

## 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](mailto:pac@milclub.org) and to our Correspondent at [correspondent@milclub.org](mailto:correspondent@milclub.org).*

*Good Luck, The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club*

### **Required Information**

***Full Name:*** Kate Harrison

***Office Sought:*** Berkeley City Council, District 4

***Mailing Address:*** 2043 Lincoln St

***Phone:*** (510)593-9591

***Email:*** [campaign@electkateharrison.com](mailto:campaign@electkateharrison.com)

***Website:*** <http://www.electkateharrison.com>

***Are you a member of the Harvey Milk Club? Since when?*** No

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

*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.**

For over 25 years, I have managed state/municipal budgets, analyzed public policy and proposed ways to make government more effective, transparent and accessible. I am proud to be endorsed by the Sierra Club, California Nurses Association, National Union of Healthcare Workers, the Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club, SEIU Local 1021, the East Bay Young Democrats, Jesse Arreguin, Jovanka Beckles, Kevin de Leon, Jane Kim, several colleagues on the Berkeley City Council, and all members of our elected Rent Board.

My consulting practice improves access to justice for those in most need. At a community level, I helped pass Berkeley's Rent Control Ordinance, led last year's successful campaign to provide \$4 million/year for affordable housing, and secured increased affordable housing fees from development. My priorities for District 4 include: creating affordable infill housing; addressing homelessness; protecting tenants; revitalizing our Downtown; making the city sustainable and carbon-neutral; and saving Alta Bates Hospital.

**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?**

I have already raised developer impact fees and landlord taxes on blighted lots to go towards affordable housing. I sponsored the affordable housing ballot measures (a housing bond and a luxury real estate transfer tax), both of which will raise revenue for affordable housing. I am simultaneously working on finding ways to make affordable housing possible, through non-profit land trusts, purchasing small sites that can be kept affordable in perpetuity, alternative housing models such as tiny homes, and the affordable housing project at Berkeley Way. In my first few months in office I secured \$600,000 for tenant protection legal fees, public funds for tenants facing eviction or deliberate mistreatment from their landlord. I am a vocal proponent of Proposition 10, and will work to win real rent control once Proposition 10 passes, as well as continue funding affordable housing throughout the city.

**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?**

Berkeley needs a Police Review Commission (PRC) with real teeth and independence. I sponsored a ballot initiative to create real police reform, including PRC subpoena powers for relevant documents and appearance of officers, a change in standard of proof for disciplining officers to one closer to that used in employment cases generally, and a budget set separately from the city manager. My office was also a champion for leaving Urban Shield, which further militarizes our police department and is a poor use of resources. I have worked in tandem with the ACLU and NAACP to require better reporting of use of force and stops and citations and to limit police surveillance, as these practices disproportionately impact communities of color.

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

LGBTQ youth are disproportionately homeless due to familial intolerance and lack of job opportunities. I support youth employment programs to facilitate economic independence for those who need it and creation of tiny home villages with self-management by youth. I am also fighting for compassionate solutions to homelessness, including providing city-sanctioned encampments and RV parks, increased sanitation facilities, more mental health and social workers, as well as more affordable housing to prevent homelessness in the first place. My office is also working with the School District to fund mental health professionals and peer counselors in the schools, often needed by LGBTQ individuals.

**PART 2: Yes/No Questionnaire**

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

**GENERAL**

- 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. Molly Jones.**
- 4. Have you ever sought the Harvey Milk Club endorsement in the past? No**

**LGBTQ ISSUES**

- 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**

**TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES**

- 7. Do you support the expansion of rent control for buildings constructed after 1979? Yes**
- 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**
- 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, while on council I cosponsored legislation to do so.**

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

**IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES**

- 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**

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

#### **SOCIAL JUSTICE, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND LABOR ISSUES**

**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 below. 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 the death penalty? No. I have participated in anti-death penalty campaigns since the 1980s.**

#### **EDUCATION AND YOUTH**

**28. Do you support lowering the voting age to 16 for local elections? We have done so in Berkeley School Board elections**

**29. Do you support Common Core education standards? No**

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

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES**

**31. Do you ride public transit on a regular basis? More than once a week? No (i live eight blocks from work and walk there)**

**32. Do you support community choice aggregation? Yes**

**33. Do you support expanding free access to public transit for seniors and disabled persons? Yes.**  
Also, I am sponsoring legislation to require ridesharing companies to accept county-subsidized taxi scrip and accommodate the needs of seniors and the disabled.

**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**