alameda is to become a sustainable community, it must rely more and more on alternative energies. Fortunately, Alameda has a local utility in Alameda Municipal Power that is a leader in this area: over 80% of Alameda Municipal Power's portfolio consists of renewable resources, including geothermal, hydroelectric, landfill gas, wind, and solar facilities. So Alameda and AMP can and should build on their existing successes and continue to be a leader in this area.

In terms of what more Alameda could do, it could create its own City program modeled on Berkeley FIRST, the City of Berkeley's solar financing program. That program provides property owners an opportunity to borrow money from the City's Sustainable Energy Financing District for the installation of solar power systems. The pilot was the first in the nation to finance the cost of solar installations through an annual special tax on the homeowner's property tax bill that is repaid over 20 years.⁴ To follow up on the pilot, the City has joined with a state-wide consortium developing a California FIRST program.

To conserve energy and/or otherwise promote a sustainable community, Alameda could also do the following:

1. Promote the City of Alameda's Bicycle Master Plan.
2. Convert the City's fleet of cars to alternative fuels (biodiesel/electric).
3. Promote flex hours, compressed workweeks, and telecommuting schedules for City employees to achieve transportation reduction and reduce vehicle miles traveled.
4. Implement alternative fuel car share programs.
5. Create more park and ride lots, so residents can drive to the lot, then get on public transport, take a shuttle to a public transport node, or join a carpool.

⁴ Berkeley FIRST was designed to solve many of the financial hurdles facing property owners who wanted to install solar systems. The advantages of the Berkeley FIRST program are: (1) There is relatively little up-front cost to the property owner; (2) The cost for the solar system is paid for through a special tax on the property, and is spread over 20 years; (3) The financing costs are comparable to a traditional equity line or mortgage; (4) Since the solar system stays with the property, so does the tax obligation—if the property is transferred or sold, the new owners will pay the remaining tax obligation.

6. Create a green industry campus at Alameda Point. Alameda is already part of the East Bay Green Corridor, which is committed to strengthening the regional green technology economy while reaching sustainability goals. Alameda could work with the East Bay Green Corridor to create this green industry campus. Such a campus would fit nicely with some of the existing alternative energy companies and other green industry companies already located in Alameda. It would also help Alameda continue to grow its brand as a “green city.”

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

a. Please identify pro-environmental actions you have taken either as a private individual and/or public official in your career and any environmental or civic organizations active on environmental or environmental justice matters in which you have been active.

As a Director of the City of Alameda Health Care District, I helped oversee Alameda Hospital’s “Green” efforts and initiatives:

1. Alameda Hospital is the largest recycler in the City of Alameda.
2. Alameda Hospital recycles approximately 52,000 pounds per year.
3. 782 cubic yards of recyclable materials are kept out of Alameda County’s landfill each year because of Alameda Hospital’s efforts.
4. Alameda Hospital’s efficient energy usage results in the lowest tier of energy fees with AMP.
5. Alameda Hospital uses energy efficient fluorescent light bulbs throughout its facilities.
6. Alameda Hospital has received the Certificate of Environmental Excellence for efforts in diverting 21,000 pounds of plastic from entering the landfill by utilizing Stericycle Reusable Sharps and RX Compliance Program since 2008.
7. Alameda Hospital uses motion sensors for lights in a good portion of the Hospital to reduce energy usage.
8. Alameda Hospital recycles / properly disposes of batteries.
9. Alameda Hospital recycles / properly disposes of fluorescent light tubes.
10. Alameda Hospital is 99% Mercury Free.

I have been supportive of the City’s efforts to promote environmental sustainability including:

- Promoting and achieving water conservation of close to 18% in the City of Alameda during the 2007-2009 droughts, one of the highest in Alameda County.
- Approving purchases of green power, including partnerships on a co-generation plant with the City of Pittsburg.
- Supporting Alameda Municipal Power's efforts as a green utility, with over 80% of its energy sources coming from renewable resource.
- Adopting the Green Building Ordinance.
- Adopting an ordinance that phased in the ban on styrofoam products.
- Increasing recycling opportunities with ACI with "diversion" away from landfills of close to or over 75%.
- Establishing CASA (Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda) and encouraging partnerships with Bike Alameda and AC Transit to reduce green house gas emissions.
- Promoting environmentally sustainable, transit-oriented infill development projects at Alameda Point and insisting on the clean-up of toxic contaminants.

I support the goals of Alameda's Local Action Plan for Climate Protection to reduce Alameda's carbon emissions to 25% below 2005 levels by the year 2020, to increase community sustainability, and to make the City of Alameda a community whose actions are based on the principles of sustainability and carbon neutrality.

I am a member of the Sierra Club and League of Conservation voters. I am a regular BART rider.

My family recycles and composts in our home and we use energy efficient light bulbs. We seek to lead a low-waste and heavy reuse and recycle lifestyles (we use FreeCycle with some regularity, as well as other options, such as Craig's List and Goodwill, to keep items out of landfills). We participate in e-waste programs. Some of us have participated in Save the Bay cleanups and letter writing campaigns to legislative representatives on environmental issues (e.g. Clean Water Action).

b. Please attach any written environmental campaign material or platform plank.

To follow.

c. Why should the Sierra Club support your candidacy?

For all of the reasons set forth above, I will be a voice of sustainable, environmentally-friendly development on the Alameda City Council.

In addition, I believe that my background, experience, training, and skill set will enable me to help move Alameda forward.

I grew up the son of an immigrant mother from the Philippines and a father from a working class background in Southern California. My parents wanted a good life for their children-- my older sister, my younger brother, and me. Through hard work and education, my parents believed I could do anything. I received a strong California public school education growing up. And later, with the help of financial aid and work study, I was fortunate to have the opportunity to attend some of the finest universities in the world-- Yale College, the University of Oxford, and Yale Law School.⁵

Now, as parents ourselves, Mia, my wife of thirteen years, and I dream of good lives for our three children—Reina (11), Iliana (5), and Andres (1). We moved to Alameda over a decade ago because we valued the high quality of life we all enjoy here. We love the great schools, the safe streets, the “mom and pop” shops that fill our unique business districts, the parks and open space, and the diversity of our community.

I grew up in a home that valued public service, activism and the common good. Those values were instilled in me from an early age. My parents both worked for the United Farm Workers with the great Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta, and Phillip Vera Cruz. They were part of the Civil Rights movement. And they dedicated their lives to social justice and the service of others. They each served the people of the state of California—my father at the Department of Health Services and my mother at the Department of Water Resources—for over fifty years combined.

That commitment to public service has taken root with me and only grown stronger over time.

I currently serve as a publicly -elected Director of the City of Alameda Hospital Board, where I helped oversee the greatest financial turnaround in the history of Alameda Hospital—moving from a \$2.5M deficit to a \$.5M profit over the course of a year—while providing critical, high quality health care services to the community. And the Hospital has only improved its bottom-line financial performance since.

⁵ I graduated with honors from Yale College in 1993. There I received the Roosevelt L. Thompson Prize awarded at graduation to the student with the “greatest dedication to and capacity for public service.” I was also honored to receive at graduation the William Neely Mallory Award for the “the best male athlete at Yale.” After graduating from Yale College, I pursued graduate studies in Politics, Philosophy and Economics for a year at the University of Oxford in England as a recipient of the Henry Fellowship, awarded for academic distinction. I received my J.D. from Yale Law School in 1998.

I serve as the current chair of the City of Alameda's Economic Development Commission, where I have promoted economic growth in Alameda that will improve the quality of life for Alameda's residents and employees.

I served as the President of the City of Alameda's Social Service Human Relations Board, where I helped ensure that safety net services were available for the most vulnerable members of our community and that all of us could live, work, play and worship in Alameda free of discrimination.

I work as a Deputy City Attorney at the San Francisco City Attorney's Office where I stand up for public servants who stand up for us each day and I advocate for consumer protections.⁶

I served as the Co-President of the City of Alameda Democratic Club where I fought for policies and candidates that represent the best values of the Democratic Party.

I served as the President of the Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County, where I worked to strengthen the political voice of the APA community.

I have been a Board Member of Filipino Advocates for Justice (formerly Filipinos for Affirmative Action) since 2004. Filipino Advocates is a community-based organization that provides direct services to youth, immigrants, and laborers.

I have served on either the Board of Directors or Advisory Board of Directors of the Manilatown Heritage Foundation since 2003. MHF is a community development organization currently operating the Manilatown Center on the ground floor of the rebuilt International Hotel in San Francisco.

I served as Board Member of the Alameda Hospital Foundation from Spring 2007 to Fall 2009.

I served as the Board President of Alternatives In Action from 2005 to 2009 and was on the Board from 2003 to 2009. AIA oversees a charter school (B.A.S.E.), preschool (Home Sweet Home), and after-school enrichment program (H.O.M.E.) centered in the West End of the City of Alameda.

⁶ Prior to joining the San Francisco City Attorney's Office, I was a litigation attorney at a private law firm in San Francisco. There I participated in all levels of litigation practice for a variety of contract, fraud, legal malpractice, patent infringement, insurance, civil rights, and criminal cases. And prior to working at a private law firm, I was a judicial clerk for Judge Alvin W. Thompson, U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut from 1998-1999.

I am a founding member of the Filipino-American Democratic Club of Alameda County (2009-present).

I currently participate in the *Robles-Wong vs. California* litigation, in which my daughters Reina and Iliana are named plaintiffs in a lawsuit that seeks to fix the state of California's broken public school finance system and ensure that children in Alameda and throughout the state receive the financing they need to receive a high quality education.

And I am now running for City Council. Being a City Council member provides the greatest opportunity to make a difference in the lives of Alamedans, to serve our community, and to continue the work that I have already been doing.

While I believe that Alameda is a great City, I also believe that it has not yet achieved its full promise. It can still be more. And it needs an effective and experienced leader to take it there.

It needs a leader who will promote economic development and support our local businesses.

It needs a leader who will support a fiscally responsible City budget that properly reflects our community's values.

It needs a leader who will work to unlock the full potential of Alameda Point, to make it a world class asset for all Alamedans, to create jobs, to mitigate traffic, and to do so in a fiscally sound way.

It needs a leader who values the enormous contributions of our public safety employees (police and fire) and is willing to work with them to plan for the future.

It needs a leader who will build a partnership with and advocate for our schools.

It needs a leader who understands that we need to fight to protect and enhance Alameda's high quality of life or else risk losing it.

I am running for City Council because I am this type of leader.

As a City Councilmember, I will promote sound economic development, preserve public safety, exercise fiscal responsibility, build a partnership with our schools, and protect services for our community's most vulnerable. Working closely with the community and fellow City leaders, I will work to improve the lives of all Alamedans and ensure that we maintain and enhance the quality of life in Alameda that we all love.

Candidates

Mayor

Tony Daysog
Douglas deHaan
Marie Gilmore
Kenneth Kahn
Frank Matarrese

Council (2 seats)

Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft
Rob Bonta
Adam Gillitt
Tracy Jensen
Beverly Johnson
Jeff Mitchell
Jean Sweeney
(i) Lena Tam

CANDIDATE AND CAMPAIGN INFORMATION

a. Briefly describe the major bases of support you hope to gather for your campaign. What other endorsements have you received so far? From whom else (individuals, groups) will you be seeking endorsements?

My current list of endorsements is as follows:

Elected and Appointed Officials

California State Senate President Pro Tem (ret.) Don Perata

Alameda County Supervisor-Elect & California State Assembly Majority Leader (ret.) Wilma Chan

Chair of the California State Board of Equalization Betty Yee

California State Assemblymember Mary Hayashi

President of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors Alice Lai-Bitker

Alameda Unified School District Board President Ron Mooney

Alameda Unified School District Board Trustee Mike McMahon

Alameda Unified School District Board Trustee Niel Tam

Alameda Unified School District Board Trustee Bill Schaff (ret.)

City of Alameda Health Care District Chairperson Jordan Battani

City of Alameda Health Care District Director Robert Deutsch

City of Alameda Health Care District Director Mike McCormick

City of Alameda Health Care District Director Leah Williams

City of Alameda Health Care District Director Jephtha Boone (ret.)

AC Transit Board President Rocky Fernandez

AC Transit Board Director Elsa Ortiz

AC Transit Board Director Joel Young

AC Transit Board Director Chris Peeples

Peralta Community College Board President Abel Guillen

Peralta Community College Board President and Mayor of Alameda (ret.) Bill Withrow

Peralta Community College Board Trustee Nicky Gonzalez Yuen

East Bay Regional Park District President Doug Siden

San Francisco Board of Supervisors President David Chiu

San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera
Berkeley City Councilperson Chris Worthington
Cupertino City Councilperson Gilbert Wong
Fremont City Councilperson Sue Chan
West Contra Costa School Board Member Tony Thurmond
Rod Hsiao, San Mateo County School Board Member
Igor A. Tregub, Berkeley Rent Board
Gail Wetzork, Chair, City of Alameda Economic Development Commission (ret.)
Justin Harrison, Vice Chair, City of Alameda Economic Development Commission
Harry Dahlberg, City of Alameda Economic Development Commission
Alan Ryan, City of Alameda Economic Development Commission
Cynthia Wasko, President of the City of Alameda Social Service Human Relations Board
Jonathan Soglin, Social Service Human Relations Board
Stewart Chen, City of Alameda Social Service Human Relations Board (ret.)
John Knox White, President of the City of Alameda Transportation Commission (ret.)
Donna Milgram, City of Alameda Economic Development Commission (ret.)
Audrey Lord-Hausman, City of Alameda Commission on Disability Issues
Ces Rosales, Alameda County Democratic Central Committee
Joel Freid, Delegate for the 16th Assembly District
Mark Briggs, Executive Board Member and Delegate for the 16th Assembly District

Organizations

KAYA: Filipino Americans for Progress

Community Leaders

Jim Oddie, Co-President of the City of Alameda Democratic Club*
Alice Fried, Co-President of the City of Alameda Democratic Club*
Mike Henneberry, Communications Director, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 5*
Domenick Weaver, President, Alameda Firefighters IAFF Local 689*
Barbara Kahn, City of Alameda Democratic Club*
Mike Schmitz, Edison Elementary School Parent Leader*
Layne Vann, Otis Elementary School Parent Leader*

Marilyn Ng, Board President Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County*

Jean Fong, Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County*

Arnie Fong, Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County*

Stefani Komaru, Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County*

Ken Pon, Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County*

Wayne Nishioka, Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County*

Emil De Guzman, President Emeritus of Manilatown Heritage Foundation*

Chris Vann

Catherine Atkin

Evan Ackiron

Rowena Manlapaz

Alexandra Cohn

Ronald Pineda

Mike Robles-Wong

Andy Currid

Lee Harris

Richard Hausman

Edith Anderson-Woody

Kathy & Bruce Knopf

Jay L. De Los Reyes

Rod Gilmore

David Teeters

Linda Hudson

Jon Spangler

Ben Reyes

Janet Galera

Scott Means

Kelly Means

Allan Mann

Dennis Hanna

Robert Kaplan

Kate Pryor

Ronnie Caplane

Rev. Michael Yoshii

Karen Green

Dan Wood

Donna Gibbs

Sylvia Kahn

C.C. Yin

Jennifer Ong

Dennis Pagones

Andy Stoddard

Kris Stoddard

Herb Behrstock

Dorie Behrstock

Rob Siltanen

* For identification purposes only

b. What level of time commitment do you expect to devote to Alameda city business?

In short, I plan to commit as much time as is required to get the job done right. I expect the City Council role and responsibilities to be extremely time-consuming and I have made arrangements with my job and family to ensure that I will be able to fulfill that commitment.

c. Please provide electronic, telephone, and physical addresses for the campaign.

rob@robbonta.com

510-872-5141 (mobile)

P.O. Box 6495, Alameda, CA 94501

1130 College Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501

www.robbonta.com

The Sierra Club can:

1. Endorse.
2. Engage in actions short of endorsement, which can allow a candidate to identify supporters by their Club titles or use Club mailing lists for mailings. The Club may describe the candidates' records in newsletter articles or in campaign materials mailed to the nearly 600 Alameda Sierra Club members.
3. Oppose.
4. Remain neutral. The Club may describe the candidates' records in newsletter articles.

SIERRA CLUB ENDORSEMENT PLEDGE (REQUIRED FOR INTERVIEW)

A few candidates have misrepresented action short of endorsement in their literature or statements to the press as a Sierra Club endorsement. Others, while not endorsed, have quoted selectively from Sierra Club articles to suggest Club support for them or opposition to their opponent. To protect the validity and credibility of the Sierra Club endorsement, we ask each candidate seeking our endorsement to sign the following pledge:

- (1) I understand that a Sierra Club endorsement requires a two-thirds vote by two or more volunteer leader committees, and that Sierra Club rules prohibit reporting on individual committee votes to prevent misrepresentations of a Sierra Club endorsement prior to completing the full endorsement process.
- (2) I will not misrepresent a Sierra Club endorsement for my campaign or any other campaign or issue.
- (3) I will not quote the Sierra Club, Sierra Club leaders, or Sierra Club publications, nor will I identify supporters of my campaign by their Sierra Club affiliation, without first obtaining written permission by an authorized Sierra Club representative.
- (4) This pledge covers all employees, campaign consultants, and others representing or retained by my campaign, and I will take all necessary actions to insure that others acting on my behalf will not violate this pledge.

Name: Rob Bonta

Office Sought: City Council of Alameda

Signature: *Rob Bonta /s/*

Date: August 20, 2010