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Chan is best pick for Dist. 9 post

[Express-News editorial-](#)

Three candidates are vying for the District 9 City Council seat being vacated by Louis Rowe, who was appointed and is not seeking election.

Elisa Chan is unequivocally the best choice in this contest.

The 42-year-old Chan runs a successful engineering design firm with her husband.

Chan's professional and public service activities demonstrate that she is likely to be an aggressive, effective member of City Council.

A former member of the city's Planning Commission, Chan has pushed for economic development and to address the city's transportation needs.

She touts a conservative philosophy that is a good match for the North Side district.

Chan's foes, Weston Martinez and William Davidson, are advancing claims that she has too many conflicts of interest to serve on the council.

Her firm, Unitech Consulting Engineers, has two prime contracts for work on bridges and 18 subcontracts on city projects, the Express-News reported.

The newspaper noted that the projects are part of a 2007 bond issue.

Chan's firm will not be able to seek new city contracts if she is elected, and if the scope changes in one of her contracts she will have to walk away from the work.

The contracts involve engineering and not policy, Chan has accurately noted.

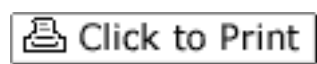
The situation would not inhibit Chan's ability to vote on big issues facing the council.

Chan's qualifications and history of civic activities make her the best candidate by far in District 9 this year.

Coming Sunday, the mayoral race.

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