

# CVPPAC- County Candidate Questionnaire

On behalf of the Central Valley Progressive Political Action Committee, I want to thank you for running for local office. Our democracy requires the dedication of individuals willing to devote their time, money, and energy to serving as elected officials. The CVPPAC promotes voter awareness of candidates and supports candidates for local office that our members believe will make the best difference in the quality of life for all residents in our community.

The CVPPAC will hold its members-only endorsement meeting on Saturday, February 14th, 2026, at 3:30 PM. If you want to be considered for endorsement by the CVPPAC, you will need to complete this candidate questionnaire no later than **11:59 p.m. on Friday, January 30th, 2026**. You will receive an email confirmation of receipt of your completed questionnaire.

The responses will be posted on our website at [www.cvppac.org](http://www.cvppac.org) and will be made available to our members.

If you want the CVPPAC to consider you for endorsement, please complete the candidate questionnaire in its entirety. Candidates endorsed by the members of the CVPPAC will be publicized in the Community Alliance Newspaper, several local list-serves, and to the local news media. Members and others are urged to volunteer for our endorsed candidates and to contribute financially to the candidates. The CVPPAC also provides direct financial support to some of our endorsed candidates.

If you have any questions, or need any additional information, please feel free to e-mail or call me.

Thank you,

Simone Cranston-Rhodes

President of Central Valley Progressive PAC

centralvalleyprogressivePAC@gmail.com

(559) 978-4504

Name \*

Maria Pacheco

Elected Position \*

Fresno County Board of Supervisors

Name of Campaign Committee \*

Pacheco for Fresno County Supervisor, District 1, 2026

FPPC # \*

1485913

Address including City, State, and Zip \*

7081 N Marks Ave, ste 104 PMB 195, Fresno, CA 93711

Email \*

mariapachecoforsupervisor@gmail.com

Website \*

Pachecofresno.com

Candidate Phone Number \*

5592132151

Treasurer

Shabreena Bains

Campaign Manager

Matthew Gillian

Campaign Manager Phone Number

1 (559) 360-1208

CVPPAC Core Values

Please answer all questions.

Climate change is an environmental crisis that must be addressed by decreasing our dependence on fossil fuels and increasing solar, wind and other alternative energy sources. \*

Yes

No

Should the government enact and/or support increased corporate taxes, increased income taxes on wealthy individuals, taxes on global wealth, and commercial property taxes based on market values to fund services such as childcare, public education, and public health? \*

Yes

No

I believe in a woman's right to reproductive freedom and will do what is in my power to keep abortion affordable and legal. \*

Yes

No

I believe that diversity, equity, inclusion, and access are important principles and will work to ensure all people's rights are protected and everyone can thrive in a democratic society regardless of citizenship status. \*

Yes

No

Would you be willing to attend (or provide proof of attendance) an anti-sexual harassment training? \*

Yes

No

### County Candidate Questions

*Please limit your responses to no more than 200 words per question.*

What are your top three priorities to address when elected to your desired seat and what makes those priorities progressive? \*

#### Housing Stability and Economic Security

My top priority is ensuring families can afford to live in the communities they work in. That means increasing affordable housing supply, supporting first-time homeownership and ADU programs, and protecting renters from displacement. This is progressive because stable housing is foundational to economic mobility, public health, and educational success, and policy must center working families rather than speculative interests.

#### Accessible Transportation and Regional Mobility

Reliable transportation is access to opportunity. I will continue prioritizing investments in public and regional transit that connect rural and underserved communities to jobs, education, and essential services. This work is progressive because transportation equity reduces economic isolation, supports climate goals, and ensures that low-income families, seniors, and students are not left behind due to lack of mobility.

#### Community-Centered Public Safety and Immigrant Inclusion

Public safety must be rooted in trust, dignity, and prevention. I support approaches that invest in mental health, youth opportunity, and community-based services while ensuring local government does not contribute to fear or family separation. This is progressive because communities are safer when immigrant families feel secure accessing schools, healthcare, and public services without fear of criminalization or exclusion.

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Tell us about your positions on the environmental problems facing Fresno County. For example, what actions should the Board of Supervisors take to be more proactive in addressing air-quality and water issues in the Central Valley? Do you support “fracking” regulations or a ban on “fracking” in Fresno County? Etc. \*

Environmental justice is a major issue in Fresno County because poor air and water quality directly impact public health, especially in rural and farmworker communities. The Board of Supervisors should be more proactive by reducing pollution through clean transportation investments, stronger oversight of industrial impacts, and coordinated land-use planning that lowers emissions.

On water, the County must prioritize safe drinking water by supporting infrastructure upgrades, consolidating failing systems, and advocating for state and federal funding that centers public health over short-term extraction.

I support strong fracking regulations and would support a ban in Fresno County. The risks to groundwater, air quality, and community health are too high, and we should be moving toward clean energy solutions that protect people and create sustainable jobs.

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What can be done to improve accessible and affordable public transportation throughout the county? \*

Accessible and affordable transportation starts with treating transit as essential infrastructure, not a luxury. As mayor, I helped launch and expand transit options connecting rural communities to education, and I am currently working on additional transportation projects, including improved access at Fresno State and a potential pilot program connecting families to the Fresno Chaffee Zoo. At the county level, we can scale these efforts by coordinating regional transit, investing in clean and reliable service, and prioritizing routes that serve students, workers, seniors, and families who rely on transit every day.

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How should the county address the needs of the homeless community? \*

The county should address homelessness with a housing-first approach paired with services. That means expanding temporary and permanent housing options, investing in mental health and substance use support, and coordinating across cities, nonprofits, and healthcare providers so people are not cycling through crisis. The county's role is to fund, convene, and remove barriers so solutions are practical, humane, and focused on long-term stability, not just emergency response.

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Should a worker be able to afford the cost of living for their family in the community in which they work with one full-time job? \*

Absolutely!!!

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Describe how county supervisors should work with the cities in the county to improve quality of life for all. \*

So many ways. When counties and cities work together, real progress happens. In my experience as mayor, strong collaboration has created meaningful partnerships where we support each other, align resources, and avoid working in silos. That cooperation has built trust and led to better outcomes for residents. County supervisors should continue this approach by treating cities as true partners, listening to local needs, coordinating funding and services, and investing in projects that improve quality of life across the region. I want to continue building that collaborative model so solutions are shared, efficient, and centered on the people we all serve.

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Candidate Signature

Thank you so much for your time and energy in completing this questionnaire. Your responses will be posted on the CVPPAC website and distributed to CVPPAC members. All completed questionnaire responses are to be submitted to CVPPAC at by **11:59 pm Friday, July 18th (without exception)**. All candidates who are being considered for endorsement are encouraged to attend and speak.

### **CVPPAC August Endorsement Meeting**

**Saturday, August 9th at 2 PM**

Pete and Carmen Salsa Studio  
4774 N Blackstone Ave  
Fresno, CA 93726

Please feel free to contact Simone Cranston-Rhodes, CVPPAC President at 559-978-4504 or [centralvalleyprogressivePAC@gmail.com](mailto:centralvalleyprogressivePAC@gmail.com) with your questions.

Candidate's permission to post responses on CVPPAC's website for members to view. \*



The candidate gives permission to post

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