

Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club Questionnaire for Candidates for November 2018

Dear Candidate,

Congratulations on declaring your candidacy! The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club invites you to get to know us a little better as we plan our endorsements for the November 2018 election cycle. Your participation in our Club's questionnaire will allow our Membership to better understand who you are, what you stand for, and what you plan to accomplish if you get elected to office.

There are two parts to our questionnaire. Part 1 is a series of short-answer questions, less than 150 words. Part 2 is a simple set of Yes/No questions covering a broad set of issues. If necessary, please expand upon your responses in Part 2 separately.

E-mail all questionnaires to Political Action Committee (PAC) Chair Tom Temprano at pac@milclub.org and to our Correspondent at correspondent@milclub.org.

Good Luck, The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club

Required Information

Full Name: Igor Tregub

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Are you a member of the Harvey Milk Club? Since when? I attended meetings previously, but am not sure if I am presently a member in good standing. I'd be happy to join!

Do you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ)? No, but I'm an LGBTQ ally.

PART 1: Short-Answer Questionnaire (Please limit responses to 5 sentences or 150 words)

1) Please describe your qualifications for the position you seek. Include any key endorsements you'd like to share plus anything else that you would like our Members to know about you and your candidacy.

As someone who has dedicated over 15 years of public service to Berkeley, I have the experience and integrity to make Berkeley a better place. I'm a twice-elected Rent Board Commissioner and serve as the Chair of two city commissions and of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the Sierra Club. I'm proud to be endorsed by Assemblymember Tony Thurmond, five Democratic organizations to date, the Sierra Club, California Nurses Association, 11 current and former members of the City Council, and out and proud leaders like Kriss Worthington, Jovanka Beckles, Andy Katz, and James Chang. I helped secure millions of dollars to house our neighbors, approved thousands of small businesses and housing units--many affordable--maintained our parks, and helped lead the fight for a \$15 minimum wage in Berkeley and beyond. As an immigrant, I know what it's like to need to find a community that feels safe and welcoming.

2) What are your plans to address housing affordability and economic inequality in the region you wish to represent? What have you done to address this crisis, if anything?

Addressing the twin crises of housing affordability and widening income inequality is the central platform of my campaign; we want a community where prosperity and opportunity are broadly shared. As Berkeley Housing Advisory Commission Chair, I successfully helped secure millions of dollars of affordable housing funding, increase impact fees on market-rate developers, and implement a Tenant Protection Ordinance. As Zoning Adjustments Board Chair, I approved thousands of rental housing units - many of them reserved for lower-income families - while stopping the demolition of rent-controlled housing. I also fought for strong community benefits, including project labor agreements and local hire ordinances, and that focus will continue on the City Council. In the fight for \$15 (and beyond), I worked within the Democratic Party to lobby our state leaders, and I spoke before numerous clubs and city councils to build momentum for local ordinances.

3) The anti-black racial biases of both the police and the criminal justice system is well documented. What are the most important actions that you can take in your office to stabilize and support the African American community against these threats?

The most important thing we can do locally to prevent racial discrimination in our local police department is to support the charter amendment to establish an independent Citizen's Commission to review police activity in Berkeley (see: <https://www.berkeleyside.com/2018/08/07/opinion-city-council-should-place-charter-amendment-for-a-new-berkeley-police-commission-on-ballot> for an op-ed I joined about this issue). Unfortunately, it will not appear on the ballot in 2018, but it is a reform I will push through council action or ballot initiative by the 2020 election. It's important to regularly and independently audit Berkeley police interactions with community members to ensure that the most professional standards are being maintained and free from racial bias. I'm proud to be endorsed by NAACP Berkeley Chapter President Mansour Id-Deen, who is a leader in our community against racial bias, and my office doors will always be open to those involved in the

fight for racial justice.

4) What would you describe as your most important actions or plans to support the LGBTQ community?

While no city is immune to the hate of individuals, Berkeley is a welcoming and inclusive city with strong and enforced protections for our LGBTQ community. I encourage the LGBTQ community to reach out to me if there are additional steps we need to take to prevent discrimination and harassment; it's a very important issue to me. Because of our reputation as a tolerant and progressive beacon of light for those who face discrimination elsewhere, and because LGBTQ youth in general are much more prone to abuse, neglect, and shunning by parents with hate in their heart, we do have a striking number of homeless LGBTQ people in our community, including teenagers who are at an elevated risk of sexual or physical abuse. Housing the houseless, and involving social workers specially trained to address and immediately intervene to help at-risk LGBT youth, is the most important thing the council can do to help LGBTQ people in Berkeley.

PART 2: Yes/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. I'm a twice-elected Member of the Berkeley Rent Board.

3. Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact? If so, who?

Donald Lathbury is my campaign consultant. Dyana Delfin-Polk is my campaign manager.

4. Have you ever sought the Harvey Milk Club endorsement in the past?

No. This is the first time that I was aware of this tremendous opportunity to seek your endorsement as a candidate in the East Bay.

LGBTQ ISSUES YES NO

5. Do you support public funding for employment development specifically for transgender individuals?

Yes.

6. Do you support expanding LGBTQ curriculum in our public schools?

Yes. I strongly supported bills like SB 48 and worked to ensure that various Democratic organizations supported them as well.

TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES YES NO

7. Do you support the expansion of rent control for buildings constructed after 1979?

Yes. I voted on recommendations about this on the Rent Board.

8. Have you ever been involved as homeowner, buyer or agent in the eviction of a tenant? If so, please explain at the end of the questionnaire.

No. I am a tenant myself.

9. Do you support requiring Short Term Rental platforms (e.g. AirBnB, VRBO) to publish registration numbers for properly-registered short-term rentals on their respective websites; handing over booking data to the Planning Department; and increasing funding for enforcement capacity?

Yes.

12. Do you support the statewide ballot initiative Prop 10 to repeal Costa-Hawkins?

Yes. In fact, it was my motions on the Resolutions Committee that the California Democratic Party adopted in support of Prop 10, Costa-Hawkins repeal.

IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES YES NO

13. Do you support Sanctuary City?

Yes.

14. Do you support due process protections for immigrant youth accused of crimes?

Yes.

15. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including but not limited to School Board?

Yes; I'm an example of a naturalized citizen who - had I been a few years older when I became naturalized - would not have been able to vote absent this kind of provision.

16. Do you support expanding funding for immigrant defense services?

Yes.

SOCIAL JUSTICE, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND LABOR ISSUES YES NO

20. Do you support the implementation of supervised injection sites?

Yes, with proper community input and well-planned and accountable oversight.

21. Did you support allowing localities to allow some bars to serve liquor until 4 AM?

Yes, subject to local zoning rules.

22. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work?

Generally speaking, I do not support prosecuting sex workers, but this isn't a simple yes or no question. While a lot of sex workers are willing and consensual partners, many others are the victims of human trafficking. Laws prohibiting sex work sometimes keeps trafficking in the shadows, especially among victims who are not from our country, don't know our laws, don't speak English fluently and/or are underage, but enforcement uncovers trafficking networks too. I'm open to a further conversation on this topic, with the safety of sex workers paramount and with robust community input.

23. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or violated a union boycott? If so, explain below.

Never. I've joined many picket lines myself though.

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?

Only if the data were to conclusively suggest that this saves lives. I believe that the literature is split on this questions at the moment.

27. Do you support 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 Common Core education standards?

I support the higher federal standards found in common core, but I worry that the emphasis on high stakes standardized testing takes teacher time away from more holistic and effective teaching methods. We need to evaluate its effectiveness over time and adjust accordingly, and I think there should be national standards (with funding) around supporting music, arts, and technology education, sports programs, and after school programs.

30. Do you support teacher training to implement alternatives to suspension in instances of disruption or willful defiance?

Yes.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES YES NO

31. Do you ride public transit on a regular basis? More than once a week?

Yes. AC Transit 72 Line and BART.

32. Do you support community choice aggregation?

Yes. I've spoken before multiple Democratic clubs in support of it and as the Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter Chair have been influential in getting it implemented (or taking steps toward implementation) in San Francisco, Alameda, Contra Costa, and Marin.

33. Do you support expanding free access to public transit for seniors and disabled persons?

Yes.

34. Do you support requiring ridesharing companies (e.g. Uber, Lyft) to provide trip data to local government order to operate in your locality?

Yes.