



## CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

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| Name                   | Saied Karamooz   |
| Age                    | 54   |
| Family                 | Married, 2 adult children  |
| Hometown               | Oakland  |
| Lived in Oakland since | 2010   |
| Education              | MS, Information Sciences, MBA  |
| Occupation             | Chief Operating Officer  |
| Employer               | Blue Beautifly LLC   |
| Political experience   | Privacy Advisory Commissioner  |
| Notable affiliations   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coalition for Police Accountability, Steering Committee</li> <li>- Privacy Advisory Commission, Commissioner</li> <li>- Jack London Improvement District, Board Member</li> </ul> |

| Question |  | Answer   |
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| 1        | What do you see as the greatest challenges when it comes to providing residents with a livable, affordable and safe community? | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Inadequate supply of affordable housing.</b> 48% of all Oaklanders spend over 1/3 of their income on rent<sup>1</sup></li> <li>2. <b>High unemployment.</b> 5.4% overall, 8.9% among African Americans<sup>1</sup>; national average is 3.9%</li> <li>3. <b>Low median household income.</b> \$73,200 overall, \$37,500 among African Americans<sup>1</sup></li> <li>4. <b>Poor education system.</b> 57% of all students, 71%</li> </ol> |

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|   |  | <p>among African Americans are not high school ready by the end of 8<sup>th</sup> grade<sup>1</sup></p> <p><sup>1</sup> City of Oakland Equity Indicators 2018 Report</p>   |
| 2 | <p>What is the biggest opportunity for your district or city during the next four years?</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Solve the homelessness crisis.</b> Take discrete, actionable, and measurable steps to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Meet the immediate needs</b> (i.e., hygiene, wellness, safety, storage, and mailing address) of our homeless residents,</li> <li>2) <b>Provide humane</b> (i.e., converted containers, <b>NOT Tuff Sheds &amp; Port-a-Potties</b>) temporary housing in 6-8 locations (with 300-400 residents per location) with full navigation services at each site, and</li> <li>3) <b>Embark on a housing construction initiative</b> to provide affordable homes (for rent or purchase) to low-income families.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. <b>Beautify Oakland.</b> Expand Public Works to ensure immediate removal of all illegal dumping, abatement of all tagging, and extensive landscaping, artscaping, and streetscaping throughout the city.</li> <li>3. <b>Expand Employment.</b> Team up with local labor unions to offer job training and apprenticeship programs so that our residents can benefit from the abundance of secure and well-paying jobs in various trades throughout and around Oakland.</li> </ol> |
| 3 | <p>Describe your commitment to your district or city leading up to your bid for office.</p>  | <p>- Active member of <b>Coalition for Police Accountability (CPA)</b> for the past four years and current Steering Committee member. In 2016, CPA led the effort for establishing Oakland’s Police Commission (Measure LL), which passed with 83% approval by Oakland voters.</p>  |

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|   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Commissioner on Oakland’s <b>Privacy Advisory Commission (PAC)</b> since inception in 2015. PAC reviews all policies and planned projects related to use of surveillance technologies in Oakland.</li> <li>- <b>Jack London Improvement District (JLID)</b> board member with executive positions of President, Treasurer, and Secretary.</li> </ul>  |
| 4 | <p>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?</p> | <p>We are surrounded by technology at all times. Therefore, one of my main objectives will be to bring more nature, beauty, civic engagement, and social solidarity to our communities. As such, I have committed to a series of initiatives for a more pleasant, safe, neighborly, and inviting outdoor space for all Oaklanders alike to enjoy as listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Extensive planting of oak trees</b> along major streets and medians to create a canopy for better air quality, more aesthetically pleasing appearance, and reduced noise</li> <li>- <b>Street closures on Sundays</b> to reduce dust, pollution, and noise and entice families and children to connect with their neighbors</li> <li>- <b>City Beautification</b> with art installations and innovative landscaping to showcase Oakland’s unique creative talent</li> <li>- <b>Transformation of travel</b> throughout the city to address the rapidly changing transit model from cars and buses to bicycles, motorized scooters, driverless cars, electric vehicles, and ride-sharing services.</li> </ul> |