



## **NEWS RELEASE**

FROM SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **International Special Review District Board announces candidates for annual election**

**SEATTLE** (October 27, 2017) – The 2017 [International Special Review District \(ISRD\)](#) Board election will be held on Tuesday, November 21, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Bush Asia Hotel (409 Maynard Avenue South) in the plaza-level meeting room. Community members who are registered for this [election](#) are encouraged to vote.

Three board positions are up for election:

- Position #1 for a Business Owner, Property Owner or Employee
- Position #2 for an Resident, Tenant or Community Participant
- Position #4 for an Resident, Tenant or Community Participant

Nominations closed on Tuesday, October 24 and four candidates were nominated. Candidate information is provided below, and brief candidate biographies will be available at the polling place on the day of the election.

Two candidates are seeking Position #1 for a Business Owner, Property Owner or Employee

David Leong is a business owner and kung fu and lion dance instructor with a 40+ year history in the neighborhood. He was the Greater Seattle Chinese Chamber of Commerce President in 2016 and helped start the New Chinese American Chamber of Commerce.

Kevin Man is an employee of a development company based in the Chinatown International District. He is of Chinese descent and has lived in the Puget Sound region for over 30 years. He is interested in bringing his financial and accounting background to the work of the Board and supporting the Asian culture of the Chinatown International District.

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One candidate is seeking Position #2 for Resident, Tenant or Community Participant

Russ Williams works for a general contracting firm, based out of Little Saigon. He believes that preservation is beneficial for preserving a community's culture, as well as its local economy, and that historic buildings help to maintain a sense of permanency and heritage for the Chinatown International District.

One candidate is seeking Position #4 for Resident, Tenant or Community Participant

Tom Cheng is a member of the Bing Kung Family Association and an honorary advisor to the Chong Wa Benevolent Association board. He owned and operated a business in the neighborhood for over 25 years. He previously served on the ISRD Board in 2004-2005.

The special character of the Chinatown International District is recognized and protected by City Ordinance. In 1973, the International Special Review District Board was created to preserve, protect, and enhance the cultural, economic, and historical qualities of the District. The Board is made up of seven members - five elected by the Chinatown International District community and two appointed by the Mayor. Board members' terms are for two years, and members may serve up to two consecutive terms. To learn more about the election and the International Special Review District, please visit [seattle.gov/neighborhoods/preservation/id.htm/](http://seattle.gov/neighborhoods/preservation/id.htm/).

The current board members are Eliza Chan, Stephanie Hsie (Vice-Chair), Sergio Legon-Talamoni, Carol Leong, Tiernan Martin (Chair), Herman Setijono, and Valerie Tran. The term for Ms. Leong ends in November 2017.

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*The International Special Review District is coordinated by the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods [Historic Preservation Program](#).*