

**Redistricting Commission
Applicant Profile**

Applicant #	11332345242
First Name	Bharat
Last Name	Singh
District	District 5
Time living in District	10 to 20 years
Time living in Oakland	10 to 20 years
Education	Doctoral or Professional degree
Income	\$125,000 - \$250,000
Voting history	2018 election
Gender	Male
Race/Ethncity	Asian / Pacific Islander
	-

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?

I'm a new citizen of the country and want to take this opportunity to be more engaged with my civic duties. The importance of having proper representation is the cornerstone of a healthy democracy, and redistricting is the way to ensure that.

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

Being impartial in context of redistricting is complex. While it's important to be impartial base on political ideology, but one must take into consideration that we aren't inadvertently marginalizing groups. Redistricting should be done considering efficiency of capturing socio-economic and geographic clusters, as well as, in aligning with administrative boundaries. This should help minimize marginalization.

*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 am an urban planner by profession. My job is to provide communities options about their futures and facilitate dialogue between stakeholders to come up with an amicable alternative. I have done this professionally for 17 years. What I practice professionally, is also my personal goal in life – work towards a common approach to our goals.

*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 have been a resident of Oakland for the last 15 years and have lived and worked in several parts of the city. When I chose to invest in a home, I picked Oakland for it's vibrancy that comes with it's diversity. I have worked in an Oakland office that had diverse people and have always appreciate the multicultural vibe as I've walked down E-14th from Downtown to Fruitvale or bicycled down Telegraph. The diversity is what makes Oakland unique in the Bay Area. It makes it the heart of they Bay Area for cultural exchanges on the streets, rather than in museums and institutions.

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

For community planning projects in contentious neighborhoods, I've often used a technique that gets the stakeholder representatives to meet beforehand and discuss the 'rule of engagement' where I have worked with them to determine how the group would make a decision, and then getting all the sign-off on it. This way I have been able to avoid confrontational and agenda driven stances stalling processes. In addition, to that I have used and am a big advocate of data-driven decision making. In most cases either of the two, or a combination of them, have helped me and other move things forward.

*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.

I have financially supported a local non-for-profit – Friends of Sausal Creek over the years. In addition, to that I have donated time and money to several local, national, and international causes/charities.

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:	BS.
-----------	-----

*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:	Bharat Singh
-------	--------------