



Dear Candidate,

As the San Francisco Latino Democratic Club embarks on our endorsements for the June 2018 election cycle, your participation in our club questionnaire allows our membership to better understand you and where you stand as a candidate.

Our questionnaire consists of a series of short-answer questions (200 words or less) as well as simple Yes/No questions.

**Please return the completed questionnaire by 11:59 PM Friday, March 16, 2018.** E-mail all questionnaires to our Political Action Committee at [pac@sflatinodemocrats.com](mailto:pac@sflatinodemocrats.com).

Upon submission of your completed questionnaire, you will receive an invitation to our 2018 endorsement meeting.

Good Luck!

The San Francisco Latino Democratic Club

## Basic Information

Name (as on Ballot): **Malia Cohen**

Occupation (as on Ballot): **Supervisor, City and County of San Francisco**

Office Sought: **Board of Equalization**

Email/Phone: **415-769-6285**

Website: **electmalia.org**

Campaign Manager: **Lia Azul Salaverry**

Campaign Consultant: **SCN Strategies**

Campaign Budget: **\$800,000**

Funds Raised to Date: **\$590,819**

Professional Experience: (or please append resume)

**I am currently serving my second term on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. I was born and raised in San Francisco and attended public school there. I earned a BA in Political Science from Fisk University and a MS in Public Policy and Management from Carnegie Mellon University. I have fought my entire career to put the interests of the people first.**

**I have the strong financial background necessary to be an effective voice on the Board of Equalization. I serve as Chair of the Board of Supervisors' Budget and Finance Committee, which oversees appropriation ordinances and measures concerning bond issues, taxes, fees, and other revenue measures, redevelopment, and real estate.**

**I also served as the immediate past President of the San Francisco Employee Retirement System (SFERS), which manages a \$23 billion pension fund. In this role, I led efforts to divest from fossil fuels and thermal coal investments and moved \$100 million into a fossil fuel-free index fund.**

**I will ensure that the Board of Equalization fights for the people, and not special interests. I will fight for increased transparency and good government practices and will promote access and understanding of our tax system for all Californians.**

Top 5 Political Endorsements:

**U.S. Senator Kamala Harris**

**State Controller Betty Yee**

**California Nurses Association**

**California Federation of Teachers**

**SF DCCC Chair David Campos**

Memberships and Latino Organizations Actively Involved With:

Latin@ Young Democrats of San Francisco (endorsed candidate)

Latino/as you have donated funds to for political office:

Alex Padilla

Tony Thurmond

Ricardo Lara

Anthony Rendon

Latino/as you have helped get appointed to Commissions:

Petra DeJesus  
Brigette Davila  
David Campos  
Myrna Melgar

## QUESTIONS

### **1. What 3 unique challenges do you believe Latino/as face in San Francisco, and how would you work to address those challenges if elected?**

The Latino/a community in San Francisco faces many challenges, including: 1) affordability issues, 2) unequal access, (for instance to healthcare and education), and 3) housing instability (including homelessness and displacement).

Latino/as make up roughly 15% of San Francisco residents, but are a rapidly shrinking population – unlike most regions of California where the Latino/a population is steadily growing. According to data collected by the Mission Promise neighborhood in 2014, the Latino/a population in the Mission District alone has declined by 25%, with 8,000 families displaced in the past 10 years. With 65% of Latino/a families in the District below the federal poverty line, these families are threatened with massive displacement and an unparalleled family instability. Nearly 75% of families surveyed reported that they feared being forced out of their homes due to rising rent costs or eviction.

However, San Francisco's Latino/a residents suffer from more than just a lack of affordable housing. Homelessness, unemployment and underemployment, domestic violence, substance abuse, and poverty also impact the Latino/a community.

As Supervisor, I have worked on various policy issues involving the city's Latino/a community and I will continue to do so on the Board of Equalization.

### **2. What efforts would you initiate or improve so Latino/as are equitably empowered in the political process?**

Latino/as need to have better representation in elected office and on San Francisco's Boards and Commissions. We need to build a pipeline of Latino/a leadership and for people of color from all backgrounds who even in San Francisco, are not equally represented in leadership positions.

We also need to work harder to ensure that undocumented immigrants are legally protected and empowered politically through civic engagement programs. We must provide these residents with the resources they need to begin their path to citizenship.

Finally, we need to continue to invest in Latino/a cultural, educational programs, and family support services that help cultivate strong communities and empower Latino/as to become engaged in their neighborhoods.

**3. Which candidates did you support in the following elections?**

- **2016 CA State Senate District 11** – Scott Wiener
- **2016 Board of Supervisors, District 11** – Ahsha Safai
- **2015 Mayor** – Mayor Ed Lee

## PART 2: YES/NO QUESTIONNAIRE

Please answer Yes or No for each question.

### General Info

	Yes	No
1. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat?	X	
2. Do you identify as Latina/o or Latinx?		X
3. Are you now or have you ever been a member of LDC?		X

### Tenant/Housing Issues

4. Did you support SB 35, which pre-empts local discretionary land use authority by making approvals of multifamily developments, that meet inadequate criteria, “ministerial” actions, thus bypassing the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and public input?		X
5. Do you support the repeal of Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act?	X	
6. Do you support the state density bonus law?	X	
7. Do you support SB-827 which mandates denser and taller zoning near transit hubs?	undecided	
8. Have you ever been involved as homeowner, buyer or agent in the eviction of a tenant? If so, please explain.		X

### Education & Youth

9. Are you committed to send your children to K-12 public schools?		X
10. Did you attend K-12 public schools?		X
11. Do you support Charter Schools?		X
12. Did you support Proposition N, the Non-Citizen Voting in School Board Elections Amendment in the November 2016 election?	X	
13. Do you support lowering the voting age to age 16 for local elections?		X

**Immigration**

14. Do you support allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including but not limited to school board?	X	
15. Do you support the prohibition of employers from allowing federal immigration agents (ICE) on private business property without a judicial warrant?	X	
16. Do you support or agree with California being a Sanctuary State?	X	

**Police Reform**

17. Should we arm our SFPD with electroshock weapons aka "tasers"?		X
18. Do you support requiring an independent investigation of all police officer-related shootings?	X	

**Labor**

19. Do you support a citywide project labor agreement?	X	
20. Do you support the nonprofit living wage Minimum Compensation Ordinance (MCO) amendment?	X	
21. Do you support the revenue measure to increase teacher salaries?	X	

**Ethics**

22. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or violated a union boycott?		X
23. Have you received more than \$5,000 from lobbyists for your campaign?	X	
24. Have you received more than \$5,000 from market rate housing developers or realtors?	X	

**Miscellaneous**

25. Do you support lifetime term limits for members of the Board of Supervisors?	X	
--	---	--