

**Candidate Name:** Len Nguyen

**Position Name:** Secretary

## **Introductory Questions**

1. Why are you running for office? To make Palms a better place to live, work and visit.
2. What is the most pressing issue facing Palms and how will you deal with it? What is the most pressing need? Overdensification. I'll push for reform of SB1818. Economic development along Motor Ave. Will promote Motor as Palms' "Main Street." facing Motor and how would you deal with it.
3. What are three to five specific tasks (e.g. specific legislation, policies, enforcement actions) you intend to accomplish if you are elected? 1) Reform of SB1818, 2) Develop commercial corridor vision plans, 3) More bike parking along major corridors, 4) Continued beautification efforts
4. What is your profession or current place of employment? Do you have time for this position? I've worked since 2005 as a Field Deputy for Council District 11, City of Los Angeles. Yes.
5. Please provide a copy of your resume. Sent under separate cover.

## **Topic-Specific Questions**

6. Did you support the creation of the PNC? What do you expect the Council to accomplish? Yes. I served as President of the PNC Organizing Committee from 2002-2005 and was PNC's first elected President.
7. Please describe Palms and specifically Motor Ave. What would you do to improve it? Palms' strength is in our tremendous diversity. Motor Avenue is the "Main Street" of our community. If you look at what makes a neighborhood, it can be found along Motor Avenue: a park, a school, a post office, a fire station, a cultural center, a bike shop, a coffee shop, a farmers market, a business corridor. I want to help develop a long term vision to help it grow and prosper.
8. What steps would you take to increase the sustainability of Palms? Do you think there are environmental issues? I'd like to promote recycling programs, secure grants for sustainability education programs in Palms, and make it easier for businesses and multifamily residential to install solar.
9. What steps would you take to increase public participation in Palms? As Secretary, I want to promote greater public participation by fostering openness and transparency. When I first moved to Palms, I had to go looking for neighborhood groups. I'd like to be proactive and send new businesses and residents a welcome packet to welcome them to the neighborhood and introduce them to the neighborhood council. I'll continue to use social media, mail and print to keep stakeholders informed.

10. Please describe the Park system in *Palms*. Does it need improvement? If so, what would you do to make those improvements? Palms has some of the highest population density in the city but only has tiny Woodbine Park. I'd like to look at a joint use agreement with Palms Middle School to make some of that huge green space available outside of school hours and/or on weekends.

11. Do you support making Palms more bicycle friendly? If so how? I'd like to install more bike parking and bike corrals along major corridors like Motor Avenue and Venice Blvd.

12. What measures would you propose to make the Motor Avenue Farmers Market more successful? I'd like to see events that partner with and engage the diverse ethnic communities of Palms. (IMAN Center for Persian New Year, etc.)

13. Do you support the activities of the Motor Ave Association? If so which ones and how? I've supported the extension of farmers' market hours and the "Seeds of Change" community gardens effort to build relationships with and enrich the lives of Palms' children.

14. Do you support mail in election ballots? Why and what if elected will you do to support your position? In the past PNC did not because of concern about increased cost and the fair distribution of ballots. I would be open if such issues could be resolved.

15. How do you feel the PNC currently functions? If elected what would you do differently? I'm happy the PNC has grown over the last ten years into a strong voice for Palms. I hope we can stay positive and united in purpose to make Palms a better place working together with all stakeholders and community groups.

16. What do you think about the state of transportation in Palms? On Motor Avenue? When the Expo light rail station opens at Palms/National/Exposition, it will be a tremendous asset for Palms. I want to make it as inviting as possible for people to walk, bike or bus there. I love the recent road diet for Motor Ave. It helps restore the "Main Street" feel while adding a bike lane.

17. How many programs have you initiated, developed and implemented in Palms? Please list. (Please be as specific as possible) Secured a community beautification grant for tree planting along Motor Avenue. Co-founded the Palms Neighborhood Council.

18. How familiar are you with other community groups, city hall, city agencies and city departments? I have become quite familiar over the last nine years with various community groups, city agencies and departments while working as a Field Deputy for Council District 11.

## **Campaign Activities and Structure**

19. Explain your plans to incorporate a Motor Ave agenda into your campaign. My mantra is that Motor Avenue is our “Main Street.”

20. What is your campaign outreach goal? As of the date of this questionnaire, how much have you raised? I am self-funding my campaign.

What is your plan for raising awareness of your candidacy? (Please be as specific as possible.) I am using a combination of social media and shoe leather.

21. Why do you want our endorsement? How you will use it in your campaign? I'd like to promote more collaboration between the Palms NC and Motor Ave Improvement Association in our community.

22. Who in the community supports and endorses your candidacy? Vincent Shamo