

East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club Endorsement Questionnaire

Thank you for your interest in obtaining an endorsement from the East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club.

Per the Club's bylaws, to be eligible for endorsement, a candidate must be a registered Democrat. All candidates must also complete this candidate questionnaire to be considered for an endorsement. Endorsements are decided by the general membership, and candidates must receive at least 60% of votes cast to be endorsed.

The deadline for questionnaires is posted on the East Bay Stonewall website (<http://eastbaystonewalldemocrats.org/Elections>). Any candidate submitting a questionnaire that is received after the deadline will not appear on the endorsement ballot. To ensure a fair process, no grace period will be granted.

Please return your completed questionnaire via Google forms by clicking submit at the bottom of this form. All form submissions are final. If you have questions, please contact Joe Greaves, EBSDC PAC chair via email at jsphgreaves@gmail.com.

Email *

lance@lance4bart.org

Name (First Last) *

Lance Nishihira

Are you a registered Democrat *

Yes

No

Office you are seeking? (e.g. City Council, School Board, Supervisor, etc) *

Director

Jurisdiction *

BART Board of Directors

District *

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Are you an East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club member in good standing? If you are unsure, email eastbaystonewalldems@gmail.com. *

Yes

No

I self-identify as: (check all boxes that apply; note these identifiers will be used publicly during our endorsement process.) *

Gay

Lesbian

Transgender

Gender non-conforming

Bisexual

Queer

Straight

Other:

How have you participated in East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club activities, and/or supported the Club other ways? What other LGBTQ+ organizations are you affiliated with and in what capacity? What other Democratic clubs are you affiliated with? *

I have not participated in East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club activities. I am not affiliated with other LGBTQ+ organizations. I am a member of the Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County and Tri Cities Democratic Forum.

Using specific examples, please identify the causes you have advocated for and the ways you have helped advance LGBTQ+ rights or otherwise helped foster a community of inclusivity for LGBTQ+ individuals and families. *

Following the lead of an LGBTQ+ fellow board member, my school district passed board policy #S-5124 which outlined safe and supportive learning environments for LGBTQ+ students. Additionally, I have openly supported several resolutions in support of LGBTQ+ PRIDE celebrations.

Have you previously supported LGBTQ+ candidates for office? If yes, did that include financial support? *

Yes. I am currently supporting Shawn Kumagai. Since we're both campaigning this year, we are planning on helping each other through coordinated campaign activities.

Which LGBTQ+ organizations and elected officials have formally endorsed you for this race? *

Shawn Kumagai, Dublin City Council
 James Aguilar, San Leandro Unified School District Trustee
 Harris Mojadedi, Chabot Las Positas Trustee
 Rebecca Saltzman, BART District 3 Director
 Janice Li, BART District 8 Director
 Bevan Dufty, BART District 9 Director
 Andy Kelley, Berkeley Rent Board Commisisioner

Please describe a policy/goal that is part of your formal platform that benefits the LGTBQ+ community? *

I would support the efforts and priorities of the BART LGBTQ+ caucus (Bevan Dufty, Janice Li, and Rebecca Saltzman). Some of the current policies in place are a 5% bid preference for LGBTQ+ small businesses and supporting resolutions celebrating LGBTQ+ employees and passengers during PRIDE month. I am happy to learn more by collaborating with my partners on the board and in the community.

What makes you uniquely qualified for the office and how are you different or unique from the other candidates in your race? *

Prior to COVID, I was a daily BART commuter, giving me the perspective needed to represent my district. Even after COVID, I take BART every time I need to be in the office. My opponent used to work in Palo Alto and likely did not have the same exposure to the service as I do. I also am a transit enthusiast and have not had a solo commute to work since 2005. Another key differentiator is that I am an experienced board member with a track record of good governance and collaboration. I get things done through proactive committee work and working with staff and the board rather than simply voting against or abstaining contracts and budgets as a symbolic act of protest. Finally, I have built up a coalition of local Democrats that align with local values; my opponent receives much of her support from fairly right-leaning individuals and organizations in areas outside District 6. See the difference between <http://www.ames4change.com/endorsements.php> and <https://lance4bart.org/endorsements/>

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