

Dear Candidate:

The San Francisco Democratic Party (SFDCCC) is eager to learn more about your candidacy and invites you to participate in our endorsement process.

If you would like to be considered for an endorsement by SFDCCC, please complete the attached Endorsement Questionnaire and return to info@sfdemocrats.org

By **Monday, August 13 at 5:00pm**. Our Endorsement Committee will meet candidates for interviews on **August 18, 2018**. The exact time of your interview and location will be provided to you after we review your completed Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire and have determined that you meet our bottom line requirements to be considered for an endorsement. At the time of the interview, you may also provide additional information to supplement your questionnaire. You are limited to four (4) total pages, and you must provide 5 copies.

SFDCCC seeks to encourage the election of qualified local candidates who will help to advance our shared Democratic values. We are only able to endorse registered Democrats, except in the case of a nonpartisan race in which no registered Democrat has qualified for the ballot. We also seek to support those candidates who express agreement and have demonstrated support for our core issues and priorities, which are included in the California Democratic Party Platform, our Bylaws, and Policies and Procedures Manual (which can all be found at www.cadems.org and www.sfdemocrats.org).

To qualify for an endorsement interview, all candidates must indicate that they support the Democratic principles in our party platform, complete the Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire, and return it by the deadline of **August 13, 2018 at 5:00pm**.

Candidate interviews will be brief and will be open to both SFDCCC members and members of San Francisco's chartered democratic clubs. Following the Endorsement Committee interview, the full body will deliberate and vote on a final endorsement at our meeting scheduled for August 22, 2018, at 6:30pm, at the Tenderloin Community Elementary School. Meetings are open to the general public and are live streamed on our Facebook page. You are welcome to attend or follow our progress online.

The following rules also apply to the SFDCCC endorsement process and any violation may be subject to further actions, including a revocation of the endorsement:

1. Candidates may only use the "SF Democratic Party" name and image after the full membership endorsement;
2. Once endorsed, the SFDCCC will provide a high-resolution copy of our logo which may be used in your materials **only** for the race for which you were endorsed;

3. In the case of elections in which Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) is employed, listing of the SFDCCC endorsement must accurately reflect the ranked endorsement as detailed in our Policies and Procedures Manual;

4. Third parties wishing to utilize the SFDCCC name or logo in their campaign materials must submit a request to our Executive Director.

Thank you very much for your interest in the SFDCCC endorsement. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions. We look forward to learning more about your candidacy and your campaign.

Respectfully,

The San Francisco Democratic Party

By signing below, you acknowledge that you will comply with the SFDCCC's Bylaws and Policies and Procedures and you will not utilize the SFDCCC name, the San Francisco Democratic Party, or its logo without written permission.

Gordon Mar (name)
Gordon Mar (signature)
Supervisor, District 4 (position you are seeking)
August 13, 2018 (date)

SFDCCC Candidate Questionnaire Supervisorial Race - November 2018

Name : Gordon Mar

Address : 2127 Irving Street

City, State, Zip : San Francisco, CA 94122

Campaign Phone Number : (415) 488-5176

Cell Phone Number :

E-mail Address : info@gordonmar.com

What office are you running for? District 4 Supervisor

Are you running for reelection? Yes **No**

What other elected positions have you held previously? None

INSTRUCTIONS:

Please complete this questionnaire and bring 5 copies (for the 31 Committee members and for Democratic Clubs) with you to be distributed just prior to your interview appointment on **August 18, 2018**

****IMPORTANT**** Please send electronic copies to info@SFDemocrats.org by **5:00 PM on August 13, 2018**

With the *possible exception* of a Democratic candidate filing to run after the questionnaire due date, *only* candidates who return a completed questionnaire electronically by the due date will be allowed to present before the committee.

At the time of the interview, you may also provide 45 copies of up to 4 pages of supplemental information attached to your questionnaire for distribution to SFDCCC members (materials are not to be passed out during the meeting). We may distribute the questionnaires in preparation for event and post them on the SFDCCC website for the public to view. If you have not heard from the committee by **Thursday, August 16**, please contact Executive Director, Adam Mehis at 415-626-1161 or info@sfdemocrats.org to schedule a time slot during the Endorsement Interview Meeting.

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 the recent years.

I served as director of the Northern California Citizenship Project, where I:

- Supported regional initiative to support immigrants to become naturalized citizens in response to 1996 Federal welfare reform law that made citizenship a requirement for most welfare benefits
- Developed immigrant civic engagement strategies, working with network of community organizations in the Bay Area to register immigrants to vote and exercise their organized political power.
- Created a curriculum for immigrant-serving community groups, held trainings, and conferences.

Are there any other civic causes or organizations that you are involved with? Please describe.

My professional history includes serving as current Executive Director of Jobs with Justice San Francisco and former Executive Director of Chinese Progressive Association and Campaign Director of the Bay Area Environmental Health Collaborative. I've played a leading role in numerous campaigns for workers rights and economic justice including:

- Served on 2017-2018 Minimum Compensation Ordinance (MCO) Coalition Steering Committee

- Convened labor community coalition that negotiated the 2014 \$15 SF Minimum Wage Ordinance with Mayor Lee and employer representatives.
- Served as Co-Chair of 2003 SF Minimum Wage Campaign (Prop L)
- From 2012-2018, leader in community labor coalition for Save City College of SF campaign during the accreditation crisis and Free City SF to make it tuition-free for all San Francisco residents
- Led the effort to develop and pass the 2014 SF Retail Workers Bill of Rights which promotes full-time employment, fair work schedules and job security for retail, restaurant and service workers and has served a model nationally
- Supported 2006 campaign to pass Healthcare Security Ordinance and 2011-2014 campaign to close loopholes in the ordinance

Please summarize your qualifications and experience for the office you are seeking.

I've been working for social, environmental, racial, and economic justice for the last 30 years. After graduating from UC Berkeley with a degree in Conservation and Research Studies, I came to San Francisco in 1988, and I was the first organizer hired at the Chinese Progressive Association. I went on to become CPA's Executive Director, and organized immigrant families to improve living and working conditions in Chinatown and develop youth leadership and activism. At CPA, I:

- Led efforts to improve dangerous and substandard housing conditions in Single Room Occupancy Hotels.
- Led efforts to improve working conditions and end wage theft in the restaurant industry.
- Served as co-chair of the coalition that passed San Francisco's first minimum wage law in 2003, which made us the largest city in the nation to pass a local minimum wage
- Led efforts that won a settlement with the WINS Garment Factory to secure severance, back pay and job retraining programs for the workers and hundreds of other dislocated garment and electronic assembly manufacturing workers
- Founded the youth organizing program Common Roots, a collaboration between CPA and PODER, focusing on environmental health and justice issues in South San Francisco
- Led the effort to expand curbside recycling pickup to Chinatown, and then to all public housing in San Francisco
- Joined forces with the Asian Pacific Environmental Network to fight for environmental justice in API communities

- Brought CPA into the Southwest Network for Environmental Justice, where I served as co-chair, fighting for environmental justice causes throughout the southwestern United States

In addition, I served as director of the Northern California Citizenship Project, where I:

- Supported regional initiative to support immigrants to become naturalized citizens in response to 1996 Federal welfare reform law that made citizenship a requirement for most welfare benefits
- Developed immigrant civic engagement strategies, working with network of community organizations in the Bay Area to register immigrants to vote and exercise their organized political power
- Created a curriculum for immigrant-serving community groups, held trainings, and conferences.

I was a co-founder and served as Campaign Director of the Bay Area Environmental Health Collaborative, where I:

- Supported regional coalition of environmental health and justice organizations to develop campaign to reduce air pollution on overburdened low-income communities of color in the Bay Area including Southeast San Francisco, Richmond and East Oakland.
- Developed and implemented policy and organizing strategies to get the Bay Area Air Quality Management District to incorporate cumulative impact analysis in their risk assessment process and regulation of polluters

After serving at CPA, NCCP, BAEHC, I co-founded Jobs With Justice, where I've served as Executive Director for the last eight years. Some of my proudest work has included:

- Led campaign to create the nation's first ever Retail Workers Bill of Rights which promotes full-time work, fair work schedules and job security for retail, restaurant and service workers and has served as a model nationally
- Played a leading role in campaign to negotiate with employers and pass the \$15 minimum wage ordinance
- Convened coalition that stood up to corporate greed at CPMC and ensured that St. Luke's Hospital was rebuilt and CPMC agreed to comprehensive community benefits agreement including \$80 million for healthcare, job training, and affordable housing for low-income residents
- Leader in the community campaign that saved City College of SF from closure, and made it tuition-free for all San Francisco residents
- Served as co-chair of the Budget Justice Coalition over the past 3 years and advocated for disinvestment in law enforcement and criminalization program

and reinvestment in social programs for poor and working class residents that address root causes of public safety concerns

- Build long-term strategic coalition of 30 labor, community and faith based organizations working together to build the movement for economic and social justice in the Bay Area.

Please list any organizations or elected officials who have endorsed you.

Democratic County Central Committee Chair and Former Supervisor David Campos

Democratic County Central Committee Member Frances Hsieh

Democratic County Central Committee Member Alysabeth Alexander

Democratic County Central Committee Member Peter Gallotta

Democratic County Central Committee Member Pratima Gupta

Assemblymember Phil Ting

Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer

Supervisor Norman Yee

Supervisor Jane Kim

Supervisor Rafael Mandelman

Supervisor Hillary Ronen

Supervisor Aaron Peskin

Public Defender Jeff Adachi

BART Board Director and Former Supervisor Bevan Dufty

Board of Education Commissioner Matt Haney

Board of Education Commissioner Mark Sanchez

City College Board President Brigitte Davilla

City College Board Trustee Tom Temprano

Former State Senator, Assemblymember, and Supervisor Mark Leno

Former Assemblymember and Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano

Former Board of Supervisors President Harry Britt

Former Mayor Art Agnos

Former Supervisor Eric Mar

Former Supervisor Christina Olague

Former Supervisor John Avalos

National Union of Healthcare Workers

United Educators of San Francisco

California Nurses Association

SEIU 1021

SEIU United Service Workers West

UNITE HERE Local 2

Teamsters Local 856

United Food and Commercial Workers Local 648

Professional and Technical Engineers Local 21

Laborers Local 261

Rose Pak Democratic Club
San Francisco Tenants Union
San Francisco League of Pissed Off Voters

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 No

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

Yes No

Do you support the creation of a local municipal bank in San Francisco?

Yes No

CRIMINAL JUSTICE/POLICE REFORM

Do you support overhauling the bail system?

Yes No

Do you supporting rebuilding jails in San Francisco?

Yes No

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

Yes No

Do you support the San Francisco Police Department being equipped with Tasers?

Yes No

I opposed proposition H to equip police with tasers. I would need to see full implementation of de-escalation training as part of the US Justice Department recommendations before considering providing additional weapons to SFPD.

CHILDCARE

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

Yes No

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

Yes No

ENVIRONMENT

Do you support San Francisco's CleanPowerSF program and will you commit to sustaining the Board's participation and oversight through the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo)?

Yes No

Do you support SFERS' (San Francisco Employees' Retirement System) full divestment from fossil fuel interests?

Yes No

HEALTHCARE

With the opiate crisis worsening nationwide, would you support the creation of safe injection sites in San Francisco to support harm reduction?

Yes No

Do you fully support retaining and expanding the number of subacute beds in San Francisco?

Yes No

Do you support using jails as mental health facilities and substance abuse treatment programs?

Yes No

I would like more clarity on this question. To be clear, I strongly believe that jails and prisons are not the answer to substance abuse and mental and behavioral health issues. I support the idea of rehabilitating jails, such as the 850 Bryant property, to redirect resources to mental health facilities, social services, and substance abuse treatment programs. Many folks with mental health and substance abuse problems are often criminalized for related behaviors. Jailing these people is not good for rehabilitation nor overall public safety.

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?

Yes No

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 No

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 No

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?

Yes No

Will you fully support funding for deportation and detention defense to protect San Francisco residents from removal proceedings?

Yes No

LABOR

Do you support the privatization of essential government services and outsourcing of public sector jobs?

Yes No

Do you support employee rights to organize and collectively bargain and support enforceable organizing agreements?

Yes No

Will you support Cost Of Living Adjustments (COLAs) for non-profit organizations that hold contracts with the City?

Yes No

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

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

Yes No

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

Yes No

HOUSING, TENANT, & LAND USE ISSUES

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

Yes No

I support reform of commercial property tax rates, closing the commercial property tax loophole under Prop 13 and requiring all commercial and industrial properties to be assessed at fair market value.

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

Yes No

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

Yes **No**

We need to explore all possible government mechanisms that allow the public and non-profit developers to purchase and develop land to address a market failure of for-profit developers to produce permanently affordable housing.

HOMELESSNESS

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

Yes **No**

Will you commit to placing and funding Navigation Centers in every Supervisorial district?

Yes No

Given limited resources, navigation centers would need to be set up sequentially, so I think they should be prioritized in neighborhoods where the need is greatest and public dollars would be most effectively spent.

Do you support expansion of the rental subsidy program?

Yes No

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 in San Francisco?

Homelessness is a housing issue and a public health crisis, and chronic homelessness will not go away without a pathway to permanent affordable housing and increased investment in social, mental, and substance abuse services. I support increasing street based outreach services, expanding the number of safe shelter beds, rehabbing and protecting our SRO housing stock, maximizing inclusionary housing rates for new developments, and increasing tenant

protections. I support the Our City, Our Homes ballot measure; it brings us closer to a holistic solution for solving the homelessness crisis.

2) We recognize that the affordability crisis and evictions has 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?

I will listen to the voices of marginalized communities and communities of color, who understand deeply the impact of the housing crisis and evictions, and have done so in my position as co-chair of the Budget Justice Coalition. My plan involves considering the multiple dimensions of displacement: economic and cultural, residential and commercial, etc. This includes building affordable housing for different income levels, for working families, seniors, and those with barriers to full-time work; supporting and promoting culturally competent, neighborhood-serving small businesses and nonprofits; and ensuring that communities of concern have access to services and can fully participate in planning processes.

3) What is affordable housing to you? Should the current AMI (area median income) levels for low-income and middle-income be redefined? And how?

For a full-time worker, housing is affordable when rent/mortgage can be paid, basic needs are met, and there is enough to be saved. We also need affordable housing for those with barriers to full-time work or unable to earn an income. The low-income and middle-income definition should be revisited regularly to see how they align with the reality of who meets these thresholds. A vibrant city needs different kinds of people to run effectively and we need housing and programs that accommodate this diversity.

4) How would you balance the need for more housing and the need for community input in the Planning process?

I support the entitlement process that ensures development meets environmental standards and allows communities input in decisions that directly impact them and their neighborhoods. I support streamlining projects post-entitlement, and would explore options to cut through red tape and get shovels in the ground faster for housing projects once they have support from all stakeholders.

5) What are your top district priorities and what would be your process for establishing these priorities and engaging community?

My top priorities are affordable housing, transportation, and services for families and seniors. I am currently holding a series of neighborhood listening sessions to hear from community members on how to establish these priorities; this is a process I plan to continue as Supervisor under my Sunset United proposal: a multi-pronged approach to bringing neighbors together. Ideas gathered here from the grassroots level will inform decision making at City Hall. As part of United Sunset, I would like to implement Participatory Budgeting process to bring direct democracy to the district, and an additional feedback mechanism for community members to engage in the decisions that impact our everyday lives.

6) If you are elected, what are your top concerns for San Francisco? How would you address these concerns?

My top concerns are similarly affordable housing, transportation, and services for families, students, and seniors. For affordable housing, I will explore creating incentives for homeowners to add Accessory Dwelling Units if they're rented at below market rates, and I'll negotiate with developers for the highest levels of inclusionary housing for every project. In addition, I've identified four SFUSD-owned sites in my district that are currently underutilized, where I would like to pursue affordable housing for families with students in the school district. For transportation, I'll work on a citywide plan for protected bike lanes, better oversight for SFMTA, more BRT lines, expanded free MUNI for college students, and better long and short term regional planning for big infrastructure projects. For services, I want to build on San Francisco's investments in our social safety net, and invest in the areas that our federal government has divested from over the last thirty years. Expanding healthcare access, education, monolingual and culturally competent services, and mental and behavioral health services are all priorities of mine.

7) 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?

We need to create positive incentives to get people out of private cars and into walking, biking public transit, and carpooling. We need to reduce the cost of public transit; for example, I would like to expand Free Muni to college students in San Francisco. We also need to plan better around commute patterns and the jobs-housing match. Improving local hire will provide jobs for people who already live here. Expanding affordable housing - particularly to those in lower-paying industries such as retail and service - will provide housing for people who already work here.