



Imperial Beach Democratic Club
2022 Chula Vista Mayor Candidate Consideration Survey

General Information

(please use bold blue font when filling out the questionnaire)

Candidate: **Ammar Campa-Najjar**

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Campaign Manager: **Marcela Miranda-Caballero**

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Please provide any website or social media information here:

Website: **campacampaign.com**

Facebook: **<https://www.facebook.com/CampaNajjar>**

Twitter: **[@ACampaNajjar](https://twitter.com/ACampaNajjar)**

- 1.) Have you been registered OTHER than a Democrat? YES NO
- 2.) How long have you been registered as a Democrat? **My entire life**
- 3.) How long have you been a resident of the district? **Since 1993**
- 4.) Have you run for or been elected to public office previously?

YES NO

If “YES”, what office did you run for, or previously hold? I ran for CA-50 in 2018 & 2020 and was 3 points short of winning against Duncan Hunter Jr. & Darrell Issa.

- 5.) Please share how much money your campaign has raised to date, and how much you expect to raise.
- 6.) Please list your endorsements (or attach the list on a separate page).

Goals, Issues & Policy Objectives

- 1.) Why are you running for office?

As a third-generation Chula Vistan, I am running for Mayor because I want to give back to the community that gave me opportunities to succeed. The community that raised me and opened up the doors to the White House, US Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, US Department of Labor, and my career in public service.

I was born in East County, and like many working-class families, we moved around in search of an affordable place to call home. After my father moved to Gaza when I was 5, my abuelito Campa took us in and let us stay with him. After he died, my grandmother sold the home. We moved to Eastlake, where I attended and graduated from Eastlake High and attended Southwestern College.

Growing up with a single parent, I had to work at a very young age as the groundskeeper and a janitor at my church, Eastlake Church to help my mom make ends meet. It was my faith in my mom and my community that really inspired me to go to

SDSU, finish my degree, and commit my life to service. It's because of my Chula Vista community that I became a community organizer, first as a fellow then as the regional field director for Barack Obama's re-election campaign in San Diego. The campaign started at the Starbucks in San Miguel Ranch, Chula Vista. And at the Eastlake Bonita Democratic Club.

From my first job at a church ministry to community organizing for a presidential campaign, serving in the White House, advocating for small businesses at the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in Washington, D.C., supporting underserved veterans, fighting for the American worker at the U.S. Department of Labor, I have devoted my life to service.

I owe who I am to the people and places that invested in me, from West Chula Chula Vista to the West Bank, from Eastlake to East County. The love and support I've received from these

communities and commitment I have in my heart to them knows no bounds and is too real to be partitioned by artificial borders.

Chula Vista has always been there for my family, that's why I'll always be there for Chula Vista. As Mayor, I hope to give back and make sure the next Ammar has it easier, and that every person who calls this city home can live, work, play and retire with dignity and security

2.) Why are you seeking endorsement from the Imperial Beach Democratic Club?

As the neighboring City of Chula Vista, I believe it is vital to establish and maintain a relationship with the City of Imperial Beach. Together we can work to ensure our South Bay region becomes a more inclusive, pro environment, global city. For this reason, I would be honored to receive IB Democratic Club's endorsement and work together to achieve these goals together as a region.

3.) List your top three policy agenda goals for your campaign:

The top three issues that I believe are important for the office I seek are housing, public transportation, and economic development. Chula Vista needs a comprehensive economic development plan that not only relies on the revenue from the bayfront development but includes supporting and incentivizing our small businesses and shopping local while encouraging homeownership and affordable housing with accessible public transportation.

4.) Imperial Beach is ever increasingly under greater threat of sea level rise, high-tide flooding, coastal erosion, and higher storm surge.

a) Do you believe the science that says climate change is real?

YES NO Requires further explanation:

b) Do you believe that climate change can be mitigated or reversed?

YES NO Requires further explanation:

c) If elected, how will you use your office to meet the climate-related challenges facing South Bay communities? Please explain. As a congressional candidate, I was proud to receive the endorsement of the Sierra Club, League of Conservation Voters, and SD County Democrats for Environmental Action as a staunch advocate for environmental justice. As Mayor of Chula Vista, I'm committed to prioritizing climate change, advancing environmental proposals that

protect our backyard, and advocating for environmental justice. As leader within the south bay mega region, I will use the weight of my office to help mitigate the binational environment challenge of the **Tijuana Valley River that impacts our communities.**

5.) Will you affirm a commitment to housing justice: housing is a human right regardless of status and not for the marginalization of poorer residents into less desirable areas that frequently have higher pollution levels and other health risks?

YES NO Requires further explanation:

6.) Will you affirm a commitment to environmental justice: no community should be subjected to environmental hazards due to race, economic standing, or immigration status?

YES NO Requires further explanation:

7.) Will you promote food safety, the “eat local” movement, small family farms, urban gardens, and healthy food alternatives?

YES NO Requires further explanation:

8.) COVID-19 has had a significant impact on our Imperial Beach community. Though South Bay communities and its residents have received emergency funding and services from county, state, and federal governments throughout the pandemic, how will you fight for South Bay to make a strong recovery in the years to come? Please explain:

When it comes to our local small businesses struggling and issues with housing, the truth is all these issues existed before COVID-19 and were only accelerated by the pandemic. Our most disadvantaged communities, bore the brunt of the effects of the pandemic. We don't know if the pandemic will be over by the time I am serving in 2023, but we do know these renters, homeowners, industries, essential workers, and small businesses, will still need help. It's precisely why I believe it's important to bring both community and industry leaders as well as any stakeholders affected by the policies being discussed to the table and have an open dialogue on how to proceed and solve the problem.

9.) The City of Chula Vista holds seats on very powerful regional boards and commissions which can have significant impacts on South Bay communities. If elected to be Mayor, what would you lead Chula Vista to advocate for on those boards and commissions?

As Mayor, I would love to serve on the SANDAG board where I would be able to have a direct impact on public transportation that our community is in dire need of (re-imagine our public transportation with the Purple and Blue line). Additionally, I would get rid of the toll for the South Bay Expressway SR-125.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'A. J. ...', written over a horizontal line.

Signed:

Date: 11/30/2021