CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: TAM NGUYEN
Age: 61
Family: Single
Hometown: San Jose
Lived in San Jose since: 1979, 39 years
Education: BA, MBA, JD
Occupation: City Councilman, incumbent
Employer: City of San Jose
Political experience: City councilman
Notable affiliations: life long Registered Democrat, moderate, independent

1. **What do you see as the greatest challenges when it comes to providing residents with a livable, affordable and safe community?**

   A: Safe and clean are my top priorities. Safe neighborhood, workplace, parks, and schools; and safe streets. Clean Parks, streets and city from litter and trash. What's why I'm dedicated to strengthening our police force, and determine to do more clean up and move the homeless away from our streets and parks. Next is affordable housing. I support the Mayor's plan to build 10,000 affordable homes. I support the Secondary units; Urban villages, and the developments of mixed use housing along the main transit corridors.

2. **What is the biggest opportunity for your district or city during the next four years?**

   A: I'd rather be honest than just giving a feel-good answer: My District 7 has more challenges than opportunities. We don't have fancy and glamorous projects as in downtown with all the big companies coming and doing all the developments. We have more homeless and we can handle, and more trash than we can pick up every day. And the new BART and transit don't go through our district, so we have to fight for connectivity, especially for the poor and the elderly, etc... So, opportunities for us, is to find more resources and support to address our top

concerns: Homeless; Trash; Traffic jams; Potholes; and Affordable housing. As a result, I am working with the Mayor and City Manager on a big and comprehensive townhall meeting on these issues in a near future to listen to the residents, and for them to hear what the city has to offer.

3. **Describe your commitment to your district or city leading up to your bid for office.**

A: Being committed to working for the residents, I'm the only one who actually opened a permanent field office in the neighborhood and I work off hours and weekend to meet and listen to residents. I also list my cell phone numbers, yes 2 of them, for residents to text me directly any time, and I will respond and will meet them anywhere, anytime. I have re-opened the Alma and Shirakawa community after years of neglect. Organized big 2 night walks and drove away prostitutions and human trafficking from Monterey & Alma area. I supported many ordinance supporting working families including minimum wages; anti wages thefts; renters protection, increasing police force, etc… My next term will focus on two key issues: Affordable Housing; and Homeless, and I have started the engagement with all levels, from city staff, to county, and especially at state level for more resources, legislations, and recourses to address these two top priorities.

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?**

A: Before becoming an attorney advocating for the working families and the disadvantaged, I worked as Sr. Design Engineer at Tandem Computers in Cupertino, so I know high tech is a good thing for our future, and I really appreciate it. The problem is how to bring it to the people who need it most. I'm talking the digital divide right here in the east and south sides of San Jose. My district 7 has 44% Hispanic, 32% Vietnamese, and only 2.5% white. Many people are poor, laborers and handicapped in languages, culture, lifestyles, and of course technology. I strongly feel that San Jose could and should do more to reduce the gap, and help connect that large segment of population that is being farther left behind as the city is moving fast forward. I will engage city leaders and private partners to address this issue, and see to it that we can bring the technology to the people who need it the most.