

CORINA LOPEZ

Seeking Position of: San Leandro City Council Dist 5

www.corinnalopez.com

1. If elected, what are your top priorities during your term? What would you like to accomplish and how would you go about doing so? Please be specific.

As a San Leandro Councilmember I will:

- Make public safety my top priority by fighting to maintain adequate staffing levels are maintained for our firefighters and increasing our sworn police officers to what they should be. I was responsible for helping save the ladder truck at Station 9 from being eliminated this fiscal year, and I am supporting Measure Z, our public safety tax measure.
- Work to build a better partnership with our schools. Currently our schools are not performing at the level that they should. Through an increased partnership and a recommitment to our youth we will do better.
- Increase the investment in our public infrastructure like roads, parks, and libraries. I will find the necessary funding to ensure our community offers the services we have grown accustomed to while working with state and federal agencies to secure road improvement dollars.
- Work to get the Senior Center open and operational for our Senior community.
- Provide leadership in keeping emergency room services at San Leandro Hospital.
- Utilize my financial training and experience to help our city promote sound economic development that will create good paying jobs that we need for our residents.
- I will ensure that we exercise fiscal responsibility and accountability throughout our budget process to ensure the residents tax dollars are being spent prudently and efficiently.

In order to achieve these goals and objectives it is imperative that, in these tough economic times that we work together to move San Leandro forward. My style has always been one of collaboration and transparency. I feel that government works best when its leaders take the time to listen to all sides before making a decision. I will be that type of Councilmember.

I am running for San Leandro City Council because I care about San Leandro. I care about our public safety; about keeping our parks maintained and safe, and keeping our roads in good repair; and about the way the economy has hurt our residents, our businesses, and our city government.

I am a community leader with a strong professional and academic background in finance. I also pride myself on being a progressive who has demonstrated a lifetime commitment to community service. I will bring a fresh perspective to the City Council.

2. How have you in the past and how will you in the future use your position to expand the presence and influence of Asian Pacific Americans in public policy and politics?

I will make certain that those entities that form public policy in San Leandro such as City Commissions, Citizen Advisory Committees, and Ad Hoc Committees reflect the diverse community that San Leandro has become. Asian Pacific Americans deserve representation and to have a voice in San Leandro's political arena. . I look forward to the day when I will be able to help elect our first Asian Pacific American Councilmember.

3. What have you done that demonstrates your commitment to and effectiveness in promoting Asian Pacific American interests in the following areas (and if you have not contributed in these areas, please discuss any area(s) in which you have made a contribution):

- **Education**

Throughout my life, I have dedicated myself to public service and giving back to the community. I come from a family of immigrants and a poor working class background and was the first in my family to go to college. I got an Ivy League education and went to work on Wall Street. Because of being able to attain these achievements and serving as a role model, I have worked with minority youth as a mentor and in participating in career days to help provide a vision for what one can become in this country with hard work and dedication.

- **Health Care**

I have worked at Clinica Popular in Salinas as a bilingual medical assistant helping poor, rural farm workers obtain medical attention. And as a Human Services Commissioner, I've seen the hardships people face in our community and have worked as an advocate between the City Council and various non-profit agencies like Davis Street Community Center that provide medical services to the community. As President of the Best Manor Homeowners Association, I have been active in the effort to keep emergency room services at San Leandro Hospital.

- **Civil Rights**

I have worked for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund. I have also worked Litt, Marquez, and Fajardo, a civil rights law firm based in Los Angeles, fighting slum landlords. I have worked for California Rural Legal Assistance in Salinas advocating for the rights of farm workers. As the daughter of Mexican migrant farm workers who was the first to go to college to an Ivy League school, I know first hand that

it is the responsibility of people like myself to stand up for the rights of others because I have the skills to do so. I have a strong belief in social justice. Part of my motivation for running for San Leandro City Council is that I believe that it is time that the decision makers seated at the table truly reflect the face of the community. If elected, I will be the first Hispanic, the first Latina to be elected to San Leandro City Council. It is my intention as a Councilmember to bring the diversity that is San Leandro into the political fold with me

- **Business**

Business and financial experience is what I bring to the table. I believe that among my strongest assets that I would bring as a Councilmember to the San Leandro City Council is the experience I gained while working on Wall Street and as a business owner and investor. My finance experience in these tough fiscal times is critical. We must focus on the financial viability of our City, making sound financial decisions, in order to provide needed services to our community from youth to seniors alike. It is imperative that those that lead our city have financial acumen and strong dedication not only to economic viability but to growth and vitality as well. As Co-Chair and Co-Founder of the Latino Business Council, I work to represent, and advocate for, the diverse community that San Leandro has become and as an active member of the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce, I have worked to promote both small and large businesses. I am proud to have the endorsement of the co-chair of our Asian Business Council, and I think it is an accurate reflection of my commitment to working cooperatively and supportively with our Asian Pacific American community. As a City Council Candidate, as a key part of my platform, I have strongly voiced that San Leandro needs to develop a business retention and promotion program to keep and attract businesses. It is my firm belief that San Leandro needs to be more competitive in this regard, and as a Councilmember, I will dedicate myself that such a program is developed and is successful.