

2018 Milpitas City Council and Mayoral Candidate Questionnaire

Silicon Valley at Home (SV@Home) is an affordable housing policy and advocacy organization working to ensure housing affordability for all who work and live in Silicon Valley. As a candidate running for office, we invite you to participate in a survey regarding affordable housing. Responses to this survey will be shared widely with community members, and SV@Home members and partner agencies.

Please complete the survey by September 17th, 2018

Email address *

Candidate name

Suraj Viswanathan

A. What are your housing priorities?

Affordable Housing

Public transportation access to housing units

Parks and open spaces in proximity

B. To date, Milpitas has failed to meet any of its state mandated housing goals aside from its market-rate housing goal. Earlier this year, the Legislature considered a proposal to allow higher default densities around transit stations in an effort to create more opportunities for housing and affordable housing across our neighborhoods. Do you support or oppose this type of state intervention around the housing crisis?

There is no doubt a housing crisis in the bay area, the house prices and the rents are going through the roof. I will support state intervention to allow higher default densities around transit stations to create more opportunities for affordable housing.

Affordable housing near transit station will enable residents to use public transportation to commute to work, which will lower the number of vehicles on the roads during commute peak hours.

C. Do you support and will you advocate for Measure-A funded projects in Milpitas? If yes, how will you work with your community to ensure support and acceptance of supportive housing for the homeless and families earning less than \$30,000 a year?

I'll definitely advocate for Measure-A funded projects in Milpitas. I'll create awareness by conducting town hall meetings and explaining to community the importance for measure A funded projects.

D. Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) have become an option to increase housing stock on existing lots where a homeowner is willing to build. How would you support homeowners who are willing to commit to build ADUs on their property, but continue to encounter issues such as excessive regulations regarding unit size and allowable bedrooms per unit?

I will support building ADUs within city guidelines taking into account fire hazards, unit accessibility, crowding , and potential parking issues. As long as it is complaint , I support building of ADUs. I will support the homeowners willing to build these by creating awareness in the community regarding the housing problems ADUs will address.

E. Do you support or oppose fast tracked or streamlined permitting of residential or mixed-use development in Milpitas? Please explain your response.

I support streamlining of residential or mixed use development in Milpitas

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