

SFLCV November 2020 Election Board of Supervisors Questionnaire

Thank you for participating in San Francisco League of Conservation Voters' endorsement process. Please limit answers to the below questions to 2-3 paragraphs at most (250 words). We are accepting responses until June 24, 2020.

Please enter your contact info here (Name, District, Campaign contact, Phone, Email, FPPC#) *

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1. Affordable Housing: What are your top priorities around supporting infill development within your district and throughout the City? How will you respond to pushback from your constituents regarding height, density and affordability? What have you done to advance housing initiatives in your district, neighborhood, SF? *

As Supervisor, I served on the Association of Bay Area Governments from 2009 to 2012 and on the Bay Area Air Quality Management District from 2010 to 2017 where I developed a regional perspective on housing allocation, transit oriented development, and infill development. I saw that the southern part of San Francisco around Balboa Park Station has capacity for thousands of units of infill housing. In D11, there is a large constituency that is interested in density done right, asserting that increased density should be converted into a greater commitment for affordability. With that in mind, I worked with the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development to support participatory action research projects to enlarge the constituency interested in increased density and affordable housing.

We worked for the 8 years I was in office to build public support for affordable housing, culminating in the 2015 housing bond that enabled two 100% affordable housing projects at the Balboa Park Station and along the Mission transit lines in D11. As Supervisor, I will continue to champion community leadership development efforts to increase affordable housing

2. Walkable and Bikeable Streets: What are your top priorities for better and safer streets for pedestrians and bicyclists? How do you intend to advance those priorities if elected? How will you work with constituents who are opposed to bike/ped infrastructure improvements in your district (such as traffic calming, bike lanes, and bike share docking stations)? What have you done to champion these efforts up to now? *

There's no better way to move around and enjoy the City than walking and cycling. I have walked the City from the day I arrived in SF -- January 31, 1989. I have been a bike commuter in SF since April of 1992. I was Chair of the Transportation Authority and assisted Supervisors Jane Kim and Norman Yee in authoring Vision Zero in 2014. I sponsored the Neighborhood Transportation Improvement Program to enable local input on transit improvement, traffic calming, pedestrian safety, and cycling. I firmly believe that change is done right when local residents have a say in policymaking. To that end, I toured D11 Streets with residents and the SF Bike Coalition to assess our streets from the perspective of cyclists, looked for sites that would be ideal for expanding the City-wide bike network into D11 and worked to problem solve street design problem areas of MUNI tracks, mysteriously disappearing arrows, and lanes that merge into one without protection for cyclists. I passed legislation to donate unclaimed impounded bikes for community bike builds for local youth to be build a constituency around cycling, funded the regional bike share program through the Air District, and opened up commercial buildings to store the bikes of bike commuters. I partnered with WalkSF and the Bike Coalition on pedestrian safety for SFUSD students in D11 and worked on the TA to prioritize pedestrian safety infrastructure like signal countdowns and longer counts throughout the city and D11.

I will continue to champion pedestrian safety and cycling safety as well as biking awareness and conscientious cycling to prioritize the safety of pedestrians first and foremost.

3. Reliable, Fossil Free Public Transit: What are your top priorities for improving local and regional transit? How would you advance your priorities if elected? What have you done to improve transit operations, access to transit, passenger experience, etc.? *

As Supervisor and TA member and Chair, I participated in the T2030 program that for the first time in decades truly looked to lay the ground work for the future of transit in the City. As TA Chair and Supervisor, I made major improvements to Balboa Park Station in ped safety, NextMuni, wayfinding, and authored a study on the M-Line disembarkation at Balboa Park Station. The station still has a ways to go and I support major changes to the maintenance and operations yards there to better favor riders and pedestrians. As Supervisor, I worked to extend the 14L bus to Daly City Bart and fought for better pedestrian and cycling safety throughout D11. In 2014, I worked with the TA to procure the first new fleets of new Muni buses and passed on the legislation to purchase new vehicles to allow for greater support on the BoS for upgrading our fleet. As the future Supervisor of District 11, I will continue to champion public transit over automobiles as well as harmony between pedestrians and cycling for the better safety of all.

4. Green Energy Policy: What are your top priorities for improving energy conservation, household efficiency and renewable power, and how would you advance these efforts? What have you done to promote energy conservation in these areas? Are you, personally, a CleanPowerSF SuperGreen customer? *

I was one of CleanPowerSF's biggest proponents and I am a SuperGreen customer. In 2014, when the SF Public Utilities Commission had eliminated funding for CPSF, I led the effort to reject the entire PUC budget. The PUC had to go back to the drawing board to remake and submit a new budget with CPSF inked back. This bold effort ensured that SFPUC could only go forward and implement the program. As Supervisor, citing the finite carbon budget, I sponsored legislation to call upon the SF Employees Retirement System Board to divest from fossil fuel corporations and spent all the years since fighting the SFERS to do so. I served on the Bay Area Air Management District to fight for a 10 Point Climate Action Plan. As an air district member, I supported countless efforts to decrease Bay Area Industries carbon and toxic air imprint and pushed the Air District to impose caps on refinery gas production. My last month on the Board of Supervisor, I passed the Keep it in the Ground Act to ensure that City and County land in Kern and Fresno County would no longer be used for fossil fuel extraction. My environmental goals have only expanded since then and as Supervisor of D11 I will fight for lowering carbon emissions as well as to shore up efforts to protect inhabitants from sea level rise.

5. Water Sustainability & Conservation: What are your priorities for improving the sustainability of San Francisco's drinking and wastewater systems? If elected, what steps will you take to enhance the City's water resiliency and reduce its reliance on imported water? What have you done to promote conservation in this area? *

As Supervisor, I had the privilege to oversee the rebuild of the Water System Improvement Program that rebuilt the water storage and delivery system from Hetch Hetchy to our faucets. I toured the system on numerous occasions, monitored the construction and development and fought to make sure the various projects came in on time and on budget. I have fought for greater water accessibility to make water available in our parks and open spaces. In 2009, I moved the Auxiliary Water System from the Fire Department Control to the SF PUC whose primary mission is water conservation and conveyance. I have worked in the D11 community and with the Recreation and Parks Department on water conservation and recovery and sponsored community gardens and community farms built around local sources of groundwater, like Hummingbird Farm in Crocker Amazon Park. I held hearings on City departments which used the largest amount of water on how they could conserve and recycle water for greater conservation.

6. Zero Waste: How can the city advance its Zero Waste goals in light of the temporary (we hope) move to suspend programs such as the required fee for grocery store bags that previously incentivized customers to reuse bags and containers, or purchase foodstuffs from bulk-stocked bins? What are your thoughts around recent legislation to reduce waste and what more can we do? How will you make it happen? What have you done to promote zero waste? *

In 2013 and 2014, I held hearings on San Francisco's Climate Action Plan to see how the City was truly measuring up to our goals around zero waste and carbon production. We found that the Mayor's Office at the time, had directed the Dept of the Environment to play around with the data and exaggerated and made magic math on what truly represented zero waste and carbon emissions. We exposed the City for shirking its responsibility on its Climate Action Goals. As Supervisor, I will continue to support legislation to reduce waste. I will work with the scientific community on putting forward true metrics on zero waste and carbon emissions so that the City will have no room to make up its own data set to dupe the public.

7. Your Environmental Vision: Why should the San Francisco League of Conservation Voters endorse you? How will protecting the environment shape your agenda given the potential for ongoing pandemic conditions? How will you continue the efforts and gains despite significant economic hardship? *

I am an environmentalist with Marxist and deep ecology perspectives. I believe that we need deep, systemic changes to secure the future of society. The climate catastrophe of which the novel coronavirus is a product exposes the stark reality of our current situation -- we cannot simultaneously pursue profit and economic growth and expect a sustainable future free of ecological collapse and climate catastrophe.

The pandemic shows us that the environment is a public health issue and the best way to promote an egalitarian and just society is to create access for all to the essentials of life -- protection from climate change, housing, healthcare, mental healthcare, education, and recreation. I have worked with the League of Conservation Voters in the past when I served on the BoS and the Air District and will seek the SFLCV's input in my work as Supervisor if I serve on the BoS again.



San Francisco League of Conservation Voters

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