



# CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

## MICHAEL V. JOHNSON

### **From your perspective, what happened to Russell City, why do you think it happened, and how did it affect your family?**

Almost 60 years ago, Russell City, was annexed into Hayward and turned into an industrial park. Roughly 1,400 residents were displaced in the process. My parents, grand-parents, great grand-parents along with my sister and I were among those who were displaced and forced to re-locate.

### **What is your connection to the Russell City Community?**

My mother and my father met and were married in Russell City. My grand-parents on my father's side of the family and my great grand-parents on my mother's side of the family both owned homes and property in Russell City. My sister and I lived with our parents in Russell City until they were forced to re-locate to the city of Oakland in 1963.

### **What is your background? What meaningful value or expertise can you bring to the committee?**

I am former resident and descendant of Russell City. I have provided leadership and management expertise for over 25 years to health care delivery, medical device and pharmaceutical companies, including startups, industry leaders and government institutions. I am a proven leader mentoring and managing strategic, analytical and operational teams. I have built organizations from scratch, inherited and turned around dysfunctional teams, and transformed organizations into examples of what best in class looks like and that customers rave about.

### **Do you have any additional or unique qualifications you would like to share? If so, please list them below.**

I have served on the Board of Directors for the East Oakland Community Development Corporation (building affordable and Sr. Living housing Developments).

I have served as Director of Policy and Planning for the SF. Department of Public Health (and lead the environmental impact study evaluating the cancer incidence rate and the prevalence of Asthma in the Bayview-Hunter's Point community)

I am one of the founding members, and former Political Action Director of the National Action Network in Oakland California. I also currently serve as an Associate Pastor at Beebe Memorial Cathedral.



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I am a life-time member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

### **Tell us about your experience working in a team or community-based process.**

One example that I can point to, highlights my experience in working in a team or community-based process, was as member of the Hospital Administrative Team (where I served as the Hospital's Chief Financial Officer and Director of Operations). Today that hospital is the only remaining hospital in the city of Richmond California.

Corporate and Regional Headquarters were inclined to close down it's hospital operations in Richmond community based solely on the limited ROI providing services in that community would deliver to our bottom line.

Our administrative team worked closely with Richmond's city leaders (Mayor & City Council) to build a compelling case that demonstrated how building a new medical center on Nevin Avenue could serve as the city's hub for new commercial enterprises, create a revitalized enterprise zone for their Iron Triangle community, and also grow both membership and revenues for our organizations Richmond service area for.

That hospital today stands as a living testament of how our hospital administrative, work closely with community leaders to benefit all of the residents of that community and not just the members of our health care organization that happen to live in Richmond community.

### **What is your purpose for being here? As a member of the committee, what do you want to achieve? At the end of the day, what would you want to see happen and what are you willing to do to get us there?**

My purpose for wanting to serve on this committee is to do just that, to serve.

I am willing to put forth all the necessary time and effort that will be required to insure that restorative justice for the former residents and descendants of Russell City can be achieved by giving all government agencies (City, County, State and Federal) as well as all participating representatives of the real estate and banking industries, the opportunity, and a safe space to take responsibility for,

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and identify meaningful ways to make amends for their role that each of these institutions may have played in the mass displacement and dislocation of all the former residents of Russell City and their descendants.

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