

The Oaklandside's 2024 candidate questionnaire

Dear candidates, The Oaklandside is collecting responses to this questionnaire from everyone running for office in Oakland in November 2024. With several crowded races this year, we want to give all candidates a chance to introduce yourselves to voters and share how you plan to be accountable to residents and tackle the city's most pressing issues. Please fill out and submit this form by **Friday, Sept. 27**.

We will publish your responses to these questionnaires on our website, with light editing for length, relevance, and clarity.

This survey is one part of The Oaklandside's approach to covering this election. If you haven't already, you will also hear from a reporter looking to schedule an interview. We appreciate your participation.

—The Oaklandside team

Email*

info@warrenforoakland.com

Your name (first and last)*

Warren Logan

Position for which you're running*

City Council At-Large

City Council District 1

City Council District 3

City Council District 5

City Council District 7

Your age*

35

Your preferred pronouns*

He/Him

Do you rent your home? Own? Other?* Check all that apply.

I rent or sublet my primary place of residence.

I own my primary place of residence.

I own residential property aside from my primary place of residence.

Other:

Have you held previous elected office in Oakland or beyond? *

Yes

No

If you have held previous elected office, please tell us where, when, and what position(s).

N/A

Why are you choosing to effect change in Oakland by running for office? What could you do as a public official that you can't do otherwise?*

I am running for office because I believe Oakland is on the wrong track, and it's time for a change in leadership that prioritizes practical solutions and strong governance. As a city planner with extensive experience in land use planning, traffic safety and

community resilience, I bring a unique perspective and skill set that are critically needed at this moment. My background includes working at nearly every level of government, where I have successfully implemented policies and projects that address the very challenges Oakland faces today.

Oakland needs leaders who understand how to navigate complex systems and get things done. I've worked directly on issues like housing, public safety, and infrastructure, and I know how to bring together stakeholders across siloed departments to create effective, collaborative solutions.

Are there any people or organizations you won't accept campaign contributions from? If so, whom?*

I have taken the No Fossil Fuel Money Pledge and have pledged not to knowingly take any contributions over \$200 from the PACs, lobbyists or SEC-named executives of fossil fuel companies, as well as from energy utilities that get more than 50% of their electricity, or revenue from business in fossil fuels.

It should go without saying but I will also not knowingly take contributions from anti-LGBTQ, anti-Black, or other hate-associated organizations

What's one issue your district experiences differently from the others? How would you address it?

West Oakland residents have suffered from illegal dumping in our neighborhoods for decades. Whether it's tires, mattress, construction debris or household goods, many of our streets have become dumping grounds. This cycle has to end.

Our city policies related to waste management, illegal dumping and blight abatement have created a perverse incentive to dump on our streets. Waste Management offers every Oakland household one bulky pick-up per year. While some need more than one per year, most households go without using a bulky pick up service for many years. Waste Management charges a fee to dump at the junk yards. Yet the city's Public Works Department will pick up trash for free.

Oakland's Public Works Department is incredibly responsive to residents' 3-1-1 requests. Typically within 72 hours, our staff can pick up illegally dumped materials and clean up our streets. As more trash piles up, Oakland leaders have called for faster trash pickup. But picking up trash more efficiently is not a long-term solution.

It's time Oakland put an end to illegal dumping. And the way to do it is by fixing root issues:

- Educate Oakland residents and business owners about bulky pick up services
- Use a citywide "bank" of bulky pick-ups instead of assigning one per household per year
- Allow free dumping at junk yards instead of charging a fee
- Monitor known dumping hotspots and enforce illegal dumping rules

Oakland's in a fiscal crisis. What steps will you take during the next budget cycle or before to put the city back on track? *

During the next budget cycle I propose the City of Oakland implement the following strategies focussed on good governance, accountability and revenue generation:

First, in order to have better governance in the city:

- Create an inter-departmental task force focused on revenue generation
- Empower the City Auditor with additional resources and staffing to evaluate and monitor how the city is meeting its goals through its city budget
- Adopt evaluation metrics for every budget category to create transparency for Oakland residents about how we're meeting city goals with our tax revenue

Second, to jumpstart our local economy I will:

- Hire additional staff in departments that generate revenue. For example, the Department of Economic and Workforce Development should have additional staff to support new businesses opening in our city and through their efforts would result in a greater volume of tax revenue from small businesses.

- Streamline the process for opening businesses so the city's economic sector generates additional revenue.
- Create templates for Oakland's Special Event Permit process to create vibrancy in the City's Downtown and other entertainment areas.

It took us a long time to get into this situation and we will not solve this in one budget cycle, but we can set our city on the right track for the future. The City's General Plan update should strive to make Oakland a desirable place to live in and visit again. We need to zone our city for modern uses where people can live near their jobs in walkable neighborhoods, with thriving local businesses. By building spaces for communities to safely experience and celebrate, we can start generating revenue and positivity to create a positive loop that continues growing over time.

In the long term, Oakland needs to find much more stable sources of revenue so that our city is not constantly sitting on top of a precarious fiscal cliff. Part of this includes supporting local business and making it easier to open quickly. We must also build more affordable and market-rate housing on vacant and underutilized land in order to initially collect developer fees and then on increased property tax revenue.

Public safety is a priority for many Oakland residents. What are three specific, actionable steps you'll pursue in your first term to make the city safer?*

1. I will strengthen and expand Oakland's Ceasefire strategy, which has shown success in reducing gun violence, and I will expand the use of non-sworn safety personnel like community ambassadors and parking enforcement officers to handle property crimes and build relationships with residents. These ambassadors, trained in de-escalation, provide a visible, community-based safety presence, reducing crime while fostering trust.

2. I will work to improve 911 emergency response times by hiring more dispatchers and coordinating better with county, state, and federal services. Faster response times will ensure residents get the help they need when they need it most.
3. I will expand the use of non-sworn safety personnel like community ambassadors and parking enforcement officers to handle property crimes and build relationships with residents. These ambassadors, trained in de-escalation, provide a visible, community-based safety presence, reducing crime while fostering trust.

Lastly, and tied to the other three, we need to build trust between community leaders and police officers. We should know who our local beat officers are. Police officers should be working with the Neighborhood Councils to get involved in the community and come to neighborhood events to meet the residents. This will be a process that will take time, but I'm confident we can make measurable improvements even in my first term.

There's an unusual level of distrust in Oakland public officials. What three specific, actionable things would you do to grow Oaklanders' trust in government?*

--Being accessible and showing up to events, big and small. Trust erodes when residents don't know their representatives. By attending community events, holding regular public forums, having open coffee hours, and maintaining consistent communication, we can create a more approachable government. It's essential that people know who we are, what we do, and how to reach us to ensure true civic engagement.

-Being transparent: Residents should know why we are making the decisions we are and what went into those decisions. Transparency involves clearly explaining the rationale behind policy or budget choices, including the data and community input that informed it. The city should also adopt a city work plan. It should be more clear what the council is working on and what the measurable outcomes should be. This includes clear explanations of policy choices and financial allocations so residents can stay informed and engaged, even if they disagree with my positions.

-Being collaborative: Oakland residents have an overwhelming desire and ability to just “do it themselves” when they see the city is not getting the job done. We need to lean into this and stop discouraging it. If city residents want the traffic to be calmer on their block we should give them the tools they need, with some level of oversight or “guard rails” to calm their streets. We should not be tearing up community created projects with no alternatives or plan in place to improve things.

Two local officials are facing recall elections this year: Oakland Mayor Sheng Thao and Alameda County District Attorney Pamela Price. Do you support either or both of these recalls? Why or why not?*

I am not supporting the recalls. I believe that Mayor Sheng Thao and DA Pamela Price should be given the opportunity to implement their policies as the people voted for, rather than through immediate recalls. Governance is complex, and I think it's important to assess outcomes comprehensively. I'll continue to listen to my neighbors and community while advocating for transparent, responsive government, but at this time, I will not be supporting these recalls.

Describe your ideal Oakland weekend. Where are you eating? How are you spending your free time?

My ideal Oakland weekend starts on Friday evening with pizza at June's and beers at Brix, catching up with friends and neighbors, followed by a screening of RuPaul's Drag Race. Saturday kicks off with dim sum in Chinatown or brunch at Brenda's. That's followed by biking around Lake Merritt or soaking in the sun before ending the night at Sessions on 15th or Nectar Social Club on 15th Street in the evening. Sunday begins

with church at Lake Merritt United Methodist, then heading over to Brooklyn Basin for the noon "Rollin' With the Homos" drag performance. I'd wrap up the weekend hosting a campy movie night at home, featuring classics like The Birdcage and First Wives Club. This may sound like a lot and my husband would agree with you but as they say "weekends are for the girlies."