

SFDCCC Candidate Questionnaire

Mayoral Race - June 2018

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What office are you running for? SAN FRANCISCO MAYOR

Are you running for re-election? NO.

What other elected positions have you held previously?

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SF SCHOOL BOARD while at Abraham Lincoln High School during my senior year.

PART I: GENERAL QUESTIONS (200 words or less)

Are you a registered member of the Democratic Party? **Yes**

Please describe your contributions to the Democratic Party and/or increasing civic engagement in the democratic process at the local, state and or/national level in recent years. **Voter.**

Are there any other civic causes or organizations that you are involved with? Please describe. **Native Daughters of the Golden West, Camp Reel Girls, C.S. Jung Institute of San Francisco, Project Glimmer.**

Please summarize your qualifications and experience for the office you are seeking. **I'm a military veteran, home owner and small business owner in San Francisco. I grew up in the city and can see that City Hall leadership "clique," of the same old players, i.e.**

Willie Brown, Gavin Newsom and others still continue to influence current local government policies just isn't working for me. I decided to run because it's simply time for new blood (myself) and fresh ideas to actually get the problems constituents want solved. Some of those problems – SFPD & Tasers, Transients, Housing & Transportation.

Please list any organizations or elected officials who have endorsed you. **N/A**

PART II: YES/NO QUESTIONS ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Do you support the divestment of public funds from Wells Fargo and other financial institutions involved in speculative and questionable banking practices?

Yes

Do you believe that the government should provide foreclosure relief for borrowers who were victims of unethical financial service practices?

Yes

Do you support the creation of a local municipal bank in San Francisco. **Yes**

Do you support the reform or repeal of the Ellis Act? If so, how would you like to see it changed? If not, why? We recognize that the housing affordability crisis and evictions have particularly impacted our marginalized communities and communities of color. How do you plan to address preserving these communities?

Unlike our late S.F. Mayor, including the mayors before him, Gavin Newsom and Willie Brown and our current Supervisors, I would ensure ALL new developers set aside at least 20% of all housing built for first responders FIRST and FOREMOST so that we can have them in the city for the safety and security of San Franciscans.

How would you address the issue of the displacement of low-income communities in San Francisco? **By holding civil servants at city hall, especially Supervisors, accountable to ensuring developers build enough affordable housing to match all other housing units built. Not allowing developers to contribute \$ to Supervisors and other civil servants they might seek to influence, campaigns or pet projects.**

What is affordable housing to you? Should the current AMI (area mean income) levels for low-income and middle-income be redefined? And how? **AMI does need to be redefined. U.S. government regards housing costs at or below 30% of one's income to be affordable.**

How would you balance the need for more housing and the need for community input in the Planning process? **By holding developers accountable for the inclusion of infrastructure and first responder jobs and housing financing as part of their building plan. Community input would have the last say on what gets built where, when and how.**

What are your budget priorities for San Francisco and what would be your process for establishing these priorities and engaging community and the Board of Supervisors? **Absolutely no funding, either from government or tax payers for Taser weapons for the SFPD. I would create a Holistic Mental Health & Wellness Institute within the City of S.F. where mentally ill, addicted & other infirm individuals living on our streets receive proper holistic care with conservatorship if necessary for the nearly 70% of transients on S.F. streets in dire need of mental and physical health care. I would have the State of California budget surplus monies pay for it. Work to bring our middle class back to S.F. starting with our infrastructure supporting folks, cops, firefighters, sewerage workers, teachers, social workers offering low-interest loans and tax breaks to encourage them to live in S.F.**

<http://www.michellebravo.org/housing/>

How do you envision the relationship between the tech/innovation sector and local government? **The relationship? What relationship? The so called, "Twitter Tax," has City Hall basically giving tax breaks to tech companies who have thus far offered up more population density, increased traffic congestion, displacement of lower middle class, elderly and others due to housing issues. It's time for tech companies to pay their fair share in not only taxes but other long-term financial contributions for the stabilization and sustainability of our infrastructure of S.F. Time to pass some new local legislation that will ensure this actually happens.**

What plan do you have to address the increased traffic congestion in the City and balance the sometimes conflicting needs and uses on our roads? **As with any new technology company "darling," (i.e. AirBnB) that's been around long enough to know better, it's time for San Francisco's City Hall to financially check and correct and hold both Uber and Lyft accountable for the damage they're doing to our city in the name of convenience. The corrections when I become mayor will look like this:**

-Work to curtail and seriously limit the number of Lyft and Uber drivers in the city by having them join the medallion system. Lyft and Uber drivers will be just like any other taxi drivers by paying the \$250K fee per driver for a medallion to operate in San Francisco.

-Charge Lyft and Uber companies and their drivers annual taxes, business fees AND congestion pricing as these companies are creating most of the congestion, bad roads, traffic violations and danger to cyclists and motorists by stopping wherever they want in the middle of street causing numerous accidents and trouble for all San Franciscans.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE/POLICE REFORM

Do you support overhauling the bail system?

Yes

Do you supporting rebuilding jails in San Francisco?

No

Will you commit to “ban the box” legislation to ensure that the formerly incarcerated are given equal opportunity for housing and employment? **Yes.**

Do you support the San Francisco Police Department being equipped with Tasers? **No. I absolutely oppose Taser weapons. If I am elected to mayor I will work hard to ensure they are NEVER given to the SFPD nor will they be paid for by S.F. taxpayers.**

EDUCATION/YOUTH

Will you commit to fully fund the implementation of Free City College, which the voters overwhelmingly approved in 2016? **Yes.**

Do you support expanding affordable childcare to low and middle income families?

Do you support expanding child care to include children aged 0-3 years old?

ENVIRONMENT

Do you support San Francisco's independence from private energy providers and commit to begin building out the City's own renewable energy generation sites by 2020? **YES.**

HEALTHCARE

With the opiate crisis worsening nationwide, would you support the creation of safe injection sites in San Francisco to support harm reduction? **I support the creation of a Holistic Mental Health & Wellness Institute within the City of S.F. where individuals who**

are addicts can receive proper holistic care with conservatorship for the nearly 70% of transients on S.F. streets in dire need of mental and physical health care. I would have the State of California budget surplus monies pay for it.

Do you fully support retaining and expanding the number of subacute beds in San Francisco? **No. I see hospitals located in San Francisco eventually phasing out subacute beds in San Francisco altogether. As a community we need to find other options for people. If this option was working, hospitals and health care facilities wouldn't be attempting to phase them out.**

Do you support using jails as mental health facilities and substance abuse treatment programs? **No. I support the creation of a Holistic Mental Health & Wellness Institute within the City of S.F. where individuals who are addicts can receive proper holistic care with conservatorship if need be.**

CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUES

Do you support speaking out in public against all forms of racism, discrimination, hatred and violence, and standing in solidarity with movements that promote equity, including ~~Black Lives Matter~~? **ALL Lives Matter. I support standing up against all you've stated here for ALL humanity. Period. I'm not beholden to just one group as that feels absolutely wrong. Supporting and even your mentioning ONLY Black Lives Matter instead of/or in addition to other groups actually feels unfair and frankly discriminatory to me.**

Will you protect the right of all people to use facilities and participate in all aspects of society regardless of their gender identity and the gender assigned at birth and ensure equal access to all public facilities? **Yes. At my office building, 450 Sutter, we've long had Unisex bathrooms with access for all including our handicapped patients.**

IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES

Will you support Sanctuary City policies and Due Process for All -- limiting the ability for local authorities to collaborate with Federal government on immigration enforcement which incites fear in immigrant communities? **Yes. I would also work hard with state and federal legislators to find ways to allow the process for legal immigration to become clearer so as to deter illegal immigration in the first place.**

Do you support the San Francisco Police Department's involvement with the FBI through the Joint Terrorism Task Force, which includes surveillance of San Francisco residents? **NO.**

Will you fully support funding for deportation and detention defense to protect San Francisco residents from removal proceedings? **Until I know what the budget/costs will be associated with such a proposal my answer is NO.**

LABOR

Do you support the privatization of essential government services and outsourcing of public sector jobs? **NO.**

Will you work to reduce the number of exempt classifications and seek to convert these positions to civil service? **YES.**

Will you support Cost Of Living Adjustments (COLAs) for non-profit organizations that hold contracts with the City? **NO. As mayor, until I know what the budget/costs are as well as a thorough compliance check to ensure these non-profits are well within compliance of receipt City funding, I will not arbitrarily give non-profits blind support without a proper report by a non-partisan group to gauge their actual effectiveness. Have you seen our streets lately?**

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

Will you commit to fully funding San Francisco's public financing program? **Yes**

Do you plan to or have you applied for public financing in this race?

Yes

HOUSING, TENANT, & LAND USE ISSUES

Do you support a split roll for Proposition 13 that treats taxes for commercial and residential property differently?

NO.

Would you support overturning Costa Hawkins to support the right for localities to pass rent control laws?

NO.

Should there be a moratorium on market rate housing in communities that have experienced elevated rates of displacement?

NO. We need to hold civil servants, mayor, supervisors, commissioners, at City Hall & serious discussions with developers BEFORE developers build anything more in S.F. We also need better legislation to hold developers accountable for what they actually build in terms of the number of MIDDLE CLASS units that people can BUY in S.F. not just the low-income people.

HOMELESSNESS TRANSIENT ISSUES

Do you support civil or criminal penalties for people sleeping, sitting, or lying on the streets? **Yes**

Will you commit to placing and funding Navigation Centers in every Supervisorial district? **Yes as long as we overhaul the way they're currently run to ensure they're not a dead-end, money sucking venture for tax payers. I prefer to champion my proposed Holistic Mental Health & Wellness Institute and it going forward state surplus funds coupled with a tax on developers and tech companies for the costs of expansion, future maintenance and infrastructure related to this facility.**

Do you support expansion of the rental subsidy program?

No. Not until it includes our first responders, police, firefighters, social workers, teachers who are considered middle class are also able to afford to live in the city otherwise we continue to have the very rich and a few of the very poor in subsidized housing. Time to change what we're doing because it's really not working.

PART III: SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS ON ISSUES (250 Words or less)

1) What specific policy changes would you propose to address the issue of chronic homelessness/transiency issues in San Francisco?

<http://www.michellebravo.org/housing/> Local government must work with state government to obtain funds and **pro-active legislation that will make it easier for people who are mentally and physically ill, addicted, etc. to receive proper medical care.** If transient populations are unable to care for the animal in which they live a.k.a. their physical Body), then steps MUST be taken to better help them on a city and state level. It is completely unacceptable that our quality of life in S.F. is being affected by individuals who have made a series of choices that have brought them to their current state of being. If transient populations are unable to consciously care for their Bodies, or are simply too checked-out of their Bodies to do so, it's time for local and state government to step-up and take the reins to better EVERYONE's quality of life in our state.

2) Do you support the reform or repeal of the Ellis Act? If so, how would you like to see it changed? If not, why?

"The Ellis Act prohibits local entities, such as cities, from having rent control ordinances that prevent owners of housing from evicting tenants to the extent that the landlord is required to continue providing housing. The Act does not limit ordinances that control landlords who continue renting; for example, an ordinance can prevent a landlord from evicting a tenant and then renting to another tenant." –Wikipedia

I support reforming the Ellis Act such that it protects our most vulnerable populations such as our cherished elders. I've read too many articles in the past several years citing loss of our beloved elders to greedy developers, speculators and others who've sounded the death knell thanks to the Ellis Act: <https://48hills.org/2017/10/senior-evictions/> We can do better to protect these individuals.

3) We recognize that the affordability crisis and evictions have particularly impacted our marginalized communities and communities of color. How do you plan to address preserving these communities? How would you address the issue of the displacement of low-income communities in San Francisco? Addressing the issue of displacement of middle and low-income residents starts with ensuring our local politicians, especially our mayor, Supervisors, commissioners, are not allowed to be bought by developers, tech or other industries who are looking to influence them in a negative way. Developers need to provide larger percentages of middle-class housing than what is currently being allowed and we need to make that a requirement if you build in S.F. If you are a company who brings workers here you need to automatically contribute to infrastructure to support the new people your business will bring in. I propose an infrastructure tax that would specifically allow for more housing for our public service workers including police, firefighters, social workers, public school teachers, etc. We need to have our first responders and key support people LIVING in S.F. so they are connected to San Francisco values and the people who live here. If these workers are too tired from their commute they'll be less likely to invest time and commitment to our community.

4) What is affordable housing to you? Should the current AMI (area mean income) levels for low-income and middle-income be redefined? And how? The AMI definitely needs to be redefined to reflect a semblance of what our reality is here in the S.F. Bay Area. Affordable housing needs to be prioritized FIRST for our support people and first responders. We need to have our first responders and key support people LIVING in S.F. so they are connected to San Francisco values and the people who live here. If these workers are too tired from their commute they'll be less likely to invest time and commitment to our community. Before we build more housing developments in the city, we need better planning and, more importantly, a solid plan for infrastructure and support. Senator Scott Weiner's SB 827 and SB 828 will drastically increase cities' populations as well as demands for public services such as fire, police, schools, sewerage and transit as well as our school districts and social services which is why I am FIRMLY AGAINST SB 827 & SB 828. Please read information from my ISSUES page for Housing on my website <http://www.michellebravo.org/housing/> for more info.

5) How would you balance the need for more housing and the need for community input in the Planning process? More community input? We need legislation passed that will allow protections put into place for our working class neighborhoods such as the Excelsior District so that Supervisor Safai, and others politicians like him are not unduly influenced by developer cash. Addressing the issue of displacement of

middle and low-income residents starts with ensuring our local politicians, especially our mayor, Supervisors, commissioners, are not allowed to be bought by developers, tech or other industries who are looking to influence them in a negative way that is CURRENTLY affecting our quality of life in S.F. Developers need to provide larger percentages of middle-class housing than what is currently being allowed and we need to make that a requirement if you build in S.F. INFRASTRUCTURE BEFORE MORE NEW DEVELOPMENTS. PERIOD.

6) What are your budget priorities for San Francisco and what would be your process for establishing these priorities and engaging community and the Board of Supervisors?

Health and wellness for all San Franciscans, especially transients. Please see my 3 main platform points as this one probably outlines best my plan for dealing with the transient issue: <http://www.michellebravo.org/housing/> Local government must work with state government to obtain funds and pro-active legislation that will make it easier for people who are mentally and physically ill, addicted, etc. to receive proper medical care. If transient populations are unable to care for the animal in which they live (their physical Body), then steps MUST be taken to better help them on a city and state level. I absolutely WILL ensure transportation remains affordable and accessible for all San Franciscans. A recent article gave me pause regarding Uber and Lyft. Please see here: <https://www.sfgate.com/business/technology/article/uber-lyft-traffic-congestion-study-boston-sf-12707264.php> As with any new technology company “darling,” (i.e. AirBnB) which has been around long enough to know better, it’s time for San Francisco’s City Hall to financially check and correct and hold both Uber and Lyft accountable for the damage they’re doing to our city in the name of convenience. The corrections when I become mayor will look like this;

- Work to curtail and seriously limit the number of Lyft and Uber drivers in the city by having them join the medallion system or change the medallion system to level the playing field for all in this business. This way, Lyft and Uber will be just like any other taxi service.
- Charge Lyft and Uber companies and their drivers annual taxes, business fees AND congestion pricing as these companies are creating most of the congestion, bad roads, traffic violations and danger to cyclists and motorists by stopping wherever they want in the middle of street causing numerous accidents and trouble for all San Franciscans.

7) How do you envision the relationship between the tech/innovation sector and local government?

I envision tech companies paying their fair share of taxes given the exorbitant amount of money they make. As a small business owner, I have to pay S.F. taxes. Why should huge tech companies get a break when I don’t? Absurd!

Encouraging their participation in local government so their workers become more connected to the community otherwise they’re no better than the transients who are living on the streets in terms of making a contribution and connection to our community and lifestyle what makes S.F. so unique.

8) What plan do you have to address the increased traffic congestion in the City and balance the sometimes conflicting needs and uses on our roads? Let's hold the companies responsible by letting THEM pay for the congestion, damage to our roads, injuries to cyclists, motorists and pedestrians their creations, i.e. Lyft and Uber, are causing in San Francisco. Please see my answer to question #6 on Uber & Lyft. To ensure the safety of ALL cyclists, motorcyclists, scooter riders, etc., I would incentivize private lots and mandate public lots in San Francisco to use the stacking car system see example for personal use in a garage here: <https://www.autostacker.com/>. In terms of parking loss, I believe if San Franciscans felt they had more options, such as City owned autostacker-type garages that housed cars/parking at discounted rates for city workers, first responders and other important service providers for our city, they might be less resentful.