

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@milkclub.org.

Good Luck,
The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club

Required Information

Full Name: Janice Li

Office Sought: BART Board, District 8

Mailing Address: 1870 43rd Avenue, SF CA 94122 (home address)

Phone: (716) 725-1533 (direct mobile number)

Email: me@janice.li

Website: <http://janice.li>

Are you a member of the Harvey Milk Club? Since when? Yes, since 2017.

Do you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ)? Yes, I identify as queer.

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 am running because I believe I would make a great BART Director and if elected, I would be the first API woman to serve as BART Director ever in any of the nine seats.

As a queer woman of color and an immigrant from Hong Kong, I don't see many people who look like me in elected office. Over the past five years, I've built and led coalitions around transit justice, particularly as it relates to funding so that we could expand low-income fare programs, defend against service cuts and really reinvest into our public transit system (while we watch Uber, Lyft, Chariot, etc. pull dollars away from our public resources). I bring an QPOC's perspective, a community organizer's heart, and a transit-oriented brain that can parse transportation budgets, legislation and plans given my years of experience.

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

Endorsed by: Supervisor Jane Kim, BART Director Bevan Dufty, Assemblymember Phil Ting, Former Supervisor Eric Mar, Rose Pak Democratic 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?

Long-term solution: Pass Our City, Our Home this November and bring the massive investments needed to house people who are experiencing homelessness and the resources needed to get there. Also, stop electing people who criminalize homelessness who believe "quality of life" policies like the sit-lie ordinance will solve our crisis.

Near-term solution: BART owns 200+ acres of land, much of which can be used more effectively to immediately bring resources to people experiencing homelessness,

including direct social services and temporary/transitional housing. In my role at the SF Bicycle Coalition, we supported the temporary Navigation Center at 1515 Van Ness as well as AB 857 (Ting), which led to the recent opening of the Division Circle Navigation Center. BART must do be doing this work and being part of the solution, and as BART Director, I'd bring that leadership to the board to do so.

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?

BART must see itself as a regional agency that has an impact on people and communities, rather than just a transit service that runs a bunch of trains. With the 200+ acres of land they own, they have the resources and opportunity to radically expand affordable housing and need to do so urgently to meet their 2015 guidelines of developing 20,000 units of housing. If elected, I would work closely with my East Bay directors (where an overwhelmingly majority of the land sits) to push for the highest rates of affordable housing along with local self-determination over these developments.

In my role at the SF Bicycle Coalition, I have pushed to house our city's most vulnerable through temporary/transitional housing (see #3) while also fighting to keep our transportation affordable (see #1), which is the second largest household expense after housing.

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?

Recreational cannabis is great, medicinal cannabis is great, but most importantly access is great and necessary. The current regulatory framework was designed to ensure safe access, require thorough community outreach and temper the flow of new dispensaries in order to resist flooding out existing small business corridors. I'd say that so far so good but we'll learn more about the integrity of those processes as time goes on and as new applications come in.

With that said, none of this is going far enough until medical cannabis and alternative healthcare is affordable, particularly for low-income communities of color who are factually and indisputably the ones who still continue to not benefit from the massive profit accumulated by primarily white cultivators and retailers.

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?

First, we need to stop criminalizing behaviors and put an end to enforcing fare evasion and things like eating/drinking on BART, especially given that the highest percentage of people banned from BART and most likely to receive fare evasion tickets are black.

Second, we need to rapidly expand low-income fare programs and build out connections to BART so that communities can access and afford BART as a mobility option. Historically black communities like the Bayview have suffered the most from redlining and are physically cut off from the rest of the city and region by using transportation infrastructure as barriers, whether that's inadequate service on the T Third or Highways 101 and 280 creating a physical dividing line. Once again, these practices and policies must change, and as BART Director, I would push the agency to be part of the solution.

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

I openly identify as queer and have been supportive of queer Asian Pacific Islander (API) community, being a member of API Equality Northern California (APIENC) and your Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club.

Professionally, I am most proud of creating a more inclusive work space at the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition. When I was hired in 2013, I was the only openly queer person on my six-person team and now, I oversee my own four-person team where I've hired the first two gender non-binary individuals on staff at the organization and a majority of my team (three of four) identify as LGBTQ. As one of the largest membership-based advocacy organizations in San Francisco, representation is incredibly important to me and I'm proud to have worked to increase the representation of LGBTQ individuals, particularly in transportation.

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?	X	
2. Have you ever run for elected office before?		X
3. Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact? If so, who: <i>Jim Stearns (but I am main point of contact)</i>	X	
4. Have you ever sought the Harvey Milk Club endorsement in the past?		X

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?	X	
6. Do you support public funding for employment development specifically for transgender individuals?	X	
7. Do you support expansion of the LGBT curriculum in our City's public schools?	X	
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?	X	

TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES	YES	NO
9. Do you support the expansion of rent control beyond buildings constructed prior to 1979?	X	
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.		X
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?	X	
13. Did you support Prop G (the "Harvey Milk Anti-Speculation Tax") in 2014?	X	
14. Did you support Prop F (stricter controls on AirBnB and other STR platforms) in 2015?	X	

15. Did you support Prop I (the Mission Moratorium) in 2015?	X	
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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?	X	
17. Do you support the protection of Due Process for immigrant youth accused of crimes?	X	
18. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including but not limited to school board?	X	
19. Do you support San Francisco expanding funding for immigration defense services?	X	

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

EDUCATION AND YOUTH	YES	NO
28. Do you support lowering the voting age to 16 for local elections?	X	
29. Do you support the Common Core education standards?		X
30. Do you support teacher training to implement alternatives to suspension in instances of disruption or willful defiance?	X	
31. Do you support the full-funding of the Free City College program including	X	

funding for the Summer semester and an expansion of grants for low-income students already receiving state or federal financial aid?		
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?	X	

ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

YES

NO

	YES	NO
33. Do you ride Muni on a regular basis (more than once a week)?	X	
34. Do you support CleanPower SF?	X	
35. Do you support expanding free access to MUNI for seniors and disabled persons?	X	
36. Do you support requiring ride hail companies (e.g. Uber, Lyft) to provide trip data to the City in order to operate here?	X	