

***Democrats of Napa Valley
Candidate Questionnaire
Candidate for Mayor***

DEADLINE FOR RETURN TO DEMOCRATS OF NAPA VALLEY: FRIDAY, AUGUST 9

Candidate's Name: David Oro
Mobile ph #: 415-885-9898
E-Mail: electdavidoro@gmail.com

Area/District: City of American Canyon
Party Affiliation: Democrat

Occupation: Vice Mayor / Business Owner
Campaign Manager: David Oro

Employer: Oro Group (self employed)
Contact #: 415-885-9898

If an Incumbent, please provide the year your original term of office began:

- Appointed Feb. 2017 to City Council of American Canyon as a Councilmember
- Elected November 2018 – Councilmember, City of American Canyon
- Elected November 2022 – Councilmember, City of American Canyon
- Appointed Vice Mayor for 2024, City of American Canyon

Candidate Specific Questions

- 1. Provide a bio of your relevant experience/background for this office. (200 words maximum)**

Elected/Appointed Committees and Commissions

- Vice Chair, American Canyon Fire Protection District
- Board Member, Napa Valley Tourism Corporation
- Delegate, Association of Bay Area Governments
- Board Member, Napa County Watershed Information Center & Conservancy

Since being appointed to the City Council in February 2017 and re-elected in 2018 and 2022, I have worked tirelessly to transform community aspirations into tangible outcomes. My involvement in community service began long before my tenure in elected office. I was a founding member of the Open Space Advisory Committee in 2005, playing a crucial role in preserving and enhancing our community's open spaces. As Chair of the SR 29 Gateway Corridor Plan Citizens Advisory Committee in 2012, I led efforts to map out transportation in Napa Valley. I also served on the Broadway Specific Plan Steering Committee in 2015, helping to shape the future development of the Broadway corridor.

Additionally, I have been committed to supporting our youth through various initiatives. I have actively supported local education by advocating for bond measures that improve our schools. I contributed to the establishment of the Boys and Girls Club and am a lifetime founding member of the American Canyon Community and Parks Foundation. My involvement with young people also includes coaching soccer, baseball, and basketball.

2. List your key supporters, including campaign volunteers and hired consultants, and endorsements.

- U.S. Congressman Mike Thompson
- California State Senator Bill Dodd
- California Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
- Napa County Supervisor Belia Ramos
- Napa County Supervisor Joelle Gallagher
- Napa County Supervisor Anne Cottrell
- Napa County Supervisor Elect Liz Alessio
- Napa County Supervisor Elect Amber Manfree
- Ret. Napa County Sheriff John Robertson
- Napa County Treasurer - Tax Collector Robert G. Minahen
- American Canyon Council Member Mariam Aboudamous
- American Canyon Council Member Mark Joseph

Hired Consultant: Barry Barnes at TeamCivx

3. Where do you expect to receive your main financial commitments?

I expect financial commitments to come from a variety of sources including family, residents of American Canyon, local businesses, labor unions, and Napa County personal/business associates.

4. What distinguishes your candidacy and campaign from the other candidates for this office?

What distinguishes my candidacy is my long-standing commitment to and belief in American Canyon. This election marks the first time in nearly 20 years that we will have a new mayor, making it a pivotal moment for our city. My extensive experience as a Councilmember, founding member of various community committees, and active involvement in local initiatives positions me uniquely to lead our city forward. I have a proven track record of getting things done, from the opening of Devlin Road to securing a sustainable water source through the Sites Reservoir or championing the development of our Town Center – The Watson Ranch Project. My deep roots in

the community and dedication to its future ensure that I will continue to advocate for and implement solutions that benefit all residents.

In contrast, my opponent is serving his first term as a Councilmember and does not yet have the established relationships or the extensive experience necessary to effectively lead our city. My campaign is built on a foundation of progress, experience, and a clear vision for American Canyon's future. I respectfully request your support and vote to keep the positive momentum going.

Issues: *(100 words maximum per question)*

5. What do you see as the major issues and their possible solutions in this campaign?

The major issues in this campaign are centered around ensuring sustainable development, enhancing community safety, managing traffic congestion, and improving the overall quality of life for all residents in American Canyon.

A primary concern is the city's growth, which must be well-planned to include housing for all income levels while preserving our unique identity and natural environment. To address this, I will advocate for strategic infrastructure improvements and the development of a new multi-use center that will provide essential civic facilities, such as a gym, meeting rooms, and a new pool, which our community urgently needs.

Traffic management is another critical issue, and I plan to focus on building the East Side Connector, which will link Newell Drive to Highway 29 at Paoli Loop, to help alleviate congestion.

I am committed to investing more in public safety to ensure our streets and neighborhoods remain safe for everyone. This includes continuing to enhance our local parks and open spaces to increase accessibility and introduce innovative features for kids, families, and seniors, fostering a vibrant and inclusive community.

6. Do you believe in and would you work to protect a women's right to choose and to have control over her own body? Yes No Is it easy enough for a woman in Napa County to access healthcare to have an abortion?

As someone deeply committed to women's rights, and as the only male elected official to attend the Progressive Women of Napa Valley's 2022 event on Proposition 1, I fully support a woman's right to access abortion services in Napa County. California's laws protect this essential freedom, and while local resources exist, more must be done to address barriers like limited providers, travel, and cost. As a father of two daughters, ensuring all women have the support they need for their reproductive choices is a priority for me.

**7. Is the City doing most everything it can to ensure that residents feel safe? Yes No
If no, what 1-2 ideas do you think should be considered?**

The City of American Canyon has been proactive in ensuring safety, but more must be done given our proximity to a neighboring city south of us that is facing challenges with crime and homelessness. As our city grows, expanding public safety services is crucial. This includes improving street safety, creating walkable neighborhoods, and ensuring our seniors feel secure. Public safety goes beyond crime response; it's about fostering a community where everyone feels supported. By focusing on these areas, we can continue building the secure, vibrant city our residents deserve. American Canyon is already a model of safety and community well-being, and we want to improve on that.

8. The number of children enrolled in school in Napa County continues to decline. What are 2-3 solutions to at least slow or stop this decline?

To address declining school enrollment in Napa County, we should:

1. Increase Affordable Housing: Expanding affordable housing is crucial for retaining and attracting families, ensuring stable school enrollment. This is the most important thing we can do.
2. Diversify Job Opportunities: Attracting new industries and fostering innovation in sectors like technology and green energy will create stable, well-paying jobs. It's a huge challenge, but diversifying Napa's economy might make it more attractive to a wider range of workers and families. But housing comes first.

I'm proud that American Canyon is a prolific provider of housing at all income levels and home to a diversified workforce. This effort directly supports our schools by helping to stabilize or increase enrollment, benefiting the entire community.

9. Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

As a lifelong Democrat, I share the values that drive our party and have actively participated in Napa County Democratic events, from ice cream socials to volunteering at the Town and Country Fair. My commitment to our community is also reflected in my children and I regularly attending and volunteering at Congressman Mike Thompson's events.

Since moving to American Canyon in 2005, I've been deeply involved in community service, including as a founding member of the Open Space Advisory Committee, which expanded access to local trails. I've also championed environmental initiatives, making American Canyon a leader in Napa County. We were the first city to ban new gas stations, mandated solar panels on new homes before the state did, and established a recycled water program. All new homes, including the 1,200

in Watson Ranch, are developed with drought-tolerant landscaping and were approved under Zero Water Footprint policy.¹ We're also transforming a City corporation yard into the Napa River Ecology Center to advance conservation and environmental education.

As a City Councilmember since 2017, I've brought vision and results to American Canyon, and I hope to continue this work with your endorsement for Mayor. Additional information can be found at www.electdavidoro.com



Signature

August 9, 2024
Date

¹ Since August 2013, American Canyon took delivery of 412 AF of water from the State Water Project. A decade later, our deliveries in August 2023 were only 266 AF. This pronounced decrease is despite an increase in population from 20,171 to 21,631 and the addition of 12 million SF of commercial and industrial uses within our water service area. Fixing leaks and implementing the Zero Water Footprint policy are the primary drivers for this change.