

**Democrats of Napa Valley
Candidate Questionnaire
Candidate for City Council**

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

Candidate's Name: Irais Lopez-Ortega
Mobile ph #: 707-2948379

Area/District: 3
Party Affiliation: Democrat

E-Mail: iraisalop@gmail.com
Occupation: Business Owner
Campaign Manager: N/A

Employer: Self
Contact #: N/A

If an Incumbent, please provide the year your original term of office began: 2020

Candidate Specific Questions

1. **Provide a bio of your relevant experience/background for this office. (200 words maximum) I was appointed to council in 2013, re-elected 2 times already and have served on different boards and commissions, including Flood Control and water conservation District for the last 4 years. Also I have served with the League of California Cities representing Calistoga in 2 different committees, Community Services for 4 years and now with the Transportation, Communication and Public works Committee. Also I'm a Board Member for WELL (water education for latino leaders) a organization that educates elected officials about water issues in our State of California. During my term many good projects have been approved in Calistoga, most recently the acquisition of The Fairgrounds from Napa County.**
2. **List your key supporters, including campaign volunteers and hired consultants, and endorsements. Supervisor Anne Cottrell District 3 and Bernie Narvaes Council member of Napa, and many community members in Calistoga.**
3. **Where do you expect to receive your main financial commitments? N/A**

4. **What distinguishes your candidacy and campaign from the other candidates for this office?**
I will say that this 11 years of experience has give me the knowledge to navigate the political and system to be able to represent my constituents at the table no only at the local level, but also at the County and State Levels.

Issues: (100 words maximum per question)

5. **What do you see as the major issues and their possible solutions in this campaign?**
Housing, Water, but lack of Social Services for seniors and childrens. Also the lack of participation from our Latinx community for many different reasons. We as a council are working on many projects that will help to resolve these issues. Also outreach and education will help our latino Community be more involved in it.
6. **Do you believe in and would you work to protect a woman'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? I have no exact knowledge about this because I don't know anybody who has used it or not.
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?

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? Lack of affordable housing, transportation and cost of living in general.

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

I appreciate the opportunity to be part of the Democrats of Napa Valley and really appreciate the privilege to be on council and be able to serve my community in Calistoga. thank you for all you do.

Irais Lopez-Ortega

Signature

08/10/2024

Date