

APPLICATION

For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

This application will be forwarded to the City Council for consideration to fill the vacancy in District 1, term ending December 31, 2024.

For Official	Use	
Resident of San Leandro	Yes_	No
District 1 Residency Met	Yes_	No
Registered Voter	Yes	No

Please type or print

Name	Anderson Sr.	David	L
	Last	F 1 .	111.0 1.01
Home	Address		
	Address	City	Zip
Priman	y Phone	Alternate Phone ()	(optional)
Email			

Birthdate (for voter registration verification purposes only)

How long have you lived at your present address in San Leandro? 22 years

Current Employment Information

Employer Retired from Sheetmetal 104

Address 3232 Constitution Dr. Livermore CA, 94551

Position Sheet Metal Worker Foreman Dates of Employment 1968-2005

Responsibilities As a retired Sheet Metal Foreman seeking the City Council position, my role

extends beyond project management to encompass community engagement, policy, advocacy,

and effective representation. I collaborated on jobs, engaged local comunity members, advocate

for sustainable policies, developed budgets, lead cross fuctional teams, and maintained records

Questionnaire (A separate sheet may be attached)

Please describe your education, training, and/or any special certifications:

Graduated from McClymonds High School in 1967

Graduated from Laney Jr. College in 1972 with the Vocational Sheet Metal Apprentice Program

I want to be appointed City Council because I have the leadership skills and experiences that

will create a unique and diverse perspective within the City Council. I have lived and served in

the City of San Leandro for over 20 years and my engagement with the community members

has motivated and encourgaed me to serve at a higher level. I have the proven ability to work

collaboratively with the current city council members to bring us togethe to focus.

Please list any previous City of San Leandro Board, Commission, or Committee on which you have served:

Oakland Life Enrichment Commissioner

San Leandro Senior Commissioner 7.5 years

Oakland School Board Preseident 1987-1992

Please list any community organizations to which you belong or have belonged:

Vice President of Oakland Budget and Finance Committee OUSD

Chair of student disciplinary hearing committee OUSD

President of Bay-O-Vista Home Improvement Association for 6 years

Please provide any additional information you wish which covers your qualifications, interests, or training related to this appointment:

I offer a unique blend of leadership and experience for the City Counsil. My expertise in over

seeing complex projects ensures a focus on quality and safety. I have an insight into education

and comminuty needs. I have actively engaged with civic issues demonstrating dedication to

community wellbeing.

I have sufficient time to devote to this responsibility and will attend the required meeting(s) if I am appointed. I am also aware that this application is a public document. If appointed, I will file the necessary interval and the recessary interval and the reces

Signature

1/21/2024 Date

Please return your application in person or by mail to:

Office of the City Clerk City of San Leandro 835 East 14th Street San Leandro, CA 94577

You may also submit your application by email to: <u>clerk@sanleandro.org</u> Applications will not be accepted after 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 2024. Postmarks not accepted.

- Since my retirement, I have dedicated a substantial amount of time to volunteer work within our community. As the former Senior Commissioner, I forged connections with numerous seniors, providing daily support through various activities. Additionally, I actively participated in the cleanup initiatives in the City of San Leandro and contributed my efforts to the Davis Street Community Center. Organizing annual food drives with the Bay-O-Vista Home Improvement Association has been another meaningful way in which I have continued to positively impact our community.
- 2. My passion lies in making a tangible difference in the lives of others, particularly in my extensive experience working with the school board and children. Having dedicated a significant portion of my retirement to volunteer work, I am committed to uplifting the voices of those who have been historically excluded. Whether it's forging connections with seniors as the former Senior Commissioner, actively participating in community cleanup initiatives and food drives, or collaborating with the school board, my drive-in life is to contribute meaningfully to the well-being and inclusivity of our community. I believe that through service and advocacy, especially in education, we can create positive change that resonates with individuals from all walks of life.
- 3. The issue of crime is undoubtedly a significant concern for San Leandro residents. To address this, I believe it is crucial to focus on both recruitment efforts and ensuring the stability of our police department. Continuing to recruit qualified officers is essential to maintaining a robust law enforcement presence in our community. Equally important is fostering stability within the police department, as it enhances the effectiveness and efficiency of crime prevention initiatives. By prioritizing recruitment and stability, we can work towards creating a safer environment for all San Leandro residents.
- 4. Given the seven districts in the city of San Leandro, my approach would be to conduct comprehensive surveys across each district to better understand the unique needs and concerns of the residents. This initiative aims to foster alignment between the city and myself in addressing community priorities. Through this survey, I intend to evaluate the effectiveness of past initiatives undertaken by the city, identifying successful strategies to build upon and recognizing areas where improvements are necessary. By actively involving the community in the decision-making process, we can ensure that our efforts are targeted, responsive, and reflective of the diverse needs within each district.
- 5. Having served as a former member of the Oakland School Board, a retired Foreman for Local 104, and a dedicated member of various committees in San Leandro, I bring a wealth of experience collaborating with diverse citizens and stakeholders. My background has honed my ability to actively listen and follow up with thorough fact-finding, ensuring that decisions are well-informed and reflective of community input. Through these experiences, I have developed a commitment to inclusivity and the skillset needed to navigate the complexities of community engagement and decision-making.
- 6. The most important role of the City Council is to enhance community well-being and provide improved services. In fulfilling this responsibility, I am committed to representing the needs of my constituents diligently. Transparency will be a cornerstone of my approach, ensuring open communication and accountability in every decision. To achieve these goals, I will stay fully

informed on the unique issues within each district, fostering a responsive and inclusive City Council that prioritizes the overall welfare of our community.

- 7. I will continue to work with Building Futures, finding out the needs of individuals and completing need assessments. I would look at the existing policies and adjusting them to serve our homeless population. I would reach out to cities that have had success with addressing the homeless issue.
- 8. I would work with the San Leandro Community Police review board and with the POA of San Leandro. In collaboration we would continue to move forward with recommendations.
- 9. My vision for the city is centered around the development of the marina, building upon the work already initiated. I envision transforming it into a vibrant, multipurpose area that incorporates restaurants and mixed-use housing. This development aims to attract a diverse range of people, fostering a sense of community and vitality in the area. Additionally, I am dedicated to fostering collaborative efforts among city leaders to effectively address crucial issues. This includes implementing strategies to prevent crime, supporting local small businesses, and actively working towards reducing the homeless population. Through these initiatives, I aspire to create a city that thrives on inclusivity, economic growth, and a high quality of life for all residents.
- 10. I envision our city embracing a culinary transformation with the introduction of farm-to-table restaurants and hybrid coffee shops. These establishments would cater to diverse community needs, staying open to serve various demographics. My focus is on fostering businesses that are not only committed to providing excellent service but also dedicated to supporting the local community. I believe that by encouraging businesses whose profits contribute to boosting the local economy, we can create a thriving and sustainable environment that benefits both residents and entrepreneurs.
- 11. Having faced criticism from constituents and the media in the past, I've developed a successful approach to manage it effectively. I prioritize not taking criticism personally, instead focusing on active listening and responding graciously. It's essential to consider the substance of the criticism, demonstrating humility when necessary, offering sincere apologies, and working towards constructive resolutions. While it's impossible to satisfy everyone, I firmly believe that the way we handle criticism speaks volumes about our commitment to transparent and accountable leadership.
- 12. As a City Council member, I'd make it easier for people to get involved. I want citizens to know how things work and that they have the right to bring up their concerns with the city. For instance, in a past meeting, many wanted to talk about issues in Gaza. If everyone knew the meeting rules better, we might have sorted out the concerns and found a solution before the meeting even happened. I believe in making the city process clear and open so everyone can take part.



APPLICATION

For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

This application will be forwarded to the City Council for consideration to fill the vacancy in **District 1, term ending December 31, 2024.**

For Official	Use
Resident of San Leandro	Yes 🔽 No 🗖
Resident of District 1	Years
Registered Voter	Yes 🔽 No 🗖

Please type or print

Name	Pon	Kenneth	train at
	Last	First	Middle Initial
Home /	Address		
	Address	City	Zip
Primary	y Phone	Alternate Phone ()	(optional)
Email			

Birthdate (for voter registration verification purposes only)

Current Employment Information

- Employer Kenneth Pon, CPA (Retired)
- Address 114 Parrott St (1986-2001)/151 Callan Av 306 (2001-2016), San Leandro CA 94577
- Position Certified Public Accountant Dates of Employment 1986 thru 2016
- Responsibilities An accountancy firm responsible for preparation of small business and not-for-

profit financial statements, audits, and tax preparation. Currently focused on assisting local

charitable organizations with tax preparation.

Questionnaire

(A separate sheet may be attached)

Please describe your education, training, and/or any special certifications:

Masters in Governance, California School Boards Association 2001

Certified Public Accountant, State of California Board of Accountancy 1979

Bachelor of Science, School of Business Administration, University of California, Berkeley 1971

I want to assist the city council in achieving their priorities for the people of San Leandro.

I have the experience.

I'll bring my 30+ years of community experience to make San Leandro where our children

would want to live.

Please list any previous City of San Leandro Board, Commission, or Committee on which you have served:

Planning Commission 2015 - 2023, SEED Collaborative Community Equity Committee 2022,

Sesquicentennial Steering Committee 2022, General Plan Advisory Cmte 2000, Downtown

Plan Cmte 2000, Economic Development Advisory Cmte 1996, Vision Task Force 1993

Please list any community organizations to which you belong or have belonged:

SLDowntown Assn; Democratic Club; Asian Pacific Caucus; Rotary Club; Wa Sung; Asian

Community Cultural Assn; Bay-O-Vista Improvement Assn; SLChamber of Commerce; SLUSD

Bd of Trustees, Strategic Planning Team, Financial Resource Advisory Cmte; United Parents

Please provide any additional information you wish which covers your qualifications, interests, or training related to this appointment:

Working with over 25 local organizations/committees/task forces, including city, business,

school, cultural, and residential, I look for win-win scenarios, treat everyone as equals, stay on

point, see both sides of an issue, and maintain an open mindset.

I have sufficient time to devote to this responsibility and will attend the required meeting(s) if I am appointed. I am also aware that this application is a public document. If appointed, I will file the necessary disclosure documents as required under the Political Reform Act.

Signature

Kenneth Pon CPA DN: cn=Kenneth Pon CPA, o, ou, email=kponcpa@sprynet.com, c=US Date: 2024.01.22 11:21:06 -08'00'

Date

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SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS

For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

NAME: Kenneth Pon

DATE: Jan 29 2024

This supplemental will be used to determine your eligibility and will be considered part of your application. *If* you do not return the supplemental questionnaire, your application may be deemed ineligible. Please use more sheets if necessary.

1. How often do you volunteer in our community?

All the time. It's in my DNA. During the past 38 years, not only have I participated in over 25 different organized local clubs, commissions, task forces, sub-committees, ad hoc committees, foundations, and committees; I have volunteered to help school beautifications, tree plantings, served meals, served food and beverages, constructed props, picked up trash, painted tables and chairs, and sold tickets.

2. What are your passions or what is your drive in Life?

I want San Leandro to be where our children will want to live. Our roads must be repaired and made Complete Streets; we must have homes available that accomodate our childrens needs to live near work and families; we must have a nonthreatening mental and physical health response agency in addition to continuing deterring and protecting people from imminent threats of violence; and, I would like to use my accounting background to demystify our City's budget and financials by translating them into english.

3. What do you think is the biggest issue facing San Leandro residents, and what actions do you think the City can take immediately, in the midterm (3-5 years), and the long term (10-20 years)?

Public safety is the most immediate issue facing San Leandro residents, appropriate and adequate supply of housing the midterm issue, and, safe complete streets the long term issue. We must create a nonthreatening mental and physical health response agency in addition to continuing deterring and protecting people from imminent threats of violence; we must have homes available that accomodate our childrens needs to live near work and families; our roads must be repaired and made Complete Streets.

4. How would you balance the needs and interests of different neighborhoods and communities in San Leandro with that of the City? Include any opportunities and constraints that you would take into consideration.

The needs and interests of our neighborhoods and communities are the needs of the City. I listen to all concerns, find common ground, minimize negative impacts; build concensus to reach a conclusion. I know how to do this.

5. What specific skills and abilities do you bring that will enable you to work effectively with both the diverse members and perspectives of our community and the diverse members and perspectives on this City Council?

My 38+ years of working directly with the local residential, school, business, and city communities had given me the insight to work with our diverse communities and elected officials. 8 years elected to the school board + 8 years appointed to the Planning Commission, frequently as presiding chair, has given me the temperament and experience to listen to our diverse community and councilors and hear their voices. I am AsianAmerican and grew up with my family's cultural influences.



For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

NAME: Kenneth Pon

6. What is the most important role that the City Council plays and how would you ensure success in that role?

The most important role the City Council plays is communicating to our diverse communities that their needs are being addressed. The best method is directly connecting with our diverse communities through in-person dialoging. In past years, CM routinely met with community members. Using social media is efficient, but, leave much of our diverse community out. I truly appreciate CM Simon holding regular public "office hours" away from City Hall. My daily runs to the Post Office helps me hear what's on people's mind.

7. How will you create and engage in policy and propose/implement hands on approaches to end homelessness in San Leandro?

As a city, we can mitigate homelessness by ensuring timely construction of appropriate and adequate supply of all types of permanent housing, and, identifying appropriate and adequate locations of temporary shelter. Our Housing Element identifies the types and quantity of permanent housing needed, but, the construction of those units is lagging behind the need. Council should prioritize reviewing and addressing the root causes of that time lag.

8. How will you create and engage in policy and propose/implement hands on approaches create a safer community from policing to community involvement in San Leandro ?

I welcome change and respect traditional values. Our police department has been tasked to do more than they should. For the sake of our residents and property owners, we must create a nonthreatening mental and physical health response agency. We should bring back the comforting presence of foot and bicycling patrolling public safety officials not only in our retail/commercial areas, but, also in our residential areas.

9. What is your vision for the city, i.e., what should the City of San Leandro focus on during the next 3-5 years, and how to plan to help realize that?

I want San Leandro to be where our children want to live. Our roads must be repaired and made Complete Streets; we must have homes available that accomodate our childrens needs to live near work and families; we must create nonthreatening mental and physical health response agency in addition to continuing deterring and protecting people from imminent threats of violence; and, I would like to use my accounting background to demystify our City's budget and financials by translating them into english.

10. What types of organizations (e.g., businesses, non-profits, etc.) should San Leandro seek to attract to our city? Why these organizations? How would you support those efforts?

In general, I'd like to see locally owned retail/hospitality/manufacturing type businesses, to keep the "small town" San Leandro feel. Specifically, let's get an ebike/moped manufacturing business in San Leandro, and, highlight our very own Cherry City Cyclist Club. Together, these two organizations would provide a solution to our Climate Action Plan to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions and reduce our ever growing street congestion issues. Individually, I support these efforts by riding my moped for routine daily local commuting.



For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

NAME: Kenneth Pon

DATE: Jan 29 2024

11. How would you handle criticism from constituents or the media?

8 years elected to the San Leandro USD Board of Trustees and 8 years appointed to the City of San Leandro Planning Commission, Presiding/Chairing many of those years, I have been the target of criticism for my votes and opinions. I accept, and embrace, differences of opinion; that is the basis for understanding. I've handled the heat.

12. What strategies would you use to promote civic engagement and participation in local government?

As a member of the City's 2022 Community Equity Committee, we recommended convening meetings in locations of diverse communities: "Have people and organizations affiliated with those community's co-sponsor/co-host the meetings. Hold City informational and planning meetings in communities and in familiar places that residents frequent, such as churches, community centers, parks, senior centers, popup tents in shopping center parking lots (eg New Sang Chong Market, Guadalajara strip mall - office building located within)." I would add, have people who look like them represented from the City. This concept works.



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For Official	Use	
Resident of San Leandro	Yes	No
District 1 Residency Met	Yes	No
Registered Voter	Yes	No

Please type or print

Name	Prieto-Diaz	Cynthia	Μ.
radific	Last	First	Middle Initial
Home	Address	- 10 A	7:0
	Address	City	Zip
Primary	y Phone (Alternate Phone ()	(optional)
Email			
Rirthda	te (for voter registration verif	ication purposes only)	

How long have you lived at your present address in San Leandro? +10 Years (Since 2013)

Current Employment Information

Employe	r 500 Women Scientists	
Address		
Position	Executive Leadership Team	Dates of Employment March 2022 - Present
Respons	ibilities Strategic planning on the f	future of the non-profit organization, restructuring due
to loss o	of funding, mission is to serve socie	ety by making science open, inclusive, accessible to
all. Ackr	nowledging that science touches th	e lives of every person on the planet.

Questionnaire

(A separate sheet may be attached)

Please describe your education, training, and/or any special certifications: Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology, Minor in Chemistry from Cal Poly Pomona, CA Master of Public Health, General Emphasis, from West Coast University, Anaheim, CA Biomedical engineer, with 10+ years of experience supporting the complete product lifecycle of Class II and Class III medical devices and combination products. Interests include sustainability across the complete lifecycle of medical devices and the healthcare industry. Certified in Public Health (NBPHE Number: 20172), May 19, 2023

I want to inspire residents to be active within their community and show them that it does not

matter what you look like, if you are working towards making a positive difference. As an

applied scientist by training I think I would bring a lot of value to the city, and solutions based

on evidence to help inform decisions. As someone that runs through our city, I see our streets

from a different perspective, which I think is needed to understand all residents and visitors.

Please list any previous City of San Leandro Board, Commission, or Committee on which you have served:

Appointed to Alameda County Public Health Commission on 01/23/2024, At-Large In-Waiting

San Leandro Resilient Hubs Initiative through the Office of Sustainability

Please list any community organizations to which you belong or have belonged:

Latin Alumni Network, 500 Women Scientists, ESAL (Engineers and Scientists Acting Locally)

Please provide any additional information you wish which covers your qualifications, interests, or training related to this appointment:

Prior to attending the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in 2023,

I had never considering applying for a local city appointment - but through the kindness

of others, I am being brave - because I think I can be a voice for individuals that feel unheard.

I have sufficient time to devote to this responsibility and will attend the required meeting(s) if I am appointed. I am also aware that this application is a public document. If appointed, I will file the necessa

Signatu

Date 2024-01-25

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For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

NAME:

DATE:

This supplemental will be used to determine your eligibility and will be considered part of your application. *If you do not return the supplemental questionnaire, your application may be deemed ineligible.* Please use more sheets if necessary.

- 1. How often do you volunteer in our community? Please refer to Supplmental Questions Attachment, Page 2 of 5.
- 2. What are your passions or what is your drive in Life? Living a life of service and invoking a zest for life in others, by showing them all the beauty around us.
- 3. What do you think is the biggest issue facing San Leandro residents, and what actions do you think the City can take immediately, in the midterm (3-5 years), and the long term (10-20 years)? I understand that the biggest issues that residents are concerned about relate to living in an affordable city, while ensuring public safety. As an idealist and engineer, I think immediate solutions to these issues would include developing pathways for increased housing opportunities with inventory that may already be available. In the long term, it is important to think about how the biggest issues may be driven by coexisting conditions within our society and we should be addressing root causes not just the outcomes. Therefore, what I would bring to the team would be a systems thinking approach borrowed from solving complex engineering problems to help mitigate occurrences and their severity.
- 4. How would you balance the needs and interests of different neighborhoods and communities in San Leandro with that of the City? Include any opportunities and constraints that you would take into consideration.

Balancing the needs and interests of the varies neighborhoods, communities within the city and the overarching goals of the city would include evaluating if there are areas that overlap and focus on high priority items first, while being transparent in the decisions being made. I would include opportunities to partner with interested community members to help achieve overarching goals, while acknowledging any potential limiting factors.

5. What specific skills and abilities do you bring that will enable you to work effectively with both the diverse members and perspectives of our community and the diverse members and perspectives on this City Council?

I am a stubborn optimist and prior personal experience includes traveling and working abroad and being able to work with a variety of cultures, which has enabled me to collaborate effectively with diverse members and varying perspectives. My professional experience has also enabled me to work closely with cross-functional teams with different priorities while meeting overarching goals like ensuring patient safety, while acknowledging diverse ways of thinking how to design a product that will meet user-needs.



For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

NAME:

DATE:

6. What is the most important role that the City Council plays and how would you ensure success in that role?

I think the most vital role that the City Council plays is acknowledging the concerns of residents and seeking feedback for continuous improvement. The City Council has a responsibility to not only be an ambassador of the city but inspire others to participate in making the city a place where everyone feels safe and welcome. To be successful in continuous improvement efforts, I would make myself available to residents and continue to walk/run throughout San Leandro. I would also welcome more neighborhood roundtables so I could understand challenges individuals may be facing that are not within my scope of lived experience.

7. How will you create and engage in policy and propose/implement hands on approaches to end homelessness in San Leandro?

Today, I had the honor of participating as a volunteer in the Alameda County Point-In-Time Count and it was an insightful experience. Understanding the needs of individuals through the survey, allowed me to think about how programming could be shifted away from only addressing immediate needs (like food and shelter), but also focus on the element of elevating an individual s self-worth with kindness and compassion. I would engage with policy and propose/implement approaches by getting direct feedback from individuals impacted, while being open to learning about other cities successes when it comes to ending homelessness.

- 8. How will you create and engage in policy and propose/implement hands on approaches create a safer community from policing to community involvement in San Leandro ? I will be ready to support initiatives that are evidence-based to create and implement policies that aim at creating a safer community, while acknowledging that policing is one aspect of public safety but it can be reserved for law enforcement situations. Through my lens of public health, I believe we could address multiple issues like advancing Environmental Justice while Preventing Crime through Environmental Stewardship that promotes health and wellness of our shared environment and in turn our own health. There is evidence to suggest that reducing litter while enhancing beauty in a city can promote an active lifestyle of residents while helping to reduce crime as streets will be busier.
- 9. What is your vision for the city, i.e., what should the City of San Leandro focus on during the next 3-5 years, and how to plan to help realize that? Please refer to Supplmental Questions Attachment, Page 4 of 5.

10. What types of organizations (e.g., businesses, non-profits, etc.) should San Leandro seek to attract to our city? Why these organizations? How would you support those efforts? Please refer to Supplemental Questions Attachment, Page 4 of 5.



For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

NAME:

DATE:

11. How would you handle criticism from constituents or the media? I would manage criticism from constituents and/or the media by being mindful that being public facing and holding public office comes with opportunities to be challenged on decisions, actions, or in-actions. From a personal perspective, I would be mindful to address my health and wellness while being open to having conversations with individuals that have opposing views. It is important that all community members voice their concerns even if there are disagreements but can still respect one another.

12. What strategies would you use to promote civic engagement and participation in local government? I would acknowledge potential barriers for individuals to participate in civic engagement that may include but is not limited to economic challenges, lack of awareness by community members, resistance to participate, limited time due to personal priorities. I think one strategy could be the use of positive reinforcement like active recognition or monetary incentives but also leading by example. It is important to be mindful that full participation may not be feasible, but the City Council should welcome continuous feedback as a method to have community members participate and be engaged. An open environment of sharing ideas will allow us to get to better solutions, faster for the benefit of all.

Supplemental Questions (For Appointment to Fill Vacancy) | San Leandro City Council, Dist. 1

1. How often do you volunteer in our community?

As a result of WFH (working-from-home) during the height of the pandemic, I became involved in my immediate community. First starting with a Free Little Library, then providing our community with mutual aid via a Free Little Pantry at the site of the library. Since then, I have pivoted to advocating for Environmental Justice efforts on behalf of San Leandro and our Greater San Francisco Bay Area.

Formally, once per quarter at least four times annually. Informally, whenever I step outside my door, which includes but is not limited to picking up litter and/or reporting it via the Report a Concern.

2. What are your passions or what is your drive in Life?

Living a life of service and invoking a zest for life in others, by showing them all the beauty around us.

3. What do you think is the biggest issue facing San Leandro residents, and what actions do you think the City can take immediately, in the midterm (3-5 years), and the long term (10-20 years)?

I understand that the biggest issues that residents are concerned about relate to living in an affordable city, while ensuring public safety. As an idealist and engineer, I think immediate solutions to these issues would include developing pathways for increased housing opportunities with inventory that may already be available. In the long term, it is important to think about how the biggest issues may be driven by coexisting conditions within our society and we should be addressing root causes – not just the outcomes. Therefore, what I would bring to the team would be a systems thinking approach borrowed from solving complex engineering problems – to help mitigate occurrences and their severity.

4. How would you balance the needs and interests of different neighborhoods and communities in San Leandro with that of the City? Include any opportunities and constraints that you would take into consideration.

Balancing the needs and interests of the varies neighborhoods, communities within the city and the overarching goals of the city would include evaluating if there are areas that overlap and focus on high priority items first, while being transparent in the decisions being made. I would include opportunities to partner with interested community members to help achieve overarching goals, while acknowledging any potential limiting factors.

5. What specific skills and abilities do you bring that will enable you to work effectively with both the diverse members and perspectives of our community and the diverse members and perspectives on this City Council?

I am a stubborn optimist and prior personal experience includes traveling and working abroad and being able to work with a variety of cultures, which has enabled me to collaborate effectively with diverse members and varying perspectives. My professional experience has also enabled me to work closely with cross-functional teams with different priorities while meeting overarching goals like ensuring patient safety, while acknowledging diverse ways of thinking how to design a product that will meet user-needs.

6. What is the most important role that the City Council plays and how would you ensure success in that role?

I think the most vital role that the City Council plays is acknowledging the concerns of residents and seeking feedback for continuous improvement. The City Council has a responsibility to not only be an ambassador of the city but inspire others to participate in making the city a place where everyone feels safe and welcome. To be successful in continuous improvement efforts, I would make myself available to residents – and continue to walk/run throughout San Leandro. I would also welcome more neighborhood roundtables so I could understand challenges individuals may be facing that are not within my scope of lived experience.

7. How will you create and engage in policy and propose/implement hands on approaches to end homelessness in San Leandro?

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8. How will you create and engage in policy and propose/implement hands on approaches [to] create a safer community from policing to community involvement in San Leandro?

I will be ready to support initiatives that are evidence-based to create and implement policies that aim at creating a safer community, while acknowledging that policing is one aspect of public safety – but it can be reserved for law enforcement situations. Through my lens of public health, I believe we could address multiple issues like advancing Environmental Justice while Preventing Crime through Environmental Stewardship that promotes health and wellness of our shared environment and in turn our own health. There is evidence to suggest that reducing litter while enhancing beauty in a city can promote an active lifestyle of residents while helping to reduce crime as streets will be busier.

9. What is your vision for the city, i.e., what should the City of San Leandro focus on during the next 3-5 years, and how to plan to help realize that?

My vision for the city of San Leandro is to continue to expand the Resilience Hubs Initiative so all neighborhoods feel empowered to take immediate actions to address the climate emergency, while collaborating across the city and county to create a more sustainable San Leandro and Greater SF Bay Area. A more sustainable San Leandro would include focusing on overburden areas of the city with projects that will improve the quality of life for residents. Initiatives could include expanding on the efforts of organizations like San Leandro 2050, that identified housing availability and affordability (as a key concern for residents) and the creation of greener employment opportunities for locals. Beyond the technical solutions that could be discussed, it is important for all individuals – homeowners, renters, visitors feel connected and a part of the community – to help combat loneliness that may adversely impact overall health, wellness and may have other implications on public health.

10. What types of organizations (e.g., businesses, non-profits, etc.) should San Leandro seek to attract to our city? Why these organizations? How would you support those efforts?

Types of organizations that San Leandro should seek to attract or have residents start – would include those that focus on community capacity building, the promoting of a circular economy, environmentally conscious businesses and organizations, development of clean technology (cleantech), and encouraging all employers to participate in recidivism reduction with reentry pathways for formally incarcerated individuals to expand economic opportunities so individuals have the ability to rebuild their lives. I would support these organizations, because they are thinking beyond their lifetime and focused on addressing root causes – not just outcomes. I would support these efforts, by actively engaging with organizations and I would be willing to participate in negotiations that would include ensuring decisions made are through the lens of a risk management perspective, for example any new entity should not adversely impact the health of the community.

11. How would you handle criticism from constituents or the media?

I would manage criticism from constituents and/or the media by being mindful that being public facing and holding public office comes with opportunities to be challenged on decisions, actions, or in-actions. From a personal perspective, I would be mindful to address my health and wellness – while being open to having conversations with individuals that have opposing views. It is important that all community members voice their concerns – even if there are disagreements but can still respect one another.

12. What strategies would you use to promote civic engagement and participate in local government?

I would acknowledge potential barriers for individuals to participate in civic engagement that may include but is not limited to economic challenges, lack of awareness by community members, resistance to participate, limited time due to personal priorities. I think one strategy could be the use of positive reinforcement like active recognition or monetary incentives – but also leading by example. It is important to be mindful that full participation may not be feasible, but the City Council should welcome continuous feedback as a method to have community members participate and be engaged. An open environment of sharing ideas will allow us to get to better solutions, faster for the benefit of all.



APPLICATION

For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

This application will be forwarded to the City Council for consideration to fill the vacancy in **District 1, term ending December 31, 2024.**

For Official	Use
Resident of San Leandro	Yes 🔽 No 🗖
Resident of District 1	3 Years
Registered Voter	Yes 🗹 No 🗖

Please type or print

Name	Das	Siddhartha		
	Last	First	Middle Initial	
Home	Address			
	Address	City	Zip	
Primar	y Phone	Alternate Phone ()	(optional)	
Email				
Birthda	ate (for voter registration verif	ication purposes only)		

Current Employment Information

Employer Marine Fluence	
Address	
Position CEO	Dates of Employment August, 2022-Present
Responsibilities (a) Lead resear	ch and IP for new technology for water desalination.
(b) Fund raising and oversee leg	al matters related to entrepreneurial efforts.

Questionnaire

(A separate sheet may be attached)

Please describe your education, training, and/or any special certifications:

Udergraduation and Masters with chemistry major in India at IIT-Kanpur.

Ph.D. in Chemistry from Yale University (2008) on full fellowship.

PhD work was awarded the best PhD in chemistry and Porter Prize (2008).

Ported Prize: best original effort, in the entire univetrsity, of broad human significance.

Post PhD: (1) professor, (2) lead research at IBM, (3) start a company to help the humanity.

Avid endurance athlete: multiple Boston qualified marathoner, and multiple Ironman.

Please see attached sheet.

Please list any previous City of San Leandro Board, Commission, or Committee on which you have served:

None

Please list any community organizations to which you belong or have belonged:

None

Please provide any additional information you wish which covers your gualifications, interests, or training related to this appointment:

I am eternally interested in leading any effort related to better health. I am a sub-3 hr

marathoner and a triathlete finishing several Ironman races. I started running in 2016. I learned

swimming in 2018. I am not born skilled. I am passionate about better health, for everybody.

I have sufficient time to devote to this responsibility and will attend the required meeting(s) if I am appointed. I am also aware that this application is a public document. If appointed, I will file the necessary disclosure documents as required under the Political Reform Act.

Signature _____ Date 01/25/2024

Please return your application in person or by mail to:

Office of the City Clerk City of San Leandro 835 East 14th Street San Leandro, CA 94577

You may also submit your application by email to: clerk@sanleandro.org Applications will not be accepted after 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 2024. Postmarks not accepted.



For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

NAME:

DATE:

This supplemental will be used to determine your eligibility and will be considered part of your application. *If you do not return the supplemental questionnaire, your application may be deemed ineligible.* Please use more sheets if necessary.

- 1. How often do you volunteer in our community? Have not volunteered in San Leandro since we moved here.
- 2. What are your passions or what is your drive in Life? Better health. I strongly believe a better and an active health creates a better and an active mind. An active mind is centered and kind. This is the best investment in people. From being a couch potato, I picked up running in 2016. Since then, I have qualified for Boston Marathon several times, and ran there. I have also completed several Ironman races (2.4 miles open water swim + 112 miles bike + 26.2 miles run, all in one day). I learned swimming, or how to not get drowned in a pool, in 2017-2018. My drive: inspiring others to chase better health, and challenge themselves to 'impossibles'.
- What do you think is the biggest issue facing San Leandro residents, and what actions do you think the City can take immediately, in the midterm (3-5 years), and the long term (10-20 years)?
 I doubt whether there is one single biggest issue. I feel depending on the stage in life, different residents have different issues.

PLEASE see the attached Sheet for full response.

4. How would you balance the needs and interests of different neighborhoods and communities in San Leandro with that of the City? Include any opportunities and constraints that you would take into consideration.

Through discussions with different districts. The question that would always loom in my mind is whether this is going to be good for the city and the surrounding in the long run. Actions, such as having well-defined and wide bike paths narrows the road for the cars, however, is good for the society. In the long run, more people would be encouraged to biking reducing the number of cars, thus eliminating the initial inconvenience.

5. What specific skills and abilities do you bring that will enable you to work effectively with both the diverse members and perspectives of our community and the diverse members and perspectives on this City Council?

My personal experience growing up and living in different continents. Teaching students (as a professor) and leading employees (in a corporate job) of very different backgrounds. Married to a person, who grew up in a continent that I had never been to (before marrying her). Listening to new viewpoints and unique opinions, leading passionate discussions, and adopting to better perspectives have been essential parts of my growing up and my everyday life.



For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

NAME:

DATE:

6. What is the most important role that the City Council plays and how would you ensure success in that role?

Listening to the individuals of the community. Then guiding them and/or finding means to help them in a way that helps them and the community, on the whole, in a symbiotic fashion.

- 7. How will you create and engage in policy and propose/implement hands on approaches to end homelessness in San Leandro? Two challenges: home for the homeless, and then, help them from going back to the streets. While the former requires one time state/government funding, bank sponsorship etc, the latter requires more hands on effort in a continual fashion. This might need (a) support in the form of community clothes drive, toy drive, (b) creating a network of individuals who had struggled with addictions previously, and (c) a network of individuals with expertise in money saving and investment.
- 8. How will you create and engage in policy and propose/implement hands on approaches create a safer community from policing to community involvement in San Leandro ? Will need to discuss and listen to the law enforcement and people who have long experience in this issue.
- 9. What is your vision for the city, i.e., what should the City of San Leandro focus on during the next 3-5 years, and how to plan to help realize that? Make the city more walk-able (or bike-able). This not only brings people out and helps to make a close community, but also make the city safe. The incentive to walking to places is having places to walk to. This means we need small but nice grocery stores, restaurants, microbreweries/wine testing rooms, child-care centers in decentralized fashion. The child-care centers, especially if supported by the city, would help the the large number of young families that have been moving in to San Leandro lately.
- 10. What types of organizations (e.g., businesses, non-profits, etc.) should San Leandro seek to attract to our city? Why these organizations? How would you support those efforts? It depends on the districts. In my district, District 1, it has to be small businesses owing to the high density of houses. (a) encourage successful pop-ups to open a restaurant by either renting them a small property. A small property could be an ailing business that want to sell themselves or a small facility newly built on a plot.

(b) encourage small home-based child care centers to conglomerate and have a well-defined, structured, and licensed child care centers.

Both of these would be mostly self-supported.



For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

NAME:

DATE:

11. How would you handle criticism from constituents or the media? Handling criticisms and finding the constructive ones have been the key part of my career. I do this with an open and unbiased mind.

12. What strategies would you use to promote civic engagement and participation in local government? The key is to bring government or public officials and general public close, physically. This can be done by the following:

(a) 5k or 10k races with a small registration fee. The race must always be followed by a bbq that can be supported by the registration fee, mostly.

(b) Cultural programs with kids. This can be recital competitions, singing competitions, dance/other performance competitions, story telling competitions, debates etc. I would stay away from organizing anything for which the kids have to be taken to rehearsals. The extra burden would put off the majority of the parents. However, the above-mentioned solo performances will not only hone our kids' skills, but also bring the public and local government officials in close encounters. Eventually, it will inspire many parents to start volunteering in these organizations. Once people get close to each other, it leads to engagements of al sorts.

As a college student, I used to go to a weekly chemistry tuition, back in India. It was a five-minutes-walk from the bus stop. I used to pass by a homeless mother holding her little toddler. The toddler always appeared to be weak and sick. There was a cake shop at the bus stop. I used to buy a slice of cake with whatever allowance I used to have, and give that to the toddler on my way. One day, the toddler was not there any more. The mother was lying on the side walk, dejected.

Since then, I have traversed multiple continents. Got married to an exceptional lady who grew up in a country that, before I met her, I did not know existed. At one point, two of us carried four different passports. We met at Yale. We have enjoyed the 'relative' privilege of being a part of the 'have's. But, it is impossible for me to forget that mother. And, as I traversed continents, I learned that it is the same everywhere: even that mother carries the burden of the privilege that I enjoy; even she pays the tax when she tries to get her humble necessities from a shop. I want to give back. I want a world where all of us not only live happily and in good health ourselves, but also help our neighbors to attain so; and, some of our neighbors might be 'have not's.

Now I am a dad of a toddler, born here in San Leandro. He rides his balance bike around the streets here. Runs around and tries to climb everything in the playgrounds here. And, shows me signs of "Warming center" and asks me what that is. He needs a village to grow up.

Why do I want to be a part of the City Council? Because, I want to be a part of the organized effort to give back to our community, my son's village.

Supplemental Question 3. What do you think is the biggest issue facing San Leandro residents, and what actions do you think the City can take immediately, in the midterm (3-5 years), and the long term (10-20 years)?

I doubt whether there is one single biggest issue. I feel, depending on the stage in life, different residents have different issues. However, on the whole in San Leandro, especially in my District 1, we are seeing a large influx of young families, including ourselves. Therefore, I would think one key issue would be places for families to walk to and hang out, better educational institutes, child care and sports facilities. in 3-5 years, I hope, the city would be able to build continuous, wide and well defined bike paths (like the new one on Grand ave) and small businesses (such as small but nice well-stocked grocery stores, restaurants, microbreweries, kid's daycare facilities) within 0.25-0.4 miles walking (i.e. about 5-10 minutes walking) from any place. In the long term, having (a) open fields like soccer fields with running tracks/path around, with adjacent playgrounds, adjacent public swimming pools, (b) more schools, and (c) more nationally regarded or city sponsored child care centers would be ideal. This will not only help the kids, but also promote healthy and close community.



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APPLICATION

For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

This application will be forwarded to the City Council for consideration to fill the vacancy in **District 1, term ending December 31, 2024.**

For Official	Use	
Resident of San Leandro	Yes	No
District 1 Residency Met	Yes_	No
Registered Voter	Yes	No

Name	Stroud	Pcyeta	
	Last Address Address	City	Zip
Email	y Phone	Alternate Phone ()	(optional)
Birthda	ate (for voter registration verif	ication purposes only)	,
How lo	ong have you lived at your pre	sent address in San Leandro? <u>8 years, 10 mo</u>	onths

Current Employment Information

Employer RSSC
Address
Position Director-Strategic Bus. Development Dates of Employment 09/2021 - Present
Responsibilities RSSC is a minority-owned education consulting firm, focused on training
educators in DEIA best practices and leadership development and in my project manager role
I implement business strategies, manage a student internship program, support, oversee
aspects of the businesses finance and develop and facilitate workshops and retreats.
Questionnaire
(A separate sheet may be attached)
Please describe your education, training, and/or any special certifications:
I hold an MBA in Strategic Business from Northcentral University, a bachelor's degree in
Organizational Leadership from Arizona State University, and an Associates degree in Letters &
Science from Skyline College. My background (12yrs) is in higher ed project management with
emphasis on leadership and career development for marginalized populations. I'm a member of

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and Kappa Beta Delta International Honor's Society.

I have been interested in serving my community and city since we moved to San Leandro over

eight years ago. I believe that a City's strength lies in its community members and those called

to lead by members of the community. My expertise in leadership, dimplomacy, action based

goal setting and my overal love for the City of San Leandro, are reasons to select me for this

appointment. I want to be part of the success of this city and contribute where I can.

Please list any previous City of San Leandro Board, Commission, or Committee on which you have served:

While I have applied to serve on several commissions, I have not yet had the opportunity to do

so. I would greatfully welcome the opportunity to serve the City in a formal capacity.

Please list any community organizations to which you belong or have belonged:

I currently serve on the Board for SOS Meals on Wheels, based in San Leandro. I am also a

Board of Director for The Village Demands and have served as Board President for the San

Bruno Chamber of Commerce from 2019 - 2022.

Please provide any additional information you wish which covers your qualifications, interests, or training related to this appointment:

San Leandro is our home and we plan to continue to devote time and energy in support of this

city. This includes my families support in all of my efforts to be more involved. I am dedicated,

excited and ready to serve should I be selected. Additional docs attached. Thank you!

I have sufficient time to devote to this responsibility and will attend the required meeting(s) if I am appointed. I am also aware that this application is a public document. If appointed, I will file the necessary disclosure documents as required under the Political Reform Act.

Signature

Date 01/25/2024

Please return your application in person or by mail to:

Office of the City Clerk City of San Leandro 835 East 14th Street San Leandro, CA 94577

You may also submit your application by email to: <u>clerk@sanleandro.org</u> Applications will not be accepted after 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 2024. Postmarks not accepted.



For Appointment to Fill Vacancy
SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

NAME: Pcyeta Stroud

DATE: 01/28/2024

This supplemental will be used to determine your eligibility and will be considered part of your application. *If you do not return the supplemental questionnaire, your application may be deemed ineligible.* Please use more sheets if necessary.

1. How often do you volunteer in our community?

I currently serve on the board for SOS Meals on Wheels, this includes attending monthly board meetings and volunteering in the kitchen, soon I'll be on routes to deliver meals to homebound seniors. I also served as a mentor to high school students while on the Steering Committee. Informally, I spend time with a homebound neighbor.

2. What are your passions or what is your drive in Life?

I believe in education, access and opportunity. It's important to provide access and opportunities to everyone and in order to do that, I think we have to work hard at ensuring there is access and opportunities especially through education. I'm also very passionate about traveling, it can be a vehicle for better understanding of our world and the realities of others. I'm driven by a love for all mankind, and a desire to support and give voice to the most vulnerable members of our communities.

3. What do you think is the biggest issue facing San Leandro residents, and what actions do you think the City can take immediately, in the midterm (3-5 years), and the long term (10-20 years)?

Crime and safety. In the immediate: work to add lighting to areas that are poorly lit. Well lit areas tend to feel more safe and tend to be less attractive to petty criminals. Over 3-5 years: work to increase foot traffic by encouraging more small and large businesses to set up shop in San Leandro (especially near the BART stations), and I would engage law enforcement to deepen partnerships with our various communities. Over 10-20 years: work with developers to increase affordable housing that is sustainable, promotes safety and encourages diverse residents who want to enhance and contribute to the fabric of our city.

4. How would you balance the needs and interests of different neighborhoods and communities in San Leandro with that of the City? Include any opportunities and constraints that you would take into consideration.

While there are many neighborhoods in San Leandro, all with their own unique characteristics, we are one city and there's no such thing as water in one side of the boat. I think gaining consensus on what the issues are, and how to best solve them, is a possible constraint. With this challenge, brings an opportunity to unite a city behind common values of prosperity, safety, sustainability and community.

5. What specific skills and abilities do you bring that will enable you to work effectively with both the diverse members and perspectives of our community and the diverse members and perspectives on this City Council?

I have project management and leadership experience. I've worked collaboratively with community members, city officials and community organizations to identify current challenges and potential solutions. I've planned and implemented a number of events, projects and programs by working closely with these groups, and their (often) competing priorities. I have over 15 years of experience working with diverse groups of people and I'm trained in culturally competent practices. I believe that we can bridge gaps with empathy, even though we may not agree or understand where someone is coming from.



For Appointment to Fill Vacancy SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

NAME:Pcyeta Stroud

DATE: 1/29/2024

6. What is the most important role that the City Council plays and how would you ensure success in that role?

I think listening to members of the community and finding creative ways to serve their many and diverse needs is the most important role of the City Council. I believe that keeping my finger on the pulse of the city and staying informed of the things that both bother us, and bring us joy and is the most effective way to serve.

7. How will you create and engage in policy and propose/implement hands on approaches to end homelessness in San Leandro?

Homelessness is a multilayered problem that requires time, creative ideas and often political will to bring about solutions. I would suggest we partner with our bordering cities, especially Oakland to devise strategies to work with law enforcement, non-profit groups and property owners to serve our unhoused residents. Also, many unhoused residents are that way for a number of different reasons, so there cannot be a one size fits all approach to every unhoused person and situation.

8. How will you create and engage in policy and propose/implement hands on approaches create a safer community from policing to community involvement in San Leandro ?

I believe that law enforcement personnel are essential to maintaining safe neighborhoods. I also believe that there's much room for improvement in the relationships that police have with the communities they serve. I believe that communities can benefit greatly from walking patrols, intentional policing, and authentic community outreach. I believe these strategies work to support a community.

9. What is your vision for the city, i.e., what should the City of San Leandro focus on during the next 3-5 years, and how to plan to help realize that?

Because San Leandro is so diverse and is still experiencing an influx of transplants from neighboring cities, there is an opportunity to create a vibrant, active and safe environment for everyone. For example, I would work to create outdoor and indoor community spaces (low and no-cost) that cater to seniors, teenagers, young adults and members of the community looking to spend their disposable income in their own city. I'd love to bring in an art installation that connects all of our communities (similar to the Pur Pods), incorporate lights in dimly lit areas and add entertainment and more family-friendly restaurants into the mix. I would start with a temperature check (like a survey) to see if these things are what residents really want and I would then take steps to identify priorities and work collaboratively.

10. What types of organizations (e.g., businesses, non-profits, etc.) should San Leandro seek to attract to our city? Why these organizations? How would you support those efforts?

I think San Leandro needs entertainment options. Currently (as far as I'm aware) there are very few places for young people, especially teenagers and young adults to safely enjoy themselves. Young people need a place to hang out that is accessible to them, safe and enjoyable. A centrally located movie theater would be wonderful to have, as they often include space for arcade games. I think that businesses need to be opened near San Leandro BART station. Many of the storefronts in that area are boarded and being near BART is such a nice opportunity for commerce and fun. I also think that San Leandro could benefit from LGBTQ+ community organizations. I would start by researching what we currently have and find out what the gaps are, from there I would work with the City, the Chamber of Commerce and members of the community to work on a plan of action.



For Appointment to Fill Vacancy
SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1

NAME:Pcyeta Stroud

DATE: 1/29/2024

11. How would you handle criticism from constituents or the media?

With the best of intentions and with well executed plans, criticism can, and often will arise. I think that there are always opportunities to tell a story and offer information and perspective. The media can be a very powerful tool in sharing information and unfortunately, in spreading mis-information. I also think it's important to be accountable and transparent if things go wrong and when mistakes are made.

12. What strategies would you use to promote civic engagement and participation in local government?

I think that we have to be reminded of how important it is to be engaged and involved in the world around us, especially in our local government and communities. I think this desire to be involved starts very young and as such, it's critical that we engage young people in decision making at every level and teach them the importance of local government and civic participation. I also think it's never too late to get started and there are some areas of our communities that need information and encouragement to get involved. I would share information on local events, issues and how to get involved at churches, k-12 school outreach events, senior living spaces, community organizations and partner with local businesses to get the word out and use social media in addition to traditional methods to reach all of those groups.