

Candidate Questionnaire

BACKGROUND

1). Have you ever been convicted of a felony, sued successfully, or had a restraining order placed against you? If so, please explain.

None

2). Is there anything we should know about your background which could be used against you fairly or unfairly?

None

CAMPAIGN

1) Why are you seeking the endorsement of the Green Party, as opposed to any other party or running independently?

I chose the Green Party because they have the same visions that I have which will make the City of St Paul better. Also, choosing the Green Party, all Candidates can support each other as a team, such as advertising, campaigning, etc.

2) What has been your prior involvement with the Green Party?

None

3) Have you worked on prior campaigns, as a worker or candidate? If so, please describe your role and what you achieved.

Yes, I have helped campaign for my cousin Joe Bee Xiong and my brother Saidang Xiong for City Council in Eau Claire, WI. We won both elections. I served as a general advisor for the campaign team including advertisings and fundraisings.

4) How much money do you believe you need to raise to run your campaign successfully? How will you go about raising that money?

Between \$20,000-\$25,000. My campaign team will host two Fundraising parties which estimated the donations to be \$10,000-\$15,000 for the two events. The rest of donations will come from supporters.

5) What personnel do you believe you need to run your campaign? Who have you approached to be on your campaign team?

I need a mix of campaign managers in my team such as Hmong, White, Black and Hispanic, I have discussed with several supporters which they are willing to be on my campaign team.

6) What role will the following strategies have in your campaign and how much time will you devote to these activities: doorknocking, direct mail, phonebanking, lit drops, candidate forums, screenings of other organizations, filling out forms for other endorsements?

I will involve in all or most of the above. However, I will be more involved in doorknocking as part of my campaign. I want all supporters and voters to meet me in person and get to know me more. Other activities can be done by my campaign team.

7) What civic organizations do you belong to? What role have you played in those organizations? Who will support you from those organizations?

I have served for Hmong American Partnership as a Board Member. I also served for Xiong United National, Inc (a Non-Profit Organization) for two terms as a Public Relation. I also ran for Lao Family Boards last year and won the seat. Many of these people from those organizations will support me and involve in this campaign.

8) What groups will you seek endorsement from, beside the Green Party?

Only the Green Party

9) What types of support are you hoping to get from the Green Party, besides our endorsement?

Training/skills, advertising, web design, other general information and announcements.

10) Are you willing to commit to attending Camp Wellstone or a Green Party equivalent, in order to develop your campaign skills?

Yes, I would love to improve my skills

11) Are you willing to commit to twice a month regular updates about your campaign's progress?

Yes, absolutely

12) Aside from winning, what do you hope to achieve by running for this office?

Build and improve a political campaign career and use the experiences for future leadership or other future public office.

THE OFFICE

1). What do you understand to be the primary duties of the office you're seeking?

Decision making, ideas, visions, and suggestions involving economic development, housing, streets, parking, and other safety concerns, etc.

2) How does the office you're seeking intersect with other arms of government?

I don't see the office I am seeking as city council will intersect any other arms of government since we are independent party.

3) How would you integrate Green values into the office you're seeking?

All Council members need to work together and stress the important of making the city better and greener in St Paul.

4) Why are you the most qualified person to hold the office you are seeking?

Knowledge, skills, dedication, and vision are the keys to improve the Eastside St Paul for a better place for our people such as jobs, housing, safety, and unity/equality for everyone.

5) What are your top three issues and how can the office you seek influence or further those issues?

Economy development – Council members must find ways to increase better and more jobs for the community. Job is the number one on the list that our community members need now.

Safety – making sure everyone is safe on the street, at the park or even at their own home.

Housing – must work with government, banks, and other agencies to create funding programs to help low income families to maintain their homes and assist first time home buyer to buy the home that they can afford

6) What are the major concerns of the geographic area under your office's jurisdiction?

There are many foreclosed homes, many gang related activities and shooting in the Eastside St Paul each year. These must be reduced and resolved.

7) How will you interact with the other parties in office? If applicable, who will you caucus with?

Work together with other council members to bring solution for city of St Paul for a better city.

8) How will you balance the political need to compromise with your interpretation of Green values? Give an example of where you are willing to compromise and where you would be unwilling to compromise.

Work with other council members to bring the best ideas and solutions to make St Paul better. I will be willing to listen and compromise everything that our people want to see us, as council members, what we need to do to improve the City of St Paul.