

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@milkclub.org and to our Correspondent at correspondent@milkclub.org.

Good Luck, The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club

Required Information

Full Name: Pam Harris

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Website: www.pamharris4oakland.com

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

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

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.

I am a Fulbright alumna and an Ivy League educated woman, who holds a masters degree from the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism. These degrees are not what make me uniquely qualified to be Oakland's next D4 council member. My dedication to community and service is what qualifies me to contribute to the Oakland City Council. When I graduated from Vassar College—the first in my family to graduate from college—and my classmates went to work for Wall Street, I went to work with people living with physical and developmental disabilities. I've served in the non-profit and philanthropic sectors, with increasing levels of leadership. Today, I provide non-profit organizations with support in financial management including budget

development, budget oversight, and fiscal planning. I know how budgets work and how to ensure they reflect of our shared values.

Hon. Dave Jones

Hon. Rob Bonta

Hon. Libby Schaaf

Hon. Kriss Worthington

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 am a strong believer in upzoning. This means increased housing and infrastructure around BART, BRT, and AC Transit lines and in other areas that have traditionally not been high density housing areas. In my district, that looks different than it does downtown. It means looking at three or four-story buildings replacing questionable motels along MacArthur Blvd. Also allowing homeowners to upgrade their properties into multi-family homes. As far as affordable housing, we need to supercharge the efforts to grow community land trusts and housing cooperatives in Oakland and other mechanisms to ensure that currently affordable housing remains affordable into the future. We also need to recognize that housing takes many forms, from temporary to transitional to permanent, from SROs to RVs to single-family homes. We need to preserve and create more housing options across the spectrum to ensure that Oakland is a place that's accessible and safe for all.

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?

I believe in a future Oakland where violence against our residents is rare, and is met with compassion, not apathy. As a resident of Oakland, I want to be able to call the police when my car is broken into or if a neighbor is robbed. But as a person of color living in my community, there is a fear each day that a new neighbor might call the police on me while I'm gardening. We need to ensure that our police department reflects the diversity of our city, not just racially but with respect to gender and gender identity, sexual orientation, and background. We also must work with OPD to ensure we are recruiting Oaklanders for the force, and to ensure that officers receive training from the many fantastic local organizations with expertise on the broad range of identities, cultures, and needs in our city.

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

Every day, the Trump administration is working to erode the gains that we in the LGBTQI community have made over the past four decades. If elected, I would be the first out LGBT person to hold this seat and the first out LGBT African-American on the Oakland City Council. The importance of this moment is not lost on me. I am a lesbian mom, raising two children in the Bay Area; the changes taking place, from Supreme Court

picks to bans on adoption, and changes to the national census will have a long lasting impact. We must fight back and resist this erosion of our civil and human rights with policy and legislation that ensures that we are all treated with dignity, respect, and fairness. In a time when we are seeing an attack on our communities coming from Washington, it is up to cities like Oakland to stand up as a bulwark to protect our values and our residents.

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? **No**
3. Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact? If so, who? **Yes Sean Dugar**

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

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**

TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES YES NO

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

IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES YES NO

13. Do you support Sanctuary City? **Yes (and we need more money to help provide legal representation for local residents detained by ICE.)**
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 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 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**

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? **Yes**

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**

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

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**