

San Francisco District 11 Democratic Club
Questionnaire for Candidates – November 2016 Candidates

PLEASE USE THIS TEMPLATE TO RESPOND ELECTRONICALLY TO info@sfd11dems.com
by **Wednesday**, August 17, 2016 by 11pm.

Our PAC meetings are scheduled for Saturday, Aug.27 & Sunday, Aug. 28, 2016 from 10am-5pm each day.
If you have a preferred time to schedule, please contact info@sfd11dems.com. Otherwise, you will receive
time an email to sign up for timeslots using google docs.

1. **Name:** *Alex Randolph*
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3. **Telephone/Cell phone:** *(925) 207-6632/1, (415) 205-6190*
4. **Email address:** *alex@alexrandolph.com*

1. **What is your political affiliation? How long?**

I have been a proud registered Democrat since I turned 18 in 2001.

1. **Please list your campaign manager and contact info?**

Shwetika Bajjal: (925) 207-6632, shwetika@50p1.com

1. **What is the major source of your campaign funding? Also, please list your top 3 funders.**

The majority of my campaign funds will come from individual residents of San Francisco.

I anticipate my top funders to be:

1. *Labor Unions*
2. *LGBT Community*
3. *Friends and family*

1. **What office are you running for? Please explain why you are running and what your qualifications are for this specific office?**

Community College changed my life. I wouldn't be here today as a Trustee without my start at Grossmont Community College in San Diego that offered me a way up and a start in higher education. I was born and raised in Germany by a single mom and did not move to the United States until I was 16. My working-class parents never had the chance to get a college education. Consequently, getting a college degree was always very important in my family and I feared that I would not be able to afford going to college either.

June 4th, 2003 is a date I will never forget, the day of my community college graduation when I knew that going to college was the right thing for me to do and that I was able to succeed. Since

then, I was able to transfer to UC Berkeley, where I graduated with a bachelor degree in political science and public policy in 2006. After moving to San Francisco, I graduated from San Francisco State with a Master's of Public Administration in 2012. As a proud product of California's public education system, I experienced first-hand the sheer power of education. I feel so privileged to serve CCSF and the City of San Francisco as a Trustee.

It gives me great pleasure to see every day numerous examples of what investing in people can do and achieve. There is no greater equalizer in our society than education. Over the past year as a Trustee I have focused a great deal of my attention to supporting and reaching out to traditionally underserved students in High School, Middle School, and currently enrolled at City College.

I was very proud to be able to co-host the first African-American and Students of Color Welcome Reception at CCSF last fall. The reception aimed to connect the incoming students to current students, alumni, and student resources offered on campus to make sure they are successful and live up to their full potential.

I am running for re-election to the SF Community College Board because as a product of the California Community College system, I know how important this institution is for many who need access to affordable quality education. I also understand the issues that many students face and have been working hard over the past year as a Trustee to ensure that City College stays accredited, accessible, and affordable. I want to make sure that my set of skills and abilities are put to use in service of the betterment of City College and to make sure that San Franciscans are afforded the same opportunities that I was.

I am honored that all of my colleagues on the Board of Trustees have endorsed me for my re-election this time around and I would be honored to receive the support of the District 11 Democratic Club as well. This has been the job of a lifetime and I am so honored to be part of this incredible community. It has been a privilege to serve you over the past year. A thriving San Francisco doesn't exist without City College. I am looking forward to working with all of you to ensure that CCSF continues to be a place of hope and opportunity for all San Franciscans.

- 1. Identify the three most important issues for the position you seek? What are the solutions you see for these specific issue areas or how will you work to tackle them?**

- 1. Accessibility: Although City College is California's largest public school our enrollment is declining, community colleges receive a significant amount of their funding based on*

the number of “full time enrolled students”. We need to work hard to make sure that our enrollment rates become stronger in order to maintain our classes and services for students. In particular we need to improve our marketing and increase City College’s presence throughout San Francisco. I have already begun working on strengthening our partnership with SFUSD as part of the newly revived SF School Board and Community College Joint Committee. I have also worked to increase access to higher education with the established partnership of City College with Five Keys Charter School. I will continue fighting for accessibility, by promoting initiatives that make City College affordable, such as the proposed city ordinance to make City College Free and proposal for expanded Emergency Financial Aid.

2. *Accreditation: Maintaining accreditation is essential in order to assure quality higher education for City College Students. City College is currently in its final year of “restoration status”, which requires us as an institution to create and submit a **Comprehensive Self Evaluation Report**, including addressing 32 specific areas of "continuing noncompliance", to the Accrediting Commission on Community and Junior Colleges (ACCKJC). I am very proud that the Board has voted to approved our self-evaluation at our study session on July 14th. An external review by the visiting team will take place the week of October 10th. If the External Review finds that we meet or exceed all these requirements then we will be moved from “restoration status” to “reaffirmation of accreditation.” I will continue to work with my fellow Trustees, City College administrators, to ensure decisions are made that maintain our standing. Additionally I will work with elected officials and other Community Colleges to achieve a fair and transparent accreditation.*
3. *Financial Stability: We have had major progress with City College’s financial challenges, receiving 2 years of temporary funds from the State to keep all programs open. In order to maintain a more stable financial footing we need to establish prudent financial policies and reserves, and responsibly manage voter approved bond funds for facility improvements and capital projects. I am proud to be one of the strongest supporters on the Board to have voted to place the renewal of the parcel tax on this November’s ballot. The additional funding and long-term stability generated by the parcel tax extension is critical to City College’s future. I am also committed to building partnerships with CBO’s and the business community and working with our local representatives and other community college districts to put another state-wide k-16+ infrastructure bond on the ballot.*

Another final important focus is the selection of a new permanent Chancellor by next Summer. Something that I am focused on as well to ensure that the choice reflects not only the diversity of our students and city but also understands the important role education plays in people’s’ lives.

1. **District 11 has more children, more ethnic diversity and more homeowners than any other district in San Francisco. These are just a few of the unique features of this district. If elected, describe the priorities of your office for District 11.**

My commitment to District 11 is my continued outreach to its school districts and youth. As a young African-American public official I have the unique ability to connect with these students on a direct personal level and show them through the lens of my own educational path that City College is a critical pathway to a better life. I have spent a lot of time with High School students and Summer Youth programs to have essential one-on-one outreach and serve as a role model and motivator. It is hard to have a dream of a better life if you don't know that this future even exists. I am so proud to have worked with my colleagues to revitalize the joint SFUSD / City College Board Committee. As one of the Committee Members, I am working hard to strengthen our co-enrollment program for school district students at City College and excited to see that we have already seen a success and growth at Balboa High School this summer.

1. **We would like to know your position on the following ALL of the Measures, please circle or clearly mark your preference. In addition, please add short comments to your top 5 issues on why you believe this measure or proposition is of critical importance this election:**

LOCAL Measures:

Initiative Ordinance: Affordable Housing Requirements for Market-Rate Development Projects (Resubmitted)

I haven't had a chance to study this to take a position

Initiative Ordinance: Competitive Bidding for Affordable Housing Projects on City-Owned Projects (Resubmitted)

Oppose

Initiative Ordinance: Office Development in Candlestick Point and Hunters Point

Support

Initiative Ordinance: Allocation of Hotel Tax Funds

Support

Charter Amendment- Sixteen and Seventeen-Year-Old Voting for Municipal Elections

STRONG SUPPORT!!!

I was one of the first elected officials to support the exciting Youth16 Vote initiative, allowing 16 and 17 year old to vote in School Board and Community College Board elections. Numerous studies have shown that if you get voters engaged and part of the political process early they will become life-long and regular voters. I am proud of the work the coalition and the Youth Commission has done around this issue and plan to continue to look for new ways to engage young people in the process.

San Francisco Community College District November 8, 2016 Parcel Tax Election

STRONG SUPPORT!!!

A big thank you to the voters in 2012 for approving a parcel tax that provides critical funding to our annual budget. Unfortunately, the current tax is only for 8 years, instead of the 20-25 years the school district has, and will sunset in 2021. If we don't pass another parcel tax before 2021, we estimate that CCSF budget could lose around \$16 million in local revenue in the 2021-2022 fiscal year. It is critical to City College's future to pass this parcel tax extension.

Prohibiting Candidate-Controlled General Purpose Committees

I haven't had a chance to study this to take a position

Initiative Ordinance - Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax Ordinance

Support

Initiative Ordinance - The Safe Neighborhoods Initiative

I haven't had a chance to study this to take a position

Initiative Ordinance - Promotion of Safe and Open Sidewalks

Oppose

Resolution Ordering School Bond Election in an Amount Not to Exceed \$744,250,000 and Authorizing Necessary Actions in Connection Therewith

Support

Charter Amendment - Dignity Fund

Support

Charter Amendment - Municipal Transportation Agency- Appointments to Board of Directors and Budget Process

Oppose

Charter Amendment - Homeless Housing Services Fund; Transportation Improvement Fund - Budget Set-Asides

Support

Charter Amendment - Filling Vacancies in Local Elective Office

Oppose

Initiative Ordinance - Increase Real Property Transfer Tax on Properties of At Least \$5,000,000
STRONG SUPPORT!!!

I have been an enthusiastic advocate on behalf of this proposal since the beginning. In fact the Board of Trustees has just recently unanimously passed a resolution that I co-authored to support the free City College initiative. I have also been working with Supervisor Kim, AFT2121, my fellow Trustees, and other elected officials to make sure that voters approve the real estate transfer tax on the ballot this November. As someone who benefitted from a free community college education due to financial aid and fee waivers, I know first hand how important affordable access to education is to change someone's life for the better. Unfortunately, education has additional costs associated with it than just education and the Free City College proposal will provide critical stipends of up to \$1,000 to assist our students with their textbook, transportation and other costs.

Initiative Ordinance - Restrict Lobbyist Gifts, Campaign Contributions and Bundled Contributions

Support

Charter Amendment - Housing and Development Commission

Oppose

Charter Amendment - Department of Police Accountability

Support

Charter Amendment - Non-Citizens Voting in School Board Elections

Support

I am a strong supporter of getting more people engaged in the democratic process. Parents, caretakers, and guardians of children in our public school district should be able to provide input on who serves on the School Board in San Francisco.

Charter Amendment - Public Advocate

Oppose

General Obligation Bond Election -Amending Earthquake Loan Bond Program to Finance Acquisition and Rehabilitation of Affordable Housing

Support

Charter Amendment - City Responsibility for Maintaining Street Trees

Support

State Measures:

Proposition 51: School Bonds. Funding for K-12 School and Community College Facilities. Initiative Statutory Amendment.

Support

City College similarly to other public education facilities has an incredibly high deferred maintenance backlog and facilities dating back to the 1940s. This state bond will provide critical funds to renovate and upgrade our classrooms, centers, and buildings. Our faculty provides world class education and our classified staff works hard every day to keep City College up and running. It is time to provide our students with classrooms and space for critical services and resources world class facilities. This bond will provide additional funding to reach this goal.

Proposition 52: State Fees on Hospitals. Federal Medi-Cal Matching Funds. Initiative Statutory and Constitutional Amendment.

Support

Proposition 53: Revenue Bonds. Statewide Voter Approval. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

Oppose

Proposition 54: Legislature. Legislation and Proceedings. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

Oppose

Proposition 55: Tax Extension to Fund Education and Healthcare. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

Support

This tax extension will maintain critical funding for k-16+ education.

Proposition 56: Cigarette Tax to Fund Healthcare, Tobacco Use Prevention, Research, and Law Enforcement. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

Support

Proposition 57: Criminal Sentences. Juvenile Criminal Proceedings and Sentencing. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

Support

Proposition 58: SB 1174 (Chapter 753, Statutes of 2014), Lara.

[English language education. \(PDF\)](#)

Support

Proposition 59: SB 254 (Chapter 20, Statutes of 2016), Allen.

[Campaign finance: voter instruction. \(PDF\)](#)

Support

Proposition 60: Adult Films. Condoms. Health Requirements. Initiative Statute.

Oppose

Proposition 61: State Prescription Drug Purchases. Pricing Standards. Initiative Statute.

Oppose

Proposition 62: Death Penalty. Initiative Statute.

Support

Proposition 63: Firearms. Ammunition Sales. Initiative Statute.

Support

I have been a longtime and outspoken proponent of tougher gun control legislation. Earlier this year I proudly sponsored a resolution at City College calling on the State of California and Congress to pass comprehensive gun control legislation, especially when it comes to keeping college campuses safe.

Proposition 65: Carry-Out Bags. Charges. Initiative Statute.

Oppose

Proposition 66: Death Penalty. Procedures. Initiative Statute.

Oppose

Proposition 67: Referendum to Overturn Ban on Single-Use Plastic Bags.

Support - **voting to maintain ban on Single-Use Plastic Bags*