



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 21, 2022) – The [International Special Review District \(ISRD\)](#) Board is hosting its annual election of board members. The election will be held by mail-in ballot only. There will be no in-person voting this year. Physical ballots must be received by the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods on Tuesday, November 15, 2022. Community members who are registered for this [election](#) will receive a ballot and self-addressed stamped envelope by mail. Voters are encouraged to return their ballots early to make sure they are received by the November 15 deadline.

Two board positions are up for election:

- Position #3 for a Business Owner, Property Owner or Employee
- Position #5 for At-Large

Nominations closed on Tuesday, October 18 and five candidates were nominated. Candidate information is provided below, and brief candidate biographies will be mailed with the ballots.

Three candidates are seeking Position #3 for a Business Owner, Property Owner, or Employee

Michael Le owns multiple businesses within the Chinatown International District (CID). He chose to locate his businesses in the neighborhood to support the community and sense of belonging. Issues of safety and displacement are important to him. He wants to make sure that the neighborhood's history is not forgotten. He is currently serving his first term on the Board.

Tanya Woo grew up in the CID community. She and her family are part of the Louisa Hotel ownership group. She was involved with the rehabilitation of the building and the preservation of the historic jazz murals. She is active in the community, volunteering for

several organizations, including the CID Community Watch. She is a current member of the King County Landmarks Commission. She wants to serve on the Board to help preserve the CID's cultural legacy, while also being mindful about how the built environment is used today and how decision-making impacts the future of the neighborhood.

Chuo-Han (Hugo) Yang works in the neighborhood. He has two years of residential project development experience and more than five years of real estate development experience with a civil engineer background. He believes his experience will benefit the Board and help the CID to thrive.

Two candidates are seeking Position #5 for At-Large

Jane Gei Chan is a long-time advocate for the CID who has been active with issues that impact the neighborhood, including Sound Transit station planning and the proposed SODO shelter. She is a Cantonese-speaker who understands what residents and businesses face. She is a supporter of the Wing Luke Asian Museum and has participated in the CID night patrols. She would like to serve on the Board to help make sure the neighborhood remains vibrant and to preserve the deep historical roots of the Asian American community.

Nella Kwan has been active with the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce since 2013. She has helped host and serve as master of ceremonies for community events and family associations. She is a board member of Kin On, a representative for Seafair, and member of the Seattle Center's Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month. She considers the CID her second home and wishes to continue to apply her knowledge, understanding of the community, and unbiased insight and perspectives to her work with the ISRD Board. She speaks Mandarin and Cantonese. She is currently serving her first term on the Board.

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 member terms are 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/.

The current board members are Lizzy Baskerville (Vice-Chair), Ryan Gilbert, Nella Kwan, Adrian Lam, Michael Le, Andy Yip (Chair) and Ming Zhang. Ms. Kwan and Mr. Le's terms will end on November 30, 2022. Since an election could not be held in 2020, candidates elected to Positions #3 and #5 in 2021 are serving only a one-year term to retain staggered term limits.

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

