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NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
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**Candidate Questionnaire
for the office of San Francisco Supervisor, District 10**

General Election, November 6, 2018

Please return this questionnaire electronically to president@potreroboosters.org **no later than noon, Monday, July 16, 2018**. This questionnaire will be available online, and will be evaluated to determine which candidates shall be invited to participate in the August 28 debate.

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Please write a brief response (of approximately 200 words or less) to each question.

1. What are the top three issues facing San Francisco? What will you do about those issues?

Homelessness: This City's officials must recognize it is our job to fix the homelessness crisis and increase resources for strategically creating transitional and permanent housing for our homeless population. In the short-term, this includes creating more Navigation Centers with pathways to permanent housing and utilizing abandoned buildings to house and provide supportive services. In the long-term, this will involve building additional affordable housing, using some of our public land to build affordable projects or supportive housing, increasing the City's mental health and addiction treatment services, and ending the practice of releasing non-violent, mentally ill and/or addicted individuals from jail directly back to the street.

Affordability: Long time residents are being pushed out to inland cities and jobs are not being created for our middle-class or low-income populations. As Supervisor, I will work with businesses across all sectors in San Francisco to include mandatory local hiring policies and job training programs for local residents. I will push developers to include a higher percentage of affordable units in their developments and work with small property owners to legalize accessory dwelling units so that we can maximize our affordable housing supply. I will also create pathways for young people to connect to jobs that provide living wages, benefits and career development so that they can continue to afford to live in San Francisco.

Outdated and Lack of Public Infrastructure: Our City's public infrastructure, including public transportation and schools, has not kept up with our dramatic population growth. As Supervisor,

I will continue to work directly with the leadership of SFMTA to bring reliable and accessible transportation to residents, including implementing rapid bus lines and creating efficient connections from east to west San Francisco neighborhoods. I will also continue to bring quality public schools into our neighborhoods (as President of the Board of Education, I implemented plans to build a new school in Mission Bay).

2. What are the top three issues facing District 10? What will you do about those issues?

The Environment: District 10 has the most low-income and working class residents in the City and is disproportionately affected by pollution and environmental injustices. Environmental issues in this area are civil rights issues, and I have an unwavering dedication to addressing this reality. It would be my priority to make sure the Navy and Tetra Tech are held accountable, pay for a complete and immediate clean-up of the Shipyard, retesting of existing housing built on the Shipyard, and provide adequate healthcare for our impacted residents.

Transportation: As Supervisor, I will ensure that developers comply with the Transportation Sustainability Fee by paying for their impacts on SF's urban ecosystem. This would include investing in fossil-free public transportation. If developers want to build here, they need to work with our existing residents by demonstrating this minimal level of care and concern for the health of the City instead of just being concerned with their profits.

Affordability/Open Space: As Supervisor, I plan to build thousands of new affordable housing units for all income levels. I also believe that zoning should remain in the hands of the local leadership and community because we are the ones affected by the impacts of developments. There is a balance that can and must be struck between maintaining open spaces and implementing creative solutions like increasing height limits for affordable housing projects near transit hubs. If we want to solve the housing crisis, we must work towards achieving this balance rather than simply stake out positions on either side of these issues.

3. How are you qualified to serve as District 10's Supervisor?

As a native of District 10 who lived in public housing in both Bayview and Potrero Hill at a young age, this election is personal for me. I want to make sure that District 10 and San Francisco thrive and provide opportunities for indigenous populations while also providing economic opportunities through growth. With two decades of experience working with the Potrero Hill community and building coalitions across different backgrounds and ideologies, I have proven that I am ready to hit the ground running on day one.

As the former Director of the Potrero Hill Family Resource Center, I focused on increasing resources for families in public housing, bringing together the home-owner and public housing community and improving education in public schools. I currently lead the Young Community Developers (YCD) -- a non-profit in Bayview-Hunters Point -- which focuses on job training, career placement, affordable housing development, and anti-displacement services. Under my leadership, we increased YCD's annual budget by more than \$9 million dollars and used those funds to better the lives of thousands of residents.

As President of the San Francisco Board of Education, I spearheaded the effort to close the achievement gap for Black, Latino, English Learners and children with special needs. I worked to protect undocumented students, ensured that our transgender students maintained their rights and protections, made sure our school system employed top quality teachers, and pushed for more affordable housing for our educators. That is why I am supported by United Educators

of San Francisco, 7 out of 11 San Francisco Supervisors, all my colleagues on the Board of Education and elected leaders from progressive to moderates including Senator Scott Wiener and Supervisor Hillary Ronen because they know I am the most qualified to represent and serve the needs of District 10 residents.

4. How do you define affordable housing in San Francisco? How would you address SF's current housing affordability crisis?

To me, "affordable housing" means residents are not spending over a third or more of their income towards rent. Rental prices are astronomical in San Francisco compared to the rest of our country, with prices reaching \$3,500-4000 per month on average. This is a crisis that is causing seniors, low-income families, and working class people to be forced out of San Francisco. That is why so many residents have multiple roommates, live with family in multigenerational households, or in the worst cases, stay in abusive relationships for housing. San Franciscans deserve better -- this is not the reality that we should be accepting.

As a renter myself, I understand the plight of this City's tenants. Building more affordable housing needs to be prioritized, and, as Supervisor, I plan to build thousands of new affordable units for all income levels. I also believe we must preserve our existing rent-controlled units and create legislation that expands rent control. Lastly, I support the idea of municipally owned or controlled housing. San Francisco owns various public lots that have the potential to be developed and converted into affordable and below market rate opportunities for families. We should utilize our public land to build affordable projects such as teacher housing through public-private partnerships with nonprofit developers.

As Executive Director of Young Community Developers, I negotiated and built 100% affordable housing while holding developers responsible for community benefit packages that support walkability, mixed-use, and environmental concerns. As Supervisor, I will use this experience to ensure that the communities surrounding proposed developments are consulted in development negotiations, have a chance to have requests included and/or concerns heard, and that the developers are then held accountable.

5. What investments in infrastructure are needed for the City to accommodate future growth?

It is critical that San Francisco's roads, transit system, and other vital infrastructure expand as housing units are added. It does the City little good to grow our population without simultaneously making changes to accommodate those residents comfortably. This includes investing in more public and alternative transportation options so our roads are less congested, fixing our sidewalks and repaving some streets, building more schools, and increasing energy efficiency throughout the city so we can still reach the goals in our City's Climate Action Plan.

Additionally, our City needs to invest in building new public schools near rapid growth areas such as Mission Bay, Dogpatch, Potrero Hill, and India Basin. There has not been a new public school opened in any of these areas for decades. As President of the San Francisco Board of Education, I spearheaded the effort to fight for a school to be built in Mission Bay, which will also be in close proximity to our families in Potrero Hill. We were able to get the funding for the school through the passage of the facilities bond in 2016 and I am proud to announce that the district has hired a project manager to oversee the process and we are actively moving forward on building the school.

To improve energy efficiency and reduce our city's carbon footprint, we must invest in helping residents and businesses update existing buildings. San Francisco is full of beautiful, historic buildings with outdated heating and electrical systems. By providing subsidies to low-income residents and local property owners for energy and waste management improvements, we can both be equitable and stay on track with our environmental goals.

6. What specific investments in infrastructure are needed to accommodate D10's future growth?

Public transportation is severely lacking or nonexistent in many parts of D10, and, as previously mentioned, we do not have enough public schools. As Supervisor, I will continue to work directly with the leadership of SFMTA to bring reliable and accessible transportation to District 10 residents, including implementing rapid bus lines, creating efficient connections from east to west neighborhoods, expanding the T-Line, and eliminating the practice of switch-backs. As president of the Board of Education I was proud to oversee the completion of the new public school in Mission Bay, and, as Supervisor, I will continue this work by bringing more quality public schools into our neighborhoods.

We need to put more focus on improving pavement conditions, street lighting, and bike safety in neighborhoods that are underserved by public transit. I have collaborated with the SF Bike Coalition to bring safer bike routes to District 10 in the past and would be interested in expanding this work with them as Supervisor. Vision Zero and SFMTA have plans to expand the bike-share area and traffic calming measures into District 10, but this must be accompanied with street surface improvements to keep the additional bikers and pedestrians it creates safe.

In order to accommodate growth in D10, we also need to address our environmental issues. As the home of the vast majority of the City's production, distribution, and repair facilities, we carry the brunt of San Francisco's pollution. As Supervisor, I will make sure the Navy and Tetra Tech pay for a complete and immediate clean-up of the Shipyard before additional development or infrastructure is built, that they provide adequate healthcare for our residents living on or near the Shipyard, and require that new developments are built with greater sustainability and environmental goals in mind.

7. What policies can you implement as Supervisor to better support families living in the City?

It is far too hard to make a life and raise a family in San Francisco right now. People of all races, socioeconomic levels, and in every neighborhood are being priced out of their homes and communities. I believe developers have the responsibility to increase their affordability levels to at least 25% based on San Francisco voters who passed proposition C in 2016. In addition, I believe that we need affordable housing to start at 40% of AMI in certain communities. Lastly, San Francisco owns various public lots that have the potential to be developed and converted into affordable and below market rate opportunities for families.

Supporting families living in the City has been my life's work. As the former Director of the Potrero Hill Family Resource Center, I focused on increasing resources for families in public housing and improving education in public schools. I currently lead the Young Community Developers (YCD) -- a non-profit in Bayview-Hunters Point -- which focuses on job training, career placement, affordable housing development, and anti-displacement services. As

President of the San Francisco Board of Education, I spearheaded the effort to close the achievement gap for Black, Latino, and special needs students and to protect undocumented students. All of this experience will directly inform the way I work with the other members of the Board of Supervisors to allocate San Francisco's vast annual budget to support our city's families.

In addition, as an advocate for Prop C and someone who has worked to improve the lives of families for decades, I will work to make sure that Prop C's implementation--to bring quality childcare to all San Francisco residents--is prioritize and that there is a plan in place to increase childcare supply immediately.

8. What is the first piece of legislation you plan to introduce as Supervisor in 2019?

The first legislation I plan to introduce as Supervisor is a Local Mandatory Hiring policy that requires all sectors of employment, not just in construction, to hire from existing San Francisco communities and neighborhoods. The policy would start out with a 25% requirement, with the ability to be adjusted upwards based on results as well as the needs of both the community and the particular company or industry.

We have seen success with the local mandatory hiring policy in construction in the areas of providing opportunities for local residents by keeping them employed within their own communities, helping them to afford to stay in San Francisco and providing a quality workforce for employers working with community and businesses.

9. Have you qualified or are you planning to qualify for SF's partial public financing program? Why or why not?

I qualified for the Public Financing program in mid-June.

Participating in San Francisco's public financing program is a no-brainer for anyone concerned with the influence of money in politics and government. When applying, all candidates must agree to an overall campaign spending cap, and this cap can only be raised in proportion to the amount of money spent by their campaign opponents and any independent expenditures that are campaigning against them. While not perfect, these rules ensure greater equity during the campaign and election process so candidates win based on their qualifications and positions on issues rather than the amount of money they can raise. When I am elected Supervisor, I want it to be because we worked hard and the residents of District 10 agree with our message.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to public service.