

Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club

Questionnaire for Candidates for November 2018

Dear Candidate,

Congratulations on declaring your candidacy! The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club would like to get to know you better as we decide our endorsements for this upcoming election.

Our questions were developed with our members and reflect their priorities. Your participation in our Club's questionnaire allows our membership to better understand you as a candidate: who you are, what you stand for, and what you plan to accomplish in office.

- **Part One is a series of short-answer questions (<100 words).**
- **Part Two is are Yes or No questions** that covers a broader set of issues than Part One.
- If you feel the need, you may expand upon your responses in Part Two on a separate sheet of paper, but you are not required to.

Please return the completed questionnaire by 11:59 PM Friday, August 10th, 2018. E-mail all questionnaires to Political Action Committee (PAC) Chair Tom Temprano at pac@milklub.org.

Good Luck,

The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club

Required Information

Full Name: John Rizzo

Office Sought: Community College Board

Mailing Address: 325 Highland Ave., SF CA 94110

Phone: 415-751-1615

Email: john@johnrizzoforcollege.board

Website: www.johnrizzoforcollegeboard.com

Are you a member of the Harvey Milk Club? Since when? Yes. Since 2005.

Do you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ)? No

PART ONE: Short-Answer Questionnaire
(Please limit responses to 5 sentences or 100 words)

- 1) Please describe your qualifications for the position you seek. Feel free to add anything else that you'd like our members to know about you and your candidacy.**

I successfully fought for City College's accreditation, free tuition for San Franciscans, and for streamlining administration bureaucracy so that City College now educates more students at lower cost than two years ago. I am now working on building City College for the future.

We are on track to create affordable housing for 500 students and 200 teachers and staff. I am working to build a Performing Arts Center for students and the community and to expand curriculum to qualify students for the latest career fields. Now I am working with the Board of Supervisors to make Free City College permanent.

I am protective of our students' rights. I co-authored City College's Sanctuary campus policy to protect undocumented students and provide helpful information and resources.

- 2) Do you have any key endorsements you'd like to share?**

Mark Leno, former Senator

Jane Kim, Supervisor

Tom Ammiano, former Assemblyman

Rafael Mandelman, Supervisor

Sandra Fewer, Supervisor

Tom Temprano, College Board member

College Board members Brigitte Davila, Shanell Williams, Thea Selby, Alex Randolph

Aaron Peskin, Supervisor

Phil Ting, Assemblyman

Art Agnos, former mayor

Matt Haney, School Board

Mark Sanchez, School Board

Bevan Dufty, BART Board

Brownie Mary Democratic Club

National Union of Healthcare Workers

Sierra Club

- 3) More than 7,000 individuals are experiencing homelessness in San Francisco. Due to the physical and mental trauma inherent to living without stable housing, these individuals suffer from increased health problems and are three to four times more likely to die prematurely than their housed counterparts.**

What do you see as the most important short-term and long-term solutions to the homeless crisis in San Francisco? What can you do in the office you are running for to help end homelessness?

City College must be part of the solution to homelessness by providing a quality education to those who need it most, along with an array of support services for special needs students. For instance, at City College, I supported a recent move to allow homeless students to use locker room showers, and support fuller funding of on-campus mental health services. City College and the City of San Francisco must do a better job at enabling individuals to get the help they need. I am also working to have the first

student housing at City College built.

Outside of City College, we need to stop evictions by real estate speculators and repeal Costa-Hawkings at the November ballot.

4) What are your priorities and plans to address housing affordability and economic inequality in San Francisco? What have you done on this in the past?

I have been working to have affordable housing built for students, faculty, and staff at the Ocean Campus and at other City College land. Last year I authored a resolution with Trustee Brigitte Davila to enable City College to acquire land at the lower Balboa Reservoir. The College is now proceeding along the lines that we proposed in our resolution. At this point, we are working towards several hundred units of new affordable housing at Ocean Campus: 500 beds for students and up to 200 unit for teachers and staff.

I believe City College can ultimately build affordable housing for up to 3000 students, teachers, and staff at the various locations of City College.

5) Describe your philosophy and priorities for developing a legislative framework for recreational marijuana. Do you agree with the current framework adopted by the Board of Supervisors? What would you change, if anything?

I am proud to have the endorsement of the Brownie Mary Democratic Club. At City College, I am working to create a Cannabis degree program that will train students for good-paying jobs in the industry and to provide the industry with well-trained, knowledgeable employees. This fall, we will be inviting people in the industry to meet with our faculty to help plan this program.

6) The African American population in San Francisco is steadily declining. The racial bias of our police force and criminal justice system is well documented. SFUSD's achievement gap for African Americans students is the highest in the country as of 2017.

What do you think are the most important actions that you can take in your office to stabilize and support the African American community in San Francisco?

The most important action I can take at the Board of Trustees at City College for this issue is to reduce the achievement gap at City College. With the accrediting crisis behind us, I am currently working on this issue and believe that we can shrink the achievement gap significantly in the next five years. It will require more funding student services and tutoring, programs such as mentoring, and a shortening of some of the curriculum. Multiple studies have shown that accelerating learning cycles improves student success.

7) How have you support the LGBTQ community and how will you continue to do so if elected?

At City College, I have supported the LGBTQ studies program and the rights of LGBTQ students and employees. For example, we recently required the administration to let transgender students use alternative names on official student records. However, a recent suicide of a transgender student shows that we must do a better job at providing mental health resources to our students and more resources to our LGBT Student Resource Center.

PART TWO: Yes or No Questionnaire

Please check **Yes** or **No** for each question.

GENERAL	YES	NO
1. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat?	YES	
2. Have you ever run for elected office before?	YES	
3. Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact? If so, who:	YES	
4. Have you ever sought the Harvey Milk Club endorsement in the past?	YES	

LGBTQ ISSUES	YES	NO
5. Do you support public funding, including set asides, for the establishment and development of LGBTQ Cultural Districts in San Francisco?	YES	
6. Do you support public funding for employment development specifically for transgender individuals?	YES	
7. Do you support expansion of the LGBT curriculum in our City's public schools?	YES	
8. Do you support efforts to expand access to PrEP and other initiatives of the "Getting to Zero" initiative to end the HIV epidemic in San Francisco?	YES	

TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES	YES	NO
9. Do you support the expansion of rent control beyond buildings constructed prior to 1979?	YES	
11. Have you ever been involved as homeowner, buyer or agent in the eviction of a tenant? If so, please explain on a separate sheet of paper.		NO
12. Do you support requiring Short Term Rental platforms (e.g. AirBnB, VRBO) to publish registration numbers for properly-registered STRs on their respective websites, handing over booking data to the Planning Department, and increased funding for the department for enforcement capacity?	YES	
13. Did you support Prop G (the "Harvey Milk Anti-Speculation Tax") in 2014?	YES	
14. Did you support Prop F (stricter controls on AirBnB and other STR	YES	

platforms) in 2015?	YES	
15. Did you support Prop I (the Mission Moratorium) in 2015?	YES	

IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES

YES NO

16. Do you support San Francisco's Due Process for All Ordinance, which prevents law enforcement from detaining suspected criminals in response to ICE requests, except in the case of violent crimes?	YES	
17. Do you support the protection of Due Process for immigrant youth accused of crimes?	YES	
18. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including but not limited to school board?	YES	
19. Do you support San Francisco expanding funding for immigration defense services?	YES	

SOCIAL JUSTICE, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND LABOR ISSUES

YES NO

20. Do you support the implementation of supervised injection sites?	YES	
21. Did you support allowing localities to allow some bars to serve liquor until 4 am?	YES	
22. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work?	YES	
23. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or violated a union boycott? If so, explain:		NO
24. Do you support efforts to allow employees of Uber, Lyft and other ridesharing services to unionize?	YES	
25. Do you support requiring an independent investigation of all police officer-related shootings?	YES	
26. Do you support the use of Tasers by law enforcement?		NO
27. Do you support capital punishment (i.e., the death penalty)?		NO

EDUCATION AND YOUTH

YES NO

28. Do you support lowering the voting age to 16 for local elections?	YES	
29. Do you support the Common Core education standards?		

30. Do you support teacher training to implement alternatives to suspension in instances of disruption or willful defiance?	YES	
31. Do you support the full-funding of the Free City College program including funding for the Summer semester and an expansion of grants for low-income students already receiving state or federal financial aid?	YES	
32. Do you support the development of the Balboa Reservoir adjacent to City College's Ocean Campus so long as it includes a mix of market rate, affordable and faculty/student housing?	YES	

ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

YES NO

33. Do you ride Muni on a regular basis (more than once a week)?	YES	
34. Do you support CleanPower SF?	YES	
35. Do you support expanding free access to MUNI for seniors and disabled persons?	YES	
36. Do you support requiring ride hail companies (e.g. Uber, Lyft) to provide trip data to the City in order to operate here?	YES	