

**Redistricting Commission  
Applicant Profile**

<b>Applicant #</b>	11276404386
<b>First Name</b>	Jan
<b>Last Name</b>	Stevens
<b>District</b>	District 1
<b>Time living in District</b>	More than 20 years
<b>Time living in Oakland</b>	More than 20 years
<b>Education</b>	Master's degree
<b>Income</b>	\$125,000 - \$250,000
<b>Voting history</b>	2018 & 2016 elections
<b>Gender</b>	Female
<b>Race/Ethncity</b>	White / Caucasian
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## 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?

Determining boundary lines for electing public officials based on accurate representation of the population is the basis for ensuring the survival of democracy. In Oakland's redistricting process, a Commissioner's commitment is to serve the people of Oakland not any one politician or political party. The Commission's decisions will affect the course of our City for at least a decade. I have serious concerns about the erosion of democratic processes in our country and would be honored to play a small part in preserving them locally.

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

Setting aside personal biases or agendas to listen with an open mind to all points of view and then basing decisions on factual information. In both the volunteer and business world, I've had initial reservations about successors but stayed open and supportive of the transition, recognizing that another person's approach can be different from mine but their unique contributions and talents may complement and enhance the choices I might have made.

\*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.

In my varied experiences, professionally and personally, I've learned that the achievement of goals is more successful for any organization via collaboration that leads to a buy-in from all participants. It's critical, first, to get clarity and commitment to a definition of the common goal and then work collaboratively on the means of achieving it. In my business career, I made numerous decisions that were not in my best interest in terms of climbing the corporate ladder in order to make sure my team members had ample opportunities to develop their careers and receive meaningful credit for their achievements.

\*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.

Diversity is a reservoir of resources for providing creative approaches to the many challenges of our community but we must make sure that all groups have the opportunity to contribute to those ends.  
-Organizations like the Oakland Zoo and Girls Inc are effectively providing opportunities for our youth to develop the learning and skills that will give them a reason to attach to the good of our community as a whole.

-The 20+ houses on our block are homes to people from multiple countries, ethnicities, sexual orientations, ages, family structures and religions. Yet, most of us know each other my name (including children and pets), communicate via email regularly and come together twice a year for neighborhood gatherings. I'd like to see this sense of neighborhood and connection as individuals throughout Oakland.

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

In my career, I managed several multi-million \$ projects...requiring juggling of shifting priorities, multiple stake holders and often dependence on new technology and the surprises that entails. Successful completion affected many areas of the business, financial results and other business-critical initiatives. Problem solving in that environment was an ongoing process requiring sharp critical path thinking, open communication with all groups involved, willingness to make timely decisions based on known facts but not always clear outcomes and the ability to calm the waters when conflicts arose.

\*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.

President, Docent Council, Oakland Zoo; Classroom Assistant, Girls Inc

**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 would like to know what the anticipated time commitment is for this position.

\*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

\*Response required

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:	jls
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\*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:	Janet L Stevens
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