

# District 5 Democratic Club Ballot Measure Endorsement Questionnaire Responses:

Respondents were asked to declare support or opposition for measures and then asked why the D5 Democratic Club should endorse their position.

## **Prop B:**

**Support:** Proposition B has near unanimous city-wide support and is critical to City College's future success. Each year, City College of San Francisco (CCSF) serves tens of thousands of students of all incomes, ages and ethnicities across the city. City College is there for everyone and San Franciscans need to renew the school's parcel tax this fall by voting YES on B so it can continue its mission.

This funding is crucial for teachers and students alike – ensuring that teachers earn the living wage they deserve and that students have access to the job training, language skills, strong academic classes, and programs they need.

Please join our broad coalition of support by saying YES on Proposition B!

## **Prop E:**

**Support:** All 11 SF Supervisors and the SF DCCC support this common sense measure that will ensure our city's trees are healthy and surrounding sidewalks are safe. The current policy forces expensive tree care on property owners -- no matter their ability to pay. Prop E fixes this problem by transferring all tree maintenance, liability and responsibility for fixing sidewalks surrounding tree back to the City where it belongs with a dedicated fund of \$19M per year. This will ensure that all neighborhoods will be able to enjoy the benefits of trees and SF can responsibly grow its urban forest.

## **Prop G:**

**Support:** In June 2016, over 80% of voters passed Proposition D. This mandated that the Office of Citizens Complaints (OCC) investigate ALL officer involved shootings.

Last year Supervisor Malia Cohen passed the first of its kind law enforcement data collection ordinance requiring quarterly reporting of certain demographic data as well as use-of- force statistics. In July, 2016 SFPD released a report detailing encounters where they used force on an individual. In a 4 month period it was found that, 648 out of 947 incidents of use-of- force involved an officer pointing a firearm at an individual.

President Obama's 21st Century Policing Task Force, the Police Executives Research Forum, the Blue Ribbon Panel and the ACLU have all found that strong external oversight of police departments is essential to evaluating the operational and policy effectiveness of a police department.

Proposition G transforms the OCC, a complaint driven office into, the Department of Police Accountability, a proactive department with stronger and independent oversight authority. This structural change proposes to increase oversight of the SFPD.

## **Prop I:**

**Support:** Prop. I, on the November ballot, creates a "Dignity Fund" that will protect services for seniors and adults with disabilities, including veterans, without raising taxes. Each year, the number of seniors, veterans, adults with disabilities and those with chronic and life threatening conditions like HIV and Alzheimer's continue to grow. Currently, 25% of San Franciscans are over 60 or living with a disability. That number is projected to grow to 30% by 2030. Without a stable funding source, services for our most vulnerable residents will continue to decline as the cost of living rises and the need for services increases among our aging population. Prop I guarantees \$38 million in funding for vital services, with a secure increase each year for the next 20 years to address the growing need. This measure also creates a special Oversight and Advisory Committee to increase accountability and transparency. It will develop a needs assessment, planning and allocation process, and ensure funds are spent equitably, responsibly, and where the needs are greatest. The Dignity Fund will help pay for programs and services that help people live and age well in the comfort, safety and familiarity of their own homes. This is better for our

communities and more cost-effective than institutionalized care. For more information, go to [www.SFDignityFund.org](http://www.SFDignityFund.org).

## **Prop O:**

**Support:** Yes on O is the next step in bringing Jobs, Affordable Homes and Parks to the abandoned Hunters Point Shipyard.

**Oppose:** This should be an issue that unites tenant advocates and anyone who has complained of cities (like the South Bay) of approving office space but having no plan to house those workers. Lennar Urban is asking for an exemption from 1986 Prop M which limits the amount of office space permitted annually. Prop M sought to ensure that the jobs/housing linkage does not get too out of balance with developers building more lucrative office buildings which then sit empty, but not building housing. Lennar's plan includes no new housing commitment or increased transit impact fees while asking to nearly double the office space. Lennar uses talking points which include counting units at the Alice Griffith Public housing project as part of their affordable housing requirement. However, these units were mandated to be rehabbed/replaced under the Redevelopment Agency long ago; Lennar holds the contract but these are not NEW units and they should not be counting them. They are also using old numbers and not accounting for the housing needs of more than DOUBLING office space when the project was approved in 2008.

We calculate an exemption of the office limits will leave a deficit of nearly 3,000 units of affordable units and more for those who can afford market rate prices.

Furthermore, an exemption from Prop M will mean that office developers elsewhere in the city will be freed from competing for the annual cap, leading to residential displacement. Tenants in the South of Market area will be particularly hard hit as that is where most office space goes.

Please reject this plan for its lack of sound housing policy.

## **Prop Q:**

**Support:** San Francisco has a homelessness crisis. One of the worst symptoms is the tent encampments spreading across our neighborhoods. The encampments are unsanitary and dangerous for the people who live in and around them. They have become a symbol of our failure to adequately help the poor and those suffering from addiction and mental illness.

Housing Not Tents - Prop Q will help move homeless San Franciscans out of tent

encampments and into supportive services, treatment and housing. The measure mandates that the City offer Homeward Bound transportation assistance back to loved ones, temporary shelter or permanent housing before removing an encampment.

## **Prop T:**

**Support:** Put on the ballot by unanimous vote of the SF Ethics Commission, this measure copies much of an existing state law banning lobbyists from contributing to those they lobby. It also bans lobbyists from bundling contributions or helping to fund travel or other gifts. It is widely endorsed, including by the SFDCCC (which voted 28-0 to endorse it) SF Republican Party, SF Green Party, Common Cause, both SF assemblymembers and state senator Mark Leno, a majority of supervisors and many community-based organizations such as SFWPC, Milk Club, Coalition of SF Neighborhoods. It responds to public cynicism of pay-to-play politics at City Hall. The issue was first raised by Board Budget Analyst Harvey Rose in a report comparing SF and LA ethics laws, noting that LA bans such contributions while SF does not. The Civil Grand Jury then reported that the state also bans such contributions. This measure is also supported by Bob Stern, the principal co-author of the California Political Reform Act.

The Ethics Commission legally can not advocate to voters on any measure, even one they place on the ballot, or any candidate. This was placed on the ballot, as have been most measures that deal with campaign laws and campaign funding, since it is a clear conflict for elected officials to make those laws about themselves. Friends of Ethics consists of former Ethics Commissioners, past members of Civil Grand Juries, attorneys and others committed to transparency and fairness to all.

## **Prop V:**

**Support:** This measure is about saving lives. Millions of people die every year due to preventable illnesses that are directly related to the overconsumption of sugar in our diets. Diseases like type 2 diabetes, obesity and heart disease are rampant in our community and cost San Francisco millions of dollars per year. The number one source of added sugar in our diet is from sugary-sweetened beverages. These products especially harm communities of color who are carrying the weight of these diseases. Studies are now saying we are the first generation that will live shorter lives than their parents due to these purely preventable diseases. We know these taxes work in promoting awareness and raising funds for important public health initiatives. Mexico and Berkeley both

passed soda taxes in 2014. Both have shown remarkable success in decreasing consumption of these harmful beverages. The funds from these taxes have resulted in nutrition programs for children, education about sugary beverages, and other important health initiatives in their communities. They benefit the poor the most who have shown even larger decreases in consumption after one year (17% Mexico, 21% Berkeley).

We need that same success here in San Francisco. We are seen around the nation as the leader in health policy and we know once the tax passes here it will provide hope and inspiration to other cities across the country. We have support by the California Medical Association, California Dental Association, NAACP, SF-DCCC, Sierra Club, Mission Neighborhood Health Center, SPUR and more! Please join us as we fight for healthier, stronger families here in SF.

## **Prop W:**

**Support:** Prop W slightly increases the transfer tax on ultra-luxury property to help make City College free again. There is no change to the transfer tax rate for properties sold for under \$5 million. This is a small change to the tax rate for ultra-luxury real estate only that will affect only the very wealthy and big corporations.

The initiative will generate, on average, \$44 million in new revenue annually for the City to strengthen critical services, including programs to build more affordable housing and assist homeless residents. Stronger Services will make for a stronger city.

We can make City College Free. Revenue from this measure will fund Free City, a resolution passed by the Board of Supervisors to make City College of San Francisco tuition-free again like it was before 1984. For students currently on financial aid, Free City will provide additional support up to \$1,000 per year for educational costs such as textbooks and class supplies for students already receiving financial aid.

We can invest in our City's future and help close the income gap. By funding Free City, we can help more students continue their education, gain valuable job training skills and obtain good-paying middle class jobs. A recent study found that graduates of City College make, on average, \$11,000 more than those with just a high school degree.

Free City will serve more than 20,000 students, including parents, individuals

trying to reenter the workforce, recent high school graduates, seniors and many low-income San Franciscans. City College can flourish and we can be on the forefront of making higher education more accessible.

This is an investment in the future of San Francisco – and it has won the support of ten members of the Board of Supervisors and numerous current and former elected officials and community organizations.

Endorsements Include:

San Francisco Democratic Party

San Francisco Green Party

State Senator Mark Leno

Assemblymember Phil Ting

Assemblymember David Chiu

Supervisor Jane Kim

Supervisor London Breed

Supervisor Aaron Peskin

Supervisor David Campos

Supervisor Norman Yee

Supervisor Malia Cohen

Supervisor John Avalos

Supervisor Katy Tang

Supervisor Eric Mar

Supervisor Scott Wiener

San Francisco City College Board of Trustees

Matt Haney, President, San Francisco Board of Education

Shamann Walton, Vice President, San Francisco Board of Education

Sandra Lee Fewer, Member, San Francisco Board of Education

Hydra Mendoza-McDonnell, Member, San Francisco Board of Education

Rachel Norton, Member, San Francisco Board of Education

San Francisco Labor Council

United Educators of San Francisco

American Federation of Teachers Local 2121

International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local Union 856

National Union of Healthcare Workers

San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council

Service Employees International Union Local 87 (SEIU Local 87)

Service Employees International Union Local 1021 (SEIU 1021)

UNITE HERE Local 2

Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club

Bayard Rustin LGBT Coalition  
District 8 Progressive Democrats  
FDR Democratic Club  
Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club  
Latin@ Young Democrats of San Francisco  
New Avenues Democratic Club  
San Francisco Black Leadership Forum  
San Francisco Latino Democratic Club  
San Francisco Young Democrats  
San Francisco Women's Political Committee (SFWPC)  
Chinese Community Development Center  
Chinese Progressive Association  
Community Housing Partnership (CHP)  
Council of Community Housing Organizations  
Jobs With Justice  
Mission Economic Development Agency (MEDA)  
Mission Neighborhood Centers, Inc.  
San Francisco Senior and Disability Action  
San Francisco Tenants Union  
United to Save the Mission

## **Prop X:**

**Support:** Prop X requires new development of all kinds to partially or fully replace the spaces occupied by community services, the arts and production, distribution and repair (PDR) small businesses that they convert or demolish. New development and skyrocketing rents have demolished or displaced 1,000,000 square feet of community service organizations, arts spaces, and production, distribution and repair (PDR) small businesses in the last five years alone. These spaces represent the neighborhood spirit and cultural heritage of San Francisco. Once they are gone, they will not be able to come back – that's why we need to act now. This measure ensures that if new development removes these spaces they must replace them with new space restricted to these uses in the same neighborhood.

For over 20 years community and neighborhood advocates have urged the City and its Planning Department to enact Planning Code provisions and programs to stop this displacement. They haven't. Now, voters can act where the City has stalled.

Prop X will help protect the special character of our City – keeping small

businesses like local furniture makers, artist studios and day care providers in our communities, contributing to our local economy and unique culture that makes us proud to call San Francisco home.

Prop X will:

- Save and create hundreds of small business jobs according to the City Economist
- Provide incentives for landlords to keep spaces affordable, at 50% market rate for 55 years
- Require on-site replacement of the conversion space to preserve neighborhood character
- Protect neighborhoods facing the most development – Mission, Eastern SoMa, Eastern SoMa, Western SoMa and Central SoMa
- Be adaptable for the long term – it can be amended in the future

Passing Proposition X will allow us to Protect the Best of San Francisco now, before it's too late.

Endorsements Include:

San Francisco Democratic Party

San Francisco Green Party

Supervisor Jane Kim

Supervisor London Breed

Supervisor Aaron Peskin

Supervisor David Campos

Supervisor Norman Yee

Supervisor John Avalos

Supervisor Eric Mar

Brigitte Davila, CCSF Trustee

Sandra Lee Fewer, San Francisco Board of Education

Dennis Richards, Planning Commission Vice President\*

Dennis Antenore, Former Commissioner, Planning Commission

Douglas Engmann, Former Commissioner, Planning Commission\*

Hisashi Sugaya, Former Commissioner, Planning Commission

Cindy Wu, Former Commissioner, Planning Commission

Bayard Rustin LGBT Coalition

District 8 Progressive Democrats

FDR Democratic Club

Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club  
New Avenues Democratic Club  
Richmond District Democratic club  
San Francisco Black Leadership Forum  
San Francisco Latino Democratic Club

Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN)  
Council of Community Housing Organizations (CCHO)  
Filipino American Development Foundation  
Grow Potrero Responsibly  
Manilatown Heritage Foundation  
Mission Economic Development Agency (MEDA)  
Mission Neighborhood Centers, Inc.  
Noe Valley Tenants  
San Francisco Human Services Network (HSN)  
San Francisco Tenants Union  
South of Market Community Action Network (SOMCAN)  
TODCO Group  
United to Save the Mission

\*For identification purposes only