

**Redistricting Commission
Applicant Profile**

Applicant #	11267473941
First Name	Stephanie
Last Name	Goode
District	District 5
Time living in District	10 to 20 years
Time living in Oakland	10 to 20 years
Education	Bachelor's degree
Income	\$35,000 - \$74,999
Voting history	2018 & 2016 elections
Gender	Female
Race/Ethncity	White / Caucasian
	-

Supplemental Questionnaire

Your response to each of the mandatory following questions is limited to no more than 500 words. Please type in the space provided for each question.

*1. Why do you wish to serve on the Commission and why do you think the work of the Commission is important?

When I received the email with the link to apply to the Commission, I did not hesitate to consider. I realized it would be an incredible opportunity to learn intensely about something I've been interested in: (re)districting and its effects on direct representation and democracy. I support citizen populated commissions that provide oversight and collaboration and connection with their local government. I think the Redistricting Commission is a great mechanism for bringing Oaklanders together from all over the city to, perhaps, create a new picture of Oakland that represents its rich and complex identities. Oakland deserves its voices to be mutually heard and mutually respected.

*2. Explain what it means to be impartial and describe your ability to exercise impartiality.

Practicing impartiality is a choice to take action – making an important decision that may not have occurred to you at first – and a choice to accept guidance – to open oneself to new thinking and problem solving. To be impartial requires learning from different perspectives and ways of thinking and it requires the application of learning from those perspectives. I believe this comes from being present and vulnerable. This is challenging especially in the noise of our current society. I am a defender and promoter of the power of words and I believe how we put our words together and deliver them to others represents our intentions and our values. I don't know how many words the Commission is charged to produce, but I am familiar with the map of Oakland divided into districts. I think that map speaks thousands of words as will the next map.

*3. The Commissioners will need to work collaboratively in redrawing district boundaries. Provide an example from when you had to set aside your own self-interest to achieve a common goal.

I think it is difficult to acknowledge that self-interest can interfere with collaboration, since it often is a motivator to get things done. We are awash in a stereotype of self-interest. The first step to minimizing or put aside this self-interest is to acknowledge the common goal. The definition of that goal is a huge step in realizing "we are all in this together". I've been fortunate to participate in a lot of group ventures, but more so have I been involved in creative and business joint ventures where two people have to give it their all in order to come out equally successful and satisfied. My favorite memories involve the struggle to achieve, the impatience of doing, the pain of compromise with an end result of immense success: an early website design venture, a design store, a pizza pop-up, commercial fishing, building and re-building my home.

*4. All Commissioners must demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for Oakland's diversity. Describe your knowledge of and appreciation for Oakland's people and places, and how this will enhance your work as a commissioner.

I arrived in Oakland in the fall of 2000. I had visited the Bay Area several times prior, the first time in 1991. I thought I would live in San Francisco but the booming economy (and the willingness of a close friend) planted me in Oakland. I've been in Jingletown ever since. My friends and neighbors represent a lot of the spectrum of Oakland's diversity and I am grateful for the unique experiences and relationships I have. Granted, I've acquired and encountered negative experiences via crime, violence, loss, death and discrimination. Through many of these events, I have witnessed incredible sorrow (and support), anger (and love), frustration (and resilience), and so much more. I know Oakland is a special place. The existence of the Redistricting Commission is proof of the Town's collective willingness to put power in the hands of the people. A successful Redistricting Commission should provide an example for other, future citizen-led groups with direct liaison to the city and county governments. I have the trust of my neighbors and would work with this in mind.

*5. Provide an example from when you faced a complex question or situation. What problem solving skills did you use to solve it?

The first example that comes to me is my experience as a cancer patient. The complexity seemed to reveal itself at the very beginning; how do I want to choose to make myself healthy and live. Once I made my decision to take a certain path of treatment, the details of execution started to fall into place quickly. I did quality research (vetting sources as much as possible), documented every medical visit, charted my medications and supplements, started a blog to communicate with my loved ones, measured by success based on how I felt and adjusted diet and complementary treatments as necessary. These tools – and the support of friends and family - helped me make decisions and they contributed to my wellbeing as well as to my overall success during treatment. My professional work involves problem solving on a regular basis – I am trained as an architect working in information technology. I am a diehard notetaker, documentarian, scribbler.

*6. Describe any professional, social, political, volunteer, community activities, and/or causes in which you have been involved or that you have financially supported. If you do not have any activities to report, type N/A in the space provided.

More than 5 years ago, I started a "salon" that brought together people for discussion once a month (and later every 2-3 months). The format included two casual presentations followed by discussion. There was a short break between the two. Nobody in attendance knew in advance of the speakers or topics. We talked on a Tuesday evening, over dinner. I would document each event in a giveaway 'zine. In the past few years, I have been supportive of Community Democracy Project. I have participated in past group meetings and I hosted an early fundraiser at my home. They are a great group of people who strongly believe in the power of the people.

Additional Information (Optional)

If there is any additional information that was not asked in the Supplemental Questionnaire that you believe would help the Screening Panel in making their nominations, you may enter that information here. Your response here is optional.

--

*I understand that if selected as a Commissioner, I shall be ineligible, for a period of 10 years beginning from the date of appointment, to hold elective public office for the City of Oakland. Additionally, I shall be ineligible, for a period of four years beginning from the date of appointment, to hold appointive public office for the City of Oakland or Oakland Unified School Board, to serve as paid staff for or as a paid consultant to Oakland City Council, or any member of the City Council or Oakland School Board, to receive a non-competitively bid contract with the City of Oakland, or to register as a lobbyist. This four-year ban on having a paid consultancy or entering noncompetitively bid contracts applies to myself individually and all entities for which I am a controlling person. Please enter your initials below to confirm your understanding of these statements.

Initials:	SAG
-----------	-----

*I affirm, by entering my name in the space provided, that the statements contained in this application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Name:	STEPHANIE GOODE
-------	-----------------