

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:** Dr. Amy Bacharach
2. **Address:** 673 36th Avenue
3. **Telephone/Cell phone:** 415-489-8778
4. **Email address:** amy@amybacharach.com

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

Democrat. My whole adult life.

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

NA

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

Friends and family and community members. Top 3 funders are my husband, Assemblyman Phil Ting, and a personal friend who does not live in San Francisco.

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

I am running for re-election to the Community College Board to continue the work that this dynamic Board has been doing since having our power restored. I am passionate about higher education as I am a living example of the opportunities that higher education can provide, having gone from high-school dropout to Ph.D. in less than 20 years. I have a unique perspective on the board due to my work in developing and analyzing policy, implementing evidence-based practices, and making hard decisions, as well as my work as an adjunct professor for many years, which brings a faculty perspective. I am a pragmatic, independent, strong, and unifying leader, which is exactly what City College needs right now. My vision is for the Board to move forward with strengthening the institution as a whole, making sure that the community's needs are being met with high-quality education and training and that the college is on track for financial stability. The Board must also rebuild mutual trust with all of its stakeholders, including faculty and staff, students, the community, the state chancellor's office, and even the accrediting agency.

9. 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?

- a) Enrollment
- b) Attracting and retaining great faculty and staff while getting our budget back to normal
- c) Facilities

I will continue working closely with SFUSD to bring as many HS students and graduates into CCSF as possible. In the past, HS students have comprised a small percentage of overall enrollment. I believe that we can significantly increase this percentage and boost enrollment, and that is one of my goals. When I ran last time, one of my goals was to make sure that City College has a seat at the table and is working closely with SFUSD. I'm now proud to serve as the co-chair of the joint CCSF-SFUSD committee with school board president Matt Haney to work on this issue. I will also continue advocating for creating new collaborative partnerships with industries and professions in the Bay Area to provide all vocational and skills training for the people in those industries and professions. We've done a great job at supplying the majority of nurses and culinary staff in the Bay Area; I'd like to see that applied to many other sectors. We should also be providing the training and education for existing employers in SF, including the County of San Francisco! I also support continuing our marketing campaign letting the general population know that we are open and accredited and providing incredible and affordable education for all. I will also continue advocating for as high of salary increases that we can afford while maintaining fiscal responsibility. In addition, I will continue advocating for reasonable and responsible facilities management and building.

10. 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 priorities overlap with what I listed in the previous question. In addition, as a newish mom, my priorities for City College include increasing the availability of childcare both during the day and for evening meetings (our students, faculty, and staff who are parents should be able to attend our meetings). My primary goal for this next term continues to be starting an alumni association for the estimated 1 in 7 or 8 San Franciscans who have been touched by City College. This will create so many more opportunities for our students, from funding to mentorships to job opportunities.

11. 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)

Support or Oppose (UNSURE)

On its face, I oppose this, but I would want to study both sides of this issue before making a decision, and I haven't had the opportunity to do that yet.

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

Support or Oppose

I would worry about trying to find additional bidders just for the sake of it if, say, only 2 developers bid on a project. It may seem unfathomable now, but I've been in situations where we've had to have 3 nominees for something and only 2 people apply and we've had to list a 3rd person with no interest just to get a name in there.

Initiative Ordinance: Office Development in Candlestick Point and Hunters Point

Support or Oppose

This is a perfect example of how California's system of direct democracy is seriously flawed. We have to continually pass more ballot initiatives to fix prior ballot initiatives.

Initiative Ordinance: Allocation of Hotel Tax Funds

Support or Oppose

This is a conundrum for me because on one hand, with the exception of education, I'm generally opposed to tying general fund funds to any specific thing because we don't know what our priorities or city needs will be in the future. On the other hand, I think the things this would fund are important. Because I think they're likely to be important for the foreseeable future, I support.

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

Support or Oppose

I strongly support this initiative. Young people have proven time and again that they care about the issues and make educated decisions. More importantly, giving them a voice could create much better policies for people in this age group since policymakers would have to really listen to them as constituents.

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

Support or **Oppose**

I strongly support the parcel tax. City College is in a fiscal crisis due to the accreditation issues over the last few years. I am confident that we will restore enrollment to its previous levels, thus increasing revenue, but it will take time. In the meantime, it's imperative that City College increase its revenues to continue providing our entire community with the educational resources it deserves.

Prohibiting Candidate-Controlled General Purpose Committees

Support or **Oppose**

I believe this was withdrawn.

Initiative Ordinance - Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax Ordinance

Support or **Oppose**

I am a strong supporter of this initiative. We know that these taxes work to reduce diabetes and other related diseases.

Initiative Ordinance - The Safe Neighborhoods Initiative

Support or **Oppose**

The levels of crime in this city are driving away women and families. We must act accordingly.

Initiative Ordinance - Promotion of Safe and Open Sidewalks

Support or **Oppose**

I support this initiative because there is nothing progressive about allowing people to live on the streets. And there is nothing progressive about forcing families out of a city because it's not safe for them to walk in their own city. Being part of a group of about 5000 moms across this city, I have heard enough horror stories of families having to try to live or work near tent encampments. Tent encampments have no place in any developed first world city.

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

Support or **Oppose**

Education is THE most important thing that government provides. We must pay for it.

Charter Amendment - Dignity Fund

Support or **Oppose**

Similar to my comment on hotel tax funds.

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

Support or **Oppose**

I'm leaning toward a "no" vote on this, but will be very interested in hearing arguments on both sides to hear why this would be necessary from a policy perspective (as opposed to a political perspective).

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

Support or **Oppose**

We desperately need more funds (and better policies) dedicated to housing the homeless and for transportation.

Charter Amendment - Filling Vacancies in Local Elective Office

Support or **Oppose**

It makes no sense—and is completely undemocratic—to prohibit someone who is filling an interim seat from running for that office. Special elections are also very expensive with very low voter turnout, so it makes much more sense to keep the policy as it is whereby an appointment has to run in the next available election.

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

Support or **Oppose**

Theoretically, this transfer tax is meant to fund the Free City College initiative, which I wholeheartedly support.

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

Support or **Oppose**

I'm leaning toward supporting this in an effort to reduce any appearance of conflicts of interest. I will be interested in hearing about potential consequences that I may not be thinking of or why this might be a bad idea.

Charter Amendment - Housing and Development Commission

Support or **Oppose**

When reading the legislative digest, this charter seems redundant. But I'd be interested in hearing more about why it would be beneficial.

Charter Amendment - Department of Police Accountability

Support or **Oppose**

This is a good opportunity to authorize an audit provide access to this agency to resources that it currently does not have access to.

Charter Amendment - Non-Citizens Voting in School Board Elections

Support or **Oppose**

I'm a proponent of easing the requirements and the process of gaining citizenship, but I believe that voting in any country is correctly a right, privilege, and responsibility of citizens. I have lived in 2 other countries and would not have expected to be able to vote there unless I gained citizenship. I am in favor of creative programs to increase noncitizens' involvement, such as the program that pairs people who otherwise wouldn't vote with noncitizens who want a voice. This program allows the team to research the issues together and have the citizen vote.

Charter Amendment - Public Advocate

Support or **Oppose** **Unsure**

I have to research this more and learn how this additional position might be beneficial and not overlapping with existing roles.

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

Support or **Oppose**

Seismic safety is and should be one our top priorities.

Charter Amendment - City Responsibility for Maintaining Street Trees

Support or **Oppose**

This responsibility should never have been transferred to property owners to begin with.

State Measures:

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

Support or Oppose

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

Support or Oppose

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

Support or Oppose **Unsure**

I haven't had time to study this issue yet.

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

Support or Oppose **Unsure**

I haven't had time to study this issue yet.

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

Support or Oppose

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

Support or Oppose

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

Support or Oppose

Proposition 58: SB 1174 (Chapter 753, Statutes of 2014), Lara.
[English language education. \(PDF\)](#)

Support or **Oppose**

Proposition 59: SB 254 (Chapter 20, Statutes of 2016), Allen.
[Campaign finance: voter instruction. \(PDF\)](#)

Support or **Oppose**

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

Support or **Oppose**

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

Support or **Oppose**

Proposition 62: Death Penalty. Initiative Statute.

Support or **Oppose**

Proposition 63: Firearms. Ammunition Sales. Initiative Statute.

Support or **Oppose**

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

Support or **Oppose**

Proposition 66: Death Penalty. Procedures. Initiative Statute.

Support or **Oppose**

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

Support or **Oppose**