



Dear Candidates,

Thank you for requesting an endorsement from Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO). APANO is a statewide 501(c)(4) political advocacy group uniting Oregon's Asian and Pacific Islanders to fight for social justice. Our members and partners work to advance social and racial justice and address the root causes of inequities. This packet provides an overview of our endorsement process, information about our organization, our top priorities, and a required candidate questionnaire & survey due August 31, 2022.

APANO's political program is community-based, multi-issue and guided by APANO's mission, vision and values. Our endorsement process reflects our work and priorities in local, state and national politics, and is non-partisan.

Our goals through this process are to:

1. Strengthen your relationship between APANO members, board, and staff
2. Educate elected officials and candidates on the issues APANO members and Asian & Pacific Islander communities are facing
3. Expand opportunities for Asian and Pacific Islander political engagement

Please read through this package and complete the Candidate Questionnaire at the end of this packet. **All completed materials (Word Document or PDF preferred) may be sent to Political Director Marchel Marcos at marchel@apano.org.**

WHAT IS AN APANO POLITICAL ENDORSEMENT?

A political endorsement is an official statement of support from APANO for a particular candidate. It means the candidate's record, performance in office or promise of future relations align greatly with APANO's mission and values to better serve the Asian Pacific Islander community.

WHAT DOES AN APANO ENDORSEMENT MEAN TO CANDIDATES?

An APANO endorsement for a candidate means the candidate can tell voters they have the visible support and backing of the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon. An APANO endorsement may also include additional financial, communication and field resources, including but not limited to inclusion in APANO's voter guide, financial contributions, social media outreach, mailings, phone banks, and campaign volunteers.

ENDORSEMENT PROCESS

APANO considers which electoral races to make "Priority Races" by using certain selection criteria to help the organization (staff, board, members) evaluate electoral opportunities in a consistent and transparent manner.



APANO has made the following candidate endorsements for the Primary that will carry through to the General Election:

Multnomah County

- House District 38
- House District 45
- House District 46
- House District 48
- Portland City Commission Seat 3
- Multnomah County Chair

Washington County

- House District 36

Clackamas County

- Clackamas County Commission

Statewide

- Governor

If the race you're running in is not listed you are still welcome to complete the questionnaire. Interviews will be offered if capacity allows.

We consider the following factors in our endorsement:

- Your policy vision and platform
- Questionnaire responses
- Interview with endorsement committee
- Interaction with APANO members and staff
- Understanding of APANO's mission
- Professional and/or voting record

ENDORSEMENT TIMELINE

Our process timeline will be as follows:

- July 22, 2022 – announce Candidate Endorsement Process
- August 5, 2022 - deadline for Candidate Questionnaire to schedule for interviews August 15-19th.
- August 15-19, 2022 – Conduct online candidate interviews via zoom
- August 25, 2022 – Announce APANO candidate endorsements for November 2022 General Election
- August 31, 2022 – deadline for Candidate Questionnaire
 - Interviews will be scheduled as capacity allows

WHAT TO KNOW

As of 2020: 275,296 Asian, 39,709 Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Residents in Oregon alone and in combination with other ethnicities.¹

¹ Insight for Action and Willamette Partnership



Oregon has a long history of contributions from Asian and Pacific Islander communities, who along with other communities of color have laid the foundation for the state's economy, culture and future. The story of these communities is marked by a struggle for equality and justice, prevailing over the adversity of incarceration, displacement and exclusion. As of 2020, 6.5% of the total population in Oregon indicated they are Asian, alone or in combination with other ethnicities; while 0.9% of the total population indicated they are Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander.

Insight for Action and Willamette Partnership partnered with APANO in Fall 2021/Spring 2022 to conduct a landscape scan of API communities in Oregon using 2020 data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Ten Counties with the Highest Percentage of Asian Alone or in Combination: 2020

County	Total Population	Asian					
		Alone or in Combination		Alone		In Combination	
		N	%	N	%	N	%
Washington	600,372	86,716	14.4%	69,106	11.5%	17,610	2.9%
Multnomah	815,428	83,560	10.2%	62,022	7.6%	21,538	2.6%
Benton	95,184	8,572	9.0%	6,428	6.8%	2,144	2.3%
Clackamas	421,401	29,737	7.1%	20,699	4.9%	9,038	2.1%
Lane	382,971	16,761	4.4%	9,620	2.5%	7,141	1.9%
Polk	87,433	3,150	3.6%	1,774	2.0%	1,376	1.6%
Marion	345,920	12,036	3.5%	7,501	2.2%	4,535	1.3%
Hood River	23,977	747	3.1%	392	1.6%	355	1.5%
Yamhill	107,722	3,156	2.9%	1,579	1.5%	1,577	1.5%
Sherman	1,870	54	2.9%	8	0.4%	46	2.5%
Oregon	4,237,256	275,296	6.5%	194,538	4.6%	80,758	1.9%

Source: [API_PrevGrowth_County](#) Google Drive spreadsheet.

Ten Counties with the Highest Percentage of Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders Alone or in Combination: 2020

County*	Total Population	Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander					
		Alone or in Combination		Alone		In Combination	
		N	%	N	%	N	%
Union	26,196	614	2.3%	492	1.9%	122	0.5%
Marion	345,920	5344	1.5%	3,821	1.1%	1,523	0.4%
Sherman	1,870	28	1.5%	3	0.2%	25	1.3%
Gilliam	1,995	29	1.5%	11	0.6%	18	0.9%
Wasco	26,670	365	1.4%	195	0.7%	170	0.6%
Washington	600,372	7540	1.3%	3,477	0.6%	4,063	0.7%
Multnomah	815,428	9497	1.2%	5,457	0.7%	4,040	0.5%
Wheeler	1,451	16	1.1%	0	0.0%	16	1.1%
Polk	87,433	788	0.9%	361	0.4%	427	0.5%
Tillamook	27,390	236	0.9%	85	0.3%	151	0.6%
Oregon	4,237,256	39,709	0.9%	19,204	0.5%	20,505	0.5%

Source: [API_PrevGrowth_County](#) Google Drive spreadsheet.



Community of Contrasts

- Asian and Pacific Islanders owned over 13,500 businesses in 2007, an increase of 40% since 2002, employing more than 27,000 people with \$535 million in annual payroll. Between 2000 and 2014, Asian and Pacific Islander buying power grew 153% to over \$6.4 billion, and projected to grow to \$8.3 billion by 2019.
- 52% of Asians and 23% of Pacific Islanders are foreign-born. Between 2004 and 2014, nearly 200 members were deported, with Vietnam the top receiving country.
- Oregon has the fourth largest population of migrants coming from Micronesian nations that have signed a Compact of Free of Association (COFA). The compact provides for ongoing U.S. military presence in their countries in exchange for permission to work and live in the U.S. Despite paying the same taxes they face exclusions from many federal benefits including Medicaid and SNAP (food stamps).
- Asians (87%) and Pacific Islanders (88%) are less likely to hold a high school diploma or GED than Whites (92%). Laotian (65%), Cambodian (76%) and Vietnamese (76%) face the most significant disparities.
- Nearly 50% of Pacific Islanders are low-income, and 23% are in poverty, the highest rate in Oregon.
- From 2007 to 2013, the number of unemployed Asian Americans increased 83%, the highest increase in Oregon.
- Asian and Pacific Islanders are less likely to be homeowners than Whites, and over 60% of Pacific Islanders are renters.
- Korean (19%) and Vietnamese (16%) are less likely to have health insurance.
- At least 55,000 Asians and Pacific Islanders live in City of Portland. This is the second largest community after the Latinx community.
- Concentration of Asians are mostly in NE, SE, and outer East Portland, with percent populations of 11%, 10%, and 9% respectively.
- East Portland has the largest concentration of foreign-born people (over 20%).
- Over 40 languages are spoken at Portland Public Schools, one of the largest school districts in the Pacific Northwest.
- Washington County grew the fastest in our state in the past decade other than Bend.

Sources: The Portland Plan Demographic Information, Multnomah County: Unsettling Profile Report, Coalition of Communities of Color, Leading with Race: Washington County, Asian Americans Advancing Justice "Community of Contrasts" 2015 report. Portland Public School District website. New Oregon Movement: 01-2022 Funder Briefing on Redistricting, Census Data on Asians and Pacific Islanders in Oregon: APANO Communities United Fund, Insight for Action, and Willamette Partnership 04-2022.

ABOUT APANO

APANO is a statewide 501(c)(4) political advocacy group united with Oregon's Asian and Pacific Islanders to fight for social justice. Our members and partners work to advance social justice and address the root causes of inequities. APANO is organized as both a 501(c)(4) & 501(c)(3)



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tax-exempt organization that engages in legislative lobbying and political activity. In June 2019 we held the grand opening of our \$2.77 million Roots to Rise Capital Campaign project, Orchards of 82nd, unveiling a 5,000 square foot Cultural Center, public plaza, 48-unit affordable housing (in partnership with Rose CDC) and new permanent home for APANO offices. In 2020 APANO opened an office in Washington County and was heavily invested in the [Hard to Count campaign effort, #WeCountOregon](#), for the Census 2020 count in Oregon. We made over 12,000 contacts and prioritized reaching hard-to-count communities.

The pandemic continues to result in crisis and heartbreak for our communities. Disproportionate impact of COVID on Pacific Islander communities, over a hundred instances of Asian hate reported across the state, hundreds of our businesses closed or vandalized, leaving thousands unemployed, and recently 124 degree highs reported in our neighborhoods leading to the tragic death of dozens.

With the support of thousands of members, supporters, and donors, we worked hard to respond to the moment. The following distribution of immediate aid, policy interventions, and long term investments were critical for many in need and helped us move toward a more just future.

COVID-19

- Advocating for and distributing immediate aid in the form of direct cash assistance for impacted workers, support for small business owners, and rental assistance. This past year APANO distributed over \$1.5 million in direct assistance as well PPE, diapers, cleaning supplies, and food.
- Supporting community vaccine campaigns through our [vaccine resource page](#), communications channels, and in co-hosting a number of vaccine events around the region to vaccinate [hundreds in our community](#).

Responding to Hate & Safe Communities

- Developing a policy agenda for elected leadership that prioritizes community investments and victim support over [enforcement and incarceration](#).
- Expansion of the Portland Street Response to cover the [Jade District](#).
- Secured \$2 million in additional funding for additional staffing and victim support at the Oregon Department of Justice Civil Rights Division to better respond to hate crimes.
- Over \$3 million in dedicated funding to support the acquisition and development of safe community spaces and affordable housing for Asian and Pacific Islander Communities.
- \$185 million of dedicated funding to fund a safer 82nd Ave. after nearly a decade of advocacy culminating in a [jurisdictional transfer set for 2022](#).



Climate Justice and Heat

- Together with our partners at Friends of Trees and PSU, have planted a statistically significant number of trees in the Jade District to [help improve heat island and air quality concerns over time](#).
- Thanks to a statewide coalition of frontline advocates, in 2021 we had three major wins for climate justice in Energy Affordability ([HB 2475](#)), 100% Clean Energy for All ([HB 2021B](#)), and Healthy Homes ([HB 2842](#)) will make homes safer to live in and more affordable to heat and cool. This past legislative short session, we also supported Emergency Heat Relief ([SB 1536](#)) which removes barriers to renters to install air conditioners.

Mental Health/Childcare

- [HB 4005](#) Childcare Reform
 - Make child care more affordable and easier to find for many families
 - Offer grants for new providers and providers expanding services
 - Provide direct relief payments to child care workers
 - Continue making Oregon's public child care system, ERDC, more beneficial for parents and providers
- Child Care Emergency Response Package: The Child Care for Oregon coalition secured a historic \$100M investment in child care that will help stabilize the sector, support providers, and ensure more families have access to care.
- Throughout the pandemic, our events team leads bimonthly [Resilience Series](#) events online to bring together community members and provide space for BIPOC communities to learn and share resources and information. We culminated with a month-long anti-racism deep dive in May 2020.
- [HB 4011](#) Mental Health Workforce Emergency Support: Initiates an incentive program for mental health associates within the Oregon Health Authority.

We also are invested in youth leadership and strength. Check out some [recent work](#) led by our youth organizers.

Dismantling inequities and racism requires deep and immediate investments that prioritize the needs of our communities. There is much more to be done to ensure that systems that were built to marginalize Black and Brown communities are dismantled. As COVID-19 numbers begin to subside and we look to the future, we look forward to imagining a new world where our communities have the power, resources, and voice to determine our own futures.

For the May 2022 Primary Elections, 22 of our 35 endorsed candidates were elected, while 4 are yet to be decided in runoff elections. APANO's field team made over 32,000 dials and sent over 20,000 texts to Oregon voters during the Primary. We supported several candidates who are



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frontline workers in the medical profession, and an historic number of [Vietnamese-American candidates](#).

To inform our 2022 goals of progress and fighting for a more equitable Oregon, APANO will look to the work done in the November 2020 General Election. In May 2020 We worked on 11 races and made 90,000 dials and 60,000 texts. In November 2020, we made nearly 400,000 phone calls, sent 217,000 texts and hosted 106 phone and text banking shifts to fight for our future! We supported 3 statewide Asian and Pacific Islander candidates with 1 winning their race. Representative Khanh Pham was the first Vietnamese-American legislator elected in Oregon in a generation.

Mission

The Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO) is a statewide, grassroots organization, uniting Asians and Pacific Islanders to achieve social justice. We use our collective strengths to advance equity through empowering, organizing and advocating with our communities.

Vision

We envision a just and equitable world where Asians and Pacific Islanders are fully engaged in the social, economic and political issues that affect us.

APANO is working towards a just world where all our families have the rights, recognition and resources they need to thrive. We work at the intersections of racial, social, economic, and gender justice. Examples of the issue areas that APANO works on include: childcare policy, health equity, economic justice, reproductive justice, immigrant rights, democracy reform and voting rights, housing, and potential increased forays into criminal justice reform and mental health care.

POLICY PRIORITIES

Policies that Advance Racial Justice

APANO organizes youth and immigrants, primarily in the Portland region and Salem areas, and with our statewide membership to advance public policy and systemic change that achieve racial, gender and economic justice. We have a track record on English Language Learners' education, renters' rights, reproductive health, community development, climate justice and policies that support working families.

APANO members inform our policy priorities every two years. Here are just a few of our policy wins and priorities in the Oregon legislature from 2022 and previous sessions:



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- Childcare: [HB 4005](#) Childcare Reform and Child Care Emergency Response Package
- [Oregon Worker Relief Fund](#)
- [HB 4011](#) Mental Health Workforce Emergency Support

View our [2022 Legislative](#) and [2021 Legislative](#) priorities for a full list of our recent advocacy work.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about APANO's work and priorities, and for your interest in an APANO political endorsement. Please see below for Candidate Questions.

CANDIDATE SURVEY (For submission)

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Candidate Name: _____ Pronouns: _____

Office Seeking: _____

Party Affiliation: _____

Candidate Campaign Phone: _____ Email: _____

Campaign Manager Name: _____ Pronouns: _____

Campaign Manager Phone: _____ Email: _____

Campaign Meeting Day and Time: _____

Would it be helpful for APANO to be present at those meetings? Yes No

CAMPAIGN PROFILE

Total Amount of Anticipated Campaign Expenditures:

Total Amount Raised to Date:



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Campaign Finance/Treasury Vendor:

Current/Anticipated Major Sources for Campaign Funding:

Notable Endorsements:

Previous Campaigns for Elected Office (Please list all):

Top Three Issues of Campaign Platform:

Known Opponents:

ANTICIPATED REQUEST FOR RESOURCES (IF ENDORSED) - Check all that apply:

- Field Support
 - Phone banking
 - Text banking
 - Door knocking
 - Training for any of the above
- Communications Support
- Host event(s)
- Fundraising assistance
- Other (please specify): _____

SIGNATURE

I, (First and Last name) _____ give my written consent for APANO to publish my questionnaire responses as part of APANO voter education efforts for the November 2022 Election.

Signature (typed signature accepted via email)

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE (For submission)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Please write your responses to the following questions. Please limit to **200 words or less**



per response.

- Questionnaires are designed to illuminate a candidate's anticipated policy position and political analysis on issues that matter greatly to the Asian and Pacific Islander communities in Oregon. APANO plans to publish the excerpts of candidate responses to questionnaires. By applying for an endorsement, a candidate campaign must give their written consent in the candidate survey above for APANO to use candidate responses for APANO communications. If you have questions please email marchel@apano.org.
- Although we understand the purview and jurisdiction of each elected office is unique, please answer these questions to the best of your ability from the perspective of the powers held in the office you are running for.

WHY WE ASK THESE QUESTIONS

Our questions demonstrate some of the ideas and concepts that our staff and members continually confront through our work. The following questions are derived from pillars of our work, reflective of APANO's major program areas and organizational strategies to build Asian and Pacific Islander power.

- **Community Organizing:** APANO's organizing is rooted in the belief that those most affected by an issue should be the pens shaping the solutions, co-creating and co-leading campaigns that address real issues in their community.
- **Leadership Development:** APANO offers year-round opportunities to cultivate members' skills and confidence to analyze community needs and solutions, and hold leadership roles at APANO and in the community.
- **Political Advocacy:** APANO's political advocacy seeks to elevate issues through community engagement, policy research, mobilizing voters, and coordinating grassroots advocacy.
- **Cultural Work:** APANO aims to advance a long-term cultural strategy to impact beliefs, actions, and policies by centering the voices and experiences of marginalized Asian and Pacific Islanders to shift harmful narratives, envision alternatives, and foster movement building.
- **Community Development:** APANO, through its work in the Jade District and east Washington County, are committed to advocating for policy changes that mitigate displacement effects of rising housing costs, a lack of affordable housing, and new public investments into the area.



QUESTIONS

1. Please describe your win plan and your top campaign priorities.
2. How has your own racial/ethnic identity impacted your understanding of racial equity and how you have incorporated it into your own work and leadership? How have those identities informed your motivation to seek elected office?
3. What is your understanding of the model minority myth frequently applied to Asian Americans, and how does it influence government decision-making and personnel choices, including allocations of resources and policy prioritization?
4. Hate speech incidents and hate crimes have increased across the US, including Oregon. One of APANO's priorities is strengthening policies and resources to safeguard our communities. What are ways you will address hate incidents that happen in your district?
5. At APANO, we support Black Liberation and the movement to defund the police and invest in BIPOC communities. Will you support legislation to end the disproportionate policing, arrests, charging, prosecution, and jailing of Black people in Oregon by divesting state resources from policing and prisons and reinvesting those funds in the Black community? Describe how you will advocate for these policy changes to be a priority for your caucus?
6. APANO sees the need to not only address climate change, but also to support vulnerable communities who are most impacted by this issue. If elected,



what will be your long term plan to respond to climate change while providing practical and substantial support to the community/ies that you will serve?

7. APANO supports The Opportunity to Serve Act, which would increase pay for Oregon state legislators. This reduces financial barriers for current and future legislators. What do you believe is a fair and equitable compensation for the position you are running for?
 - a. Will you support increasing legislative pay next session 2023?

8. A lack of affordable childcare limits the well being of families across the state. In Asian and Pacific Islander communities, families are committed to caring for multiple generations and use an expansive definition of “family”. This can limit economic opportunity for working families, as well as youth who have responsibilities to care for other children. How will you champion childcare in your role if elected?

9. What does being “community accountable” mean to you? How will you engage as an elected official to work with community-based organizations and grassroots organizers?
 - a. How will you use your decision-making power in a timely manner and prevent stagnation around issues that immediately affect BIPOC communities?

10. APANO supports the disaggregation of the term “AAPI”, and affirms that the issues and needs of Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian communities need to be addressed more intentionally. This includes but is not limited to disaggregating crucial data that could help identify employment, health and education-related issues. What is your understanding of the issues facing “Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian” communities, and who specifically does



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that include in your district? How will your office seek to engage with this specific racial/ethnic group in Oregon and address their concerns?