BWA: What transportation choices do you personally make in order to reduce your carbon footprint?

City Council Candidates:
Stewart Chen:
I used to own a Zip Car which was 100% electric until it broke down.

John Knox White:
All of the above. Like most people, how I get from A to B changes depending on my travel needs. In making that decision, I consider the impact to my immediate community, my neighborhood and my fellow Alamedans. I also consider the impact on the environment and my physical and mental well-being.

To this end, I walk and bicycle for most trips within Alameda. As most people do, I drive to the grocery store and when it rains and when I’m exhausted from a long day. As a driver, I drive a plug-in electric hybrid, which generally means that I’m driving electric around town but have gas power for longer trips, like visiting my kids in college. Additionally, when I go out, I try to chain trips together to reduce the amount of driving I need to do.

My daily commute is typically a walk to the bus to San Francisco and back. Sometimes, I bike to BART, especially if I’m going to work late or need to be home quickly. A benefit to this is that riding the bus gives me a great personal understanding of the traffic issues in the commute hours. I sit in it along with everyone else, and it stinks. If I’m elected, you’ll have a city councilmember who knows key AC Transit routes by memory and understands what commuting out of the city each day during rush hour is like.

Robert Matz:
I live on Shoreline and walk to my office, which is right down the street from Alameda Bicycle. My family used the trade up program from my son’s first bike to a motocross bike, and then to a Mountain Bike. By the way, the cutest thing is watching as kids test drive bikes down Webb Avenue right by my office; sometimes when I’m on my balcony, I see the kids pedaling down the sidewalk with parents running at their side to keep them corralled in. Very Alameda.

Jim Oddie:
I carpool whenever possible. Also take BART whenever possible while travelling to San Francisco. I’ve taken the ferry in the past when I worked in San Francisco. Also walk to/from places close to home, such as Southshore.