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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?

1. Affordable Housing

San Francisco is in a severe housing crisis. It's imperative that we continue to build housing to accommodate all income levels without negatively affecting the character of our community. We are seeing displacement occur at record levels. Specifically, increased income inequality and a continuing out-migration of working class families right here in District 10 is putting our values at risk. When we talk about affordable housing we must also address proximity to transit, open space, investment in social capital, and other quality of life issues. As Supervisor, I will prioritize building housing along Third St. and other transit corridors, maximizing opportunities within public housing (and other public land) to build more affordable housing, and ensuring that developers build affordable housing units on-site.

2. Solving Homelessness

We must stop painting homelessness with one big brush. For folks who are down on their luck, a 30 day or 60 shelter can be an excellent the solution, but that's not the case for many other homeless people who battle drug addiction and mental illness. These cases require individualized attention. The homeless crisis is really several different crises, each variable must be addressed: chronically homeless, mentally ill, substance abuse, veterans, family homelessness, and displaced residents. As a city we're spending more than ever, yet the conditions aren't improving. For San Francisco to alleviate this problem we need executive-level priority from the Mayor's Office and coordination between the bureaucracy of city departments.

We cannot continue to police our way out of this crisis. In addition to the above, I would encourage the following approach:

- Work with community-based organizations to provide direct service and building more supportive housing across the city.
- Breaking the cycle by creating more pathways to employment programs, mental health programs, and other full wrap-around services to help people get back on their feet.
- Hold city departments and community based organizations accountable by identifying metrics and reallocating funds for better use.

We, as a city, have a moral obligation to solve this issue.

3. Safe and Clean Streets

According to the Dept. of Public Health and SF AIDS Foundation, they cleanup 275,000 used needles on the streets of San Francisco. Last year, over 30,000 car break-ins throughout our city while SFPD only arrested about 500 people as reported by the Chronicle. In both cases, these numbers are alarming to say the least. In order for us to address these issues we need: increase police officers walking the streets as a means to deter crime (not over police), interdepartmental coordination with DPW, Dept. of Public Health, and other Health Service Agency to direct people living on our streets to real services.

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

Affordable Housing, solving homelessness, clean and safe streets, just as above.

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

For the past decade, I've served and advocated for you. As the Director of Public Affairs for the Golden State Warriors, I did my best to hold arena developers accountable to the neighborhood. Because of us, residents will enjoy better transit, good-paying jobs, and increased tax revenue for city services. While Commissioner for the City's Office of Community Investment and Infrastructure I focused on funding affordable housing and overseeing neighborhood development projects. As Human Rights Commissioner, I fight against injustice and defend anti-discrimination policies for the most vulnerable in our community. As a volunteer, I help neighbors in need. I serve on the boards of the Chinatown Development Center, the Bayview Opera House, and Economic Development on Third.

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

When we talk about affordable housing it must include other aspects that involve living (proximity to transit, open space, investment in social capital, etc.). I define affordable housing as housing that is created to accommodate the need so people don't have to pay more than 20% of their income for rent. Too many people are being forced to live in less desirable conditions or make tough decisions like whether to buy food or pay for rent. This is not sustainable. We must address San Francisco's severe housing shortage by increasing our capacity. However, that supply must reflect the community who already live here. Neighborhood development must enhance the character and experience of our San Francisco communities, not erase it. Responsible, meaningful housing solutions are the only path forward for a better San Francisco.

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

As our city grows, we will need to significantly increase the amenities that we need to support our neighborhoods. Safer streets for our families. Better transportation options to relieve the frustrations of congestion and parking. Individualized relief for our homeless population. Cleaner streets, buses, and parks. Our kids shouldn't worry about stepping on needles when they play outside or walk down the street.

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

We first need to align our development goals with transit. As we build more, we must ensure the necessary investments in transportation reach our neighborhood. The T-Train is a basic functioning north/south connection for local travel, but it's in dire need of improvement. For regional connectivity, Caltrain service is in the beginning stages of electrification. Our District is seriously lacking adequate east/west connections. For Potrero Hill this means getting people to and from the hill in a safe and reliable manner. For other parts of the District this means connecting the neighborhoods to the rest of the city. We must also support our small businesses and retail corridors, upgrade our parks and open spaces, and attract a full-scale grocery store in every neighborhood.

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

We are currently amidst an urban crisis—growing inequality, falling middle class, and a mass exodus from urban centers causing economic and social segregation. Artists, nurses, teachers, firefighters, police officers, service workers, and other people in middle class professions are all affected by this crisis.

Short-term solutions: local government can use land-use controls to leverage necessary development to increase the supply of housing both locally and regionally. I would encourage more focus and significant investment in education, including universal preschool and career pipeline programs, and urge the private sector to invest in local neighborhood economies (preserving PDR and "Maker Spaces", innovations hubs, co-working spaces, and artist centers).

Long-term Solutions: we can return authority to redevelopment successor agencies; urge the state to streamline housing build out (similar to bill AB900 that streamlines stadiums), make deeper

investments in “trust funds”, and large infrastructure city sponsored investments (roads, schools, public transit, etc.).

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

For far too long the power players in City Hall have ignored the needs of our neighborhoods in District 10. I will introduce a resolution urging city departments to prioritize infrastructure investments like transit, sidewalk and street upgrades, water, power, school and parks by neighborhoods and areas experiencing growth. This means allocating more general fund dollars to the southeast side of the city, the area that needs it the most.

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

I have, because it's important to run a campaign that's based on meeting neighbors, not on cutting backroom deals for campaign donations.

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