

## **The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club** **Candidate Questionnaire for March 2020**

*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 March 2020 primary election. 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 are elected to office.*

*There are two parts to our questionnaire plus additional questions for individual offices. Part 1 is a series of short-answer questions, with a 150-word limit on answers. Part 2 is a series of Yes/No questions covering a broad set of issues.*

*Please email your answers to Political Action Committee (PAC) at [pac@milkclub.org](mailto:pac@milkclub.org) and to our Correspondent Lee Hepner at [correspondent@milkclub.org](mailto:correspondent@milkclub.org).*

*There will be an opportunity for you or a proxy to speak in person at the club's PAC meeting on Saturday, December 7th from 11am to 6pm at the Women's Building at 3543 18th Street. Please contact us at [pac@milkclub.org](mailto:pac@milkclub.org) or [president@milkclub.org](mailto:president@milkclub.org) to schedule an appointment. **And please note that your time will be limited to 5 minutes (including questions). So the content of this questionnaire will be the main source for endorsement consideration.***

*Good Luck!*

### **Required Information**

**Full Name:** Alysabeth Alexander-Tut

**Office Sought:** SFCCC AD17

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**Phone:** 415-716-4473

**Email:** alysabeth4dccc@gmail.com

**Website:** pending

**Are you a Member of the Harvey Milk LGBTQ Club?:** Usually.... I think I missed this year

**If so, since when?:** With some years skipped, since 2006

***Do you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and/or queer (LGBTQ)?:* I have been out as bisexual since the 90s and consider myself a queer parent**

## **PART 1:**

### **Questions for All Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Please describe your qualifications for the position you seek. Feel free to add anything that you would like our Members to know about you and your candidacy.

For the last 15 years, I have been active in San Francisco as an organizer, an advocate and a direct service provider. I organized tenants in the Tenderloin, co-founded La Voz Latina, ran a member-led reform slate to take over SEIU 1021 where I served as VP of Politics for 8 years, been on the SF Labor Council Executive Board, served on the Steering Committee of SF Jobs with Justice, and more! I am currently on SF Council of IFPTE Local 21, my current union. Now, I am working to make political spaces more accessible to parents, particularly parents of small children. But of course many “family friendly” situations are not queer friendly... so this is also part of the struggle. I believe that this varied experience, and the deep relationships I have within our neighborhoods, in labor and in the Democratic Party qualifies me to serve on the SFDCCC. I believe that tying our Democratic Party to the grassroots is our best hope for change, and I believe that leftists need to be in the Party because there is a lot of Power in who controls the direction, the values and the endorsements of the Dems.

**2. Do you have any key endorsements that you would like to share? Why are these endorsements meaningful to you?**

Mari Villaluna: I am honored to have the support of this radical leader who pushes our City to face our racism and to do better to the Earth, to each other and to Native Americans, and to end the trajectory of colonization and genocide. Mari also organizes for queer family recognition and spaces within all political space.

Allison Collins: This woman is fearless in calling out white supremacy in the school system and in our City. She also just won equity in the arts! With folks like Allison at the school board, I feel real hope for our schools and our City.

**3. What do you see as the most important short-term and long-term solutions to SF's homeless crisis? What can you do in your office to help end homelessness?**

Short term: Support all of the ballot measures and legislation that increase tenant rights, mental health services on demand, and increase funding to affordable housing stock. Improving habitability of our housing stock is also important, as many people are driven from their apartments or hotels because of the conditions. I believe in land trusts as a solution to make permanently affordable the existing housing stock. I do think that the City needs to look at its financing of affordable housing because much of the non-profit housing is actually running in the red and they cannot afford their loans. I support rent subsidies for families and group housing/co-housing (the real co-housing... not the SRO real estate games). Many people prefer co-housing, but many rent subsidy programs prohibit subsidies from being used in such housing (for example--as a subtenant).

We need to tax corporations, stop land speculation, repeal costa hawkins, amend or appeal the ellis act, and put limits on the development of luxury condos. The SFDCCC's power is to

pass resolutions, endorse, and run campaigns--and I will always be on the side of the homeless and marginally housed.

**4. What are your plans to address housing affordability and economic inequality in San Francisco? What work have you done on these issues in the past?**

Closely tied to the above, I support the expansion of rent control and just cause to all types of housing. I support universal right to unionize, and believe neutrality should be part of every City Contract or project that City Money touches. SF needs to look again at raising the minimum wage and increase proactive enforcement of labor laws, not just complaint-based. Expand community based tenant code enforcement programs, and language and cultural capacity of out city and city-funded resources. I worked to improve habitability and affordability of Tenderloin hotels and apartments, including winning the first rent subsidy program for families. I also worked on Richmond rent control campaign. I fought to get the union movement behind rent control. I also worked closely with ACCE to occupy and force banks to sell back foreclosed homes to their original owners, during and after the financial crisis.

5. Describe your work addressing racial injustice and inequity in San Francisco.

I led protests and actions to support black home owners whose houses had been stolen by banks during the foreclosure crisis to win them back--using direct action and community call-in campaigns. I got my union to endorse these campaigns and brought union members to the Bayview and Western Addition to support these campaigns and the community. I also helped to start a immigration raid rapid response network during the Bush years, when raids happened at work places at gunpoint and immigrants were rounded up in the hundreds... it was a dark time, but all of our collective work eventually led to the SFISLEN coalition that restored Sanctuary protections, ended car towing for drivers without licenses, and restored due process for youth. I also documented many of the cases of racial profiling that ended Chief Fong's racist program of targeting drivers thought to be "driving without a license."

More recently, I supported efforts to cover the racist, inaccurate portrayal of Black, Native and White people at George Washington High School. Images that teach that Native Americans are naked and violent, that slavery was industrial, and that white people were strong and reasonable in the colonization of this land have no place in a school building. These images reinforce inaccurate depictions of history, and stay in the unconscious mind of the viewer... it has the same effect as Fox News imagery... normalizing dangerously untrue versions of US History that even if the conscience mind knows are untrue, get lodged in our brains as true. This is the science behind unconscious bias--the more we see an image, the more our unconscious mind believes it, even if we can acknowledge that it isn't true.

**6. How have you supported economically-underresourced LGBTQ San Franciscans, and how will you continue to do so if elected?**

I fought against harassment of Transgender tenants in SROs who were facing discrimination by their building owner. On a larger policy issue, I support shelters and programs specifically designed for homeless and unemployed LGBTQ folks. I am very concerned about discrimination that our seniors face, as many are forced to go back into the closet to live in religious-based housing. Housing discrimination is real, but very rarely enforced. I would support funding to tenant law firms and community-based tenant and LGBT groups to expand their services to address this.

**7. Do you support State Senator Scott Wiener's SB 50, a rezoning proposal to promote housing density? Why or why not?** No, it is a give away to developers while stripping local control.

**8. What are your thoughts on the role of law enforcement and corporations in the annual Pride parade?**

Law Enforcement--strong no

Corporations--Generally no, it's really gross to see companies that are causing so much havoc on our communities march in the Parade with a bunch of straight people wearing rainbows... there should be at least some standard that corporations need to meet before marching.

**9. Do you support lowering the voting age to 16 for local elections? Why or why not?** yes! Voter registration increases, and we know that once someone starts voting they usually continue. With climate change and such existential threats to our Democracy, rights and world... 16 year olds will have to live with the consequences and they are absolutely thoughtful enough to make political decisions.

**10. Who did you support in the recent District 5 Supervisorial race?**

Dean Preston, 100%--I campaigned for him, raised money for him, hosted a fundraiser, and hosted a mobilization.

**11. Who did you support in the recent District Attorney's race?**

Suzy Loftus #1, Chesa Boudin #2. This was an extremely difficult race for me to endorse, I took months to consider and finally weigh in. For me, when it came to the SFDCCC vote Chesa still hadn't released his platform on victims and that was a bid blind spot for me for someone running for DA. I like a lot of Chesa's positions and I hope he is successful, I have texted him since he won. I was also confused how someone could run for this race and seem to have no community connections. Meanwhile, I was getting called by Suzy supporters in the Tenderloin saying how she was great on their neighborhood issues and that no issue was too big or too small for her to take on. I also thought Suzy did take on strong positions at the Police Commission and showed courage. People I know who were victims of serious crimes shared that Suzy would personally text them to check in on them--and this is something that is very unusual in my experience and important. Some things happened during the end of the campaign, that I did not anticipate happening in the beginning. The POA's attacks were disgusting, and I had other concerns.

12. Who did you support in the 2019 Mayor's race? Jane Kim

## Only SF DCCC Candidates

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Are you presently a member of the San Francisco DCCC? If so, did you obtain your position from an appointment?

Yes and I was appointed. I was the first runner up last time.

2. Please explain three main goals you would like to achieve as a DCCC member.

Increase accessibility to politics for parents of young children, particularly primary care givers and single parents (cis straight men with kids have been leaving them home with their wives for centuries... that's not what I'm talking about).

Increase visibility and support for unions and union organizing.

Push policies like support for the Green New Deal, appeal Costa Hawkins, etc. through the SFDCCC upward and to the CA Democratic Party and our Federal delegation.

Keep the blue wave going and take back the Senate, the White House and hold onto the House.

3. How will you make the local Democratic Party more accessible, relevant, and engaged to community members?

I had proposed we have issue-based meetings, so that when we take positions on resolutions they are informed by the community.

I want the SFDCCC to advertise more events and opportunities to get involved beyond our little listserve and to all Democrats--to support union drives, to join the Sunrise Movement, to register voters, and endorsement interviews, etc.

I think we need to have at least a few meetings on a Saturday.

4. Do you support limits on DCCC fundraising? If so, explain how?

I support banning corporate money for the Party, but do not believe the same limit should be for unions.

5. If you served on the DCCC during the 2019 endorsement process, how did you vote for

Mayor: Breed

District Attorney: Suzy, Chesa

District 5 Supervisor: No Endorsement, Dean (this was how the candidate asked us to vote)

Prop C (Vaping): No

Prop D (Uber/Lyft Tax): Yes

Prop E (Teacher & Family Housing): Yes

Prop F (Sunlight on Dark Money): Yes

6. Do you support a candidate or candidates for President in 2020? Why?

### **Only Judicial Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Are you presently serving on the bench? If so, how did you obtain your seat?
2. Please provide three main reasons why you should serve as judge.
3. What are your thoughts on the cash bail system, and how should it be changed?
4. Please share your perspective on racial bias and its effects on the criminal justice system. How would you reduce this sort of bias? (For example, San Francisco has approximately 5% African American residents but over 50% of its inmates are African American.)
5. If you are serving on civil court, what measures would you take to try to make civil court more affordable and accessible to people of low income and modest means?
6. If you are serving on criminal court, what mitigating factors would you consider in sentencing defendants which you feel are not given enough consideration now?
7. Have you ever been held in contempt, been the subject of an adverse finding by the Commission of Judicial Performance, or been reprimanded by the California State Bar? If the answer is yes to any of these, please explain the circumstances.

### **Only Congressional Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Please explain why you are running for Congress.

2. Briefly describe three achievements you have made in your Congressional district.
  
3. How will you make the local Democratic Party more accessible, relevant, and engaging for community members?
  
4. Do you support Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's *Green New Deal*? Why or why not?
  
5. Do you support Medicare For All? If so, how would you implement it?
  
6. Do you support reducing military spending, and diverting it towards domestic programs? If so, how would you help implement this?
  
7. Do you support reducing America's military presence in other countries?
  
8. What would you do to improve America's current immigration policy? Give some examples.
  
9. Do you support raising the Federal Minimum wage? If so, to what amount?
  
10. Is your campaign accepting any corporate or PAC money? If so, please list those sources.
  
11. What are your main strategies for meeting voters?
  
12. Do you support a candidate or candidates for President in 2020? Why?

**Only State Assembly & State Senate Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. What are your top three goals as a member of the State Legislature?
  
2. Will you increase truly affordable housing while respecting the autonomy of local zoning and housing policies? If so, how?
  
3. How will you continue to advance state environmental policies that adequately address the climate crisis?
  
4. Will you support a permanent ban on fracking in California?
  
5. What are your plans for improving and expanding public transportation?
  
6. How will you ensure that public education is fully funded and that all schools are provided with adequate resources, regardless of locale? How exactly will you increase teachers' pay?
  
7. How will you address and help remedy the record number of prison inmates? What programs will you undertake to assist prisoners before release and reduce recidivism?
  
8. Is your campaign accepting any corporate or PAC money? If so, please list those sources.
  
9. Do you support a candidate or candidates for President in 2020? Why?

**Only Presidential Candidates**  
*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Please explain why your candidate is running for President.

2. Briefly describe three major achievements your candidate has made prior to running for president.

3. Does your candidate support Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's *Green New Deal*? Why or why not?

4. Does your candidate support Medicare For All? If so, how would it be implemented?

5. Does your candidate support reducing military spending, and diverting it towards domestic programs? If so, how would you help implement this?

6. Does your candidate support reducing America's military presence in other countries?

7. What would your candidate do to improve America's current immigration policy? Give some examples.

8. What steps will your candidate take to ensure reproductive freedom and LGBTQ rights?

9. Does your candidate support raising the Federal Minimum wage? If so, to what amount?

10. Explain the criteria your candidate considers when appointing federal judges.

11. Is your candidate's campaign accepting any corporate or PAC money? If so, please list those sources.

## **Only Ballot Measures**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Briefly explain the purpose of this ballot initiative and what it would do.
2. What would be the fiscal impact of this initiative?
3. Who crafted this initiative, and how was it placed on the ballot?
4. Who are the initiative's principal consultants, and what is its main funding sources?
5. Who are some of the initiatives's individual and organizational supporters?
6. Who are some of the initiative's individual and organizational opponents?
7. Why do you think the Harvey Milk Club should endorse this initiative?

## **PART 2:**

### **Yes or No Questions**

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

#### **GENERAL**

**YES NO**

1. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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2. Have you ever sought elected office before?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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3. Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact? If so, who? _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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4. Have you ever sought a Milk Club endorsement in the past?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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#### **LGBTQ ISSUES**

**YES NO**

5. Should the SFPD formally apologize for the decades of homophobic and transphobic abuses and violence it committed against the LGBTQ community that have spanned decades.	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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6. Do you support public funding for employment development for transgender job-seekers?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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7. Do you support efforts to expand access to PrEP and the <i>Getting to Zero</i> initiative to end the HIV epidemic in San Francisco?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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#### **TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES**

**YES NO**

8 Do you support the creation of an independent commission to oversee the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Services?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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9. Do you support the split-role repeal of Proposition 13?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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10. Do you support the repeal of the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act?	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. Do you support the repeal of the Ellis Act?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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12. Do you support increasing funding for enforcement capacity for Short Term Rental platforms, e.g. AirBnB and VRBO?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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13. Do you support the sweeps of homeless encampments by the Department of Public Works?	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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14. Do you support a vacancy tax on empty commercial properties?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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15. Do you support a vacancy tax on empty residential properties?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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16. Would you support a licensing system for landlords in San Francisco?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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17. Do you support a public municipal bank in San Francisco?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES**  
**YES NO**

18. Should U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement be abolished?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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19. Do you support San Francisco's Sanctuary City status?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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20. Do you support due process protections for immigrant youth accused of crimes?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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21. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including, but not limited to, the SF School Board?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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22. Do you support increased funds for immigrant defense services?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**SOCIAL JUSTICE, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND LABOR ISSUES**  
**YES NO**

23. Do you support the death penalty?	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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24. Do you support the use of tasers by law enforcement?	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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25. Do you support requiring an independent investigation of all police officer-related shootings?	Yes	
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26. Should the Department of Police Accountability have the power to investigate allegations of misconduct by members of the Sheriff's Department?	Yes	
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27. Should a civilian oversight commission for the Sheriff's Department be created, with the power to suspend or terminate members of the department?	Yes	
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28. Do you support the implementation of supervised injection/consumption sites?	Yes	
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29. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work?	Yes	
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30. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or ignored a union boycott?	No	
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31. Do you support the right for public sector employees to go on strike?	Yes	
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32. Do you support AB 5, making it harder for companies to label workers as independent contractors instead of employees?	Yes	
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33. Do you support the recent vote by the SF Board of Supervisors to close Juvenile Hall?	Yes	
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34. Do you support the rebuilding of the county jail at 850 Bryant?	No	
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**EDUCATION AND YOUTH**

**YES NO**

35. Do you support expanding LGBTQ curriculum throughout San Francisco's public schools?	Yes	
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36. Do you support the full, continuous funding for Free City College?	Yes	
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37. Do you think teachers' salaries should be increased to ensure a living wage in San Francisco?	Yes -cla ssifi	
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38. Do you support the March 2020 ballot initiative known as the San Francisco Affordable Housing/Jobs Balanced Development Act (“M2”)?	Yes	
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**ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES**

**YES NO**

39. Do you support the recent bailout of Pacific, Gas, & Electric?	No	
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**No**

40. Do you support the dissolution of Pacific, Gas, & Electric?	Yes	
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41. Do you support expanding the CleanPower SF program?	Yes	
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42. Should CEQA guidelines be reduced in order to increase development?	No	
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43. Do you ride San Francisco public transit on a daily basis?	Yes	
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44. Do you support free access to public transit for seniors, disabled persons, the economically disadvantaged, and the underserved?  I support the system being free because the burdens put on low-income, families and seniors and persons with disabilities to get free access is itself a hardship. Many people eligible for free MUNI or discounted MUNI forgo these advantages because of such a burden. Tax the rich, make the whole thing free--get people out of their cars.	Every one	yes ... but it sho uld just be free
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45. Do you support a plan to provide free transportation citywide?	Yes	
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46. Do you support the ongoing switchbacks on the K, N, and T Muni lines?	No	
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47. Should the mayor continue to appoint all commissioners to the SFMTA?	No	
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48. Did you support Measure D on the November 2019 ballot?	Yes	
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**POLITICAL TRANSPARENCY**

**YES NO**

50. Did you support the recent <i>Sunlight on Dark Money (Prop F)</i> ballot measure on the November 2019 ballot?	Yes	
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51. Does your campaign accept corporate contributions?	No	
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52. Does your campaign accept contributions from individuals with a financial interest in land use matters valued at \$5 million or more?	No	
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53. Do you support expanding SF's public financing program?	Yes	
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54. Do you support Supervisor Gordon Mar's charter measure to prohibit a mayoral appointment within 90 days of an election?	Yes	
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