



## CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: Matt Hummel

Age: 48

Family: In a relationship, and the oldest of five siblings.

Hometown: Stockton

Lived in Oakland since: 1992

Education: Some college. Holy Names College, Oakland

Occupation: Carpenter

Employer: Self

Political experience: I worked as campaign staff for Jerry Brown, Barack Obama, Oakland Just Cause. I have served for nine years as a commissioner on Oakland's Cannabis Regulatory Commission, the chairperson the last five. Prior to that I helped pass California's renewable portfolio standard that has been updated to ensure 100% renewable energy by 2045.

Notable affiliations: Causa Justa, the Democratic Party, Oaklanders First, Vulcan Free Radio, Spaz Collective, 15th Street Artists, Art Murmur/First Fridays, Space Cat Voter Guide and Oakland Warehouse Coalition.

1. What do you see as the greatest challenges when it comes to providing residents with a livable, affordable and safe community? **The city government is falling short when it comes to serving the needs of the people. It is the biggest challenge we have to face. We must face head on the staggering inequality in our city. A web of race, class, income and education inequities intersects and weaves throughout our city. As I see it, these problems are the roots off the major issues that all the candidates more or less agree on. As a council-member, I will try a new approach. It is clear that the status**

quo is not acceptable, we can do better. Additionally, we are in the midst of a budget crisis with a 40 million annual deficit.

2. What is the biggest opportunity for your district or city during the next four years? The enacting of a public bank could be a big first step in divesting from the bad and investing in the good. Every year Oakland sends millions of dollars to private banks that have no responsibility to invest in Oakland. We can keep our wealth and invest here instead. Oakland has the opportunity to lead the way in developing and improving a city without leaving its most vulnerable citizens behind in the process. At the moment, we are very close to a cultural and economic tipping point. How we lead in the coming years will make the difference between a future in which Oakland is a playground for the privileged few, or one that is inclusive for all residents and honors our unique history and culture.
3. Describe your commitment to your district or city leading up to your bid for office. I worked to create the national model for equity in the cannabis industry, and will continue to seek equity as my responsibilities expand. Our commission also was the first in the nation to promote a public bank as the solution to a lack of banking options for cannabis businesses. Currently the industry operates on a cash basis creating numerous safety risks. We also protected Oakland artists with legislation to prohibit cannabis companies who own real estate from displacing existing residential tenants. I am committed to the residents of Oakland and to protecting its rich culture and history. I am running to ensure a just and sustainable future for all of us.
4. Silicon Valley and the Bay Area are at the center of global, technological advancement. How do you see technology's role in changing the lives of both longtime residents and transplants? Everyone needs to benefit. This technological advancement should create real jobs and security. Currently, much of the wealth created goes to overpriced rent. The tech boom needs to be a win-win for everyone. We will need extensive training programs to give everyone access, and stabilized housing costs.