

South Beach District 6 Democratic Club
Election November 4, 2014
Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire

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1. What are the three civic or community accomplishments of which you are most proud? If an incumbent, draw from actions through your current office/position.

Pedestrian Safety & Transportation Planning

Vehicles make up 33% of our GHG emissions, and circulation studies conducted by the SFCTA have projected total gridlock in the downtown and SoMa neighborhoods within the next ten years if we do not implement congestion management strategies today. I am working to reduce the number of cars on our roads by spearheading Vision Zero, our comprehensive plan to improve pedestrian/bike safety through increased enforcement, education and engineering. I have also been a strong advocate for growing the City's transportation infrastructure, including funding to modernize MUNI and supporting DTX and High Speed Rail. I also support a Congestion Pricing Plan in the downtown core and am working with the Transportation Authority on a study of this policy. As we grow in residential and employment density, San Francisco cannot sustain the growing number of cars. We must reduce the number of cars on the road to curb travel-related carbon generation and reduce the number of pedestrian and cyclist collisions.

Public Education & Family Advocacy

Public education continues to be a top priority. I raised the profile of this important issue when I introduced a \$2.2 million one-time appropriation to backfill state education cuts and provide additional classes to 2,000 SF sophomores and juniors who were at risk of not graduating under new higher standards set by SFUSD. BOS approved funding, however only \$1.4 million ended up being allocated after the Mayor line-item vetoed \$843,000 of the package. While we were disappointed that we could not fund the entire credit recovery program, the proposal led to a much larger conversation about the value of funding our public schools. Within weeks, the Mayor committed to fully funding public education, as mandated by voters, for the first time in 4 years and released \$1.5 million in Rainy Day Funds in order to help stem teacher layoffs--a tremendous victory. I am also the lead sponsor of the Public Education Enrichment Fund (PEEF) and the Children & Families First Initiative (Proposition C) with Supervisors Avalos and Yee to ensure that San Francisco families receive critical funding not supplied by the state for arts, sports, libraries, preschool, and childcare services. In addition, I am

strong advocate for a public elementary school in Mission Bay to serve this growing community.

Open Space Task Force

District 6 has the fewest and smallest parks and green open space options in the City. Open space acquisition in high needs areas like District 6 is central to building healthy, complete neighborhoods. I established the District 6 Open Space Task Force last year to guide a prioritization process for the acquisition of 2-3 new parks in the Tenderloin and South of Market. Further, I have supported acquiring the final rounds of funding for the complete rehabilitation of Boedekker Park, the only multi-use park in the Tenderloin, \$2M for South Park and Turk/Hyde Playground renovation and ensure the opening of two new parks, and the Skate and Dog Park in the McCoppin/Valencia neighborhood.

2. If elected to this office, what will be your top three priorities and your approach for successful implementation?

Land Use and Affordable Housing

I believe in a balanced approach to land use, which includes affordable housing, more open space, safer streets for pedestrians, and opportunities for local businesses that will provide our communities with jobs. We need Land Use to build stronger, healthier, and safer neighborhoods.

Affordable housing is my top priority. I introduced the Housing Balance legislation to set a citywide goal of building 30% affordable housing in new construction. While Housing Balance won't be on the ballot, I am leading the work to identify new revenue for a Neighborhood Stabilization and Affordable Housing Trust (Proposition K).

Vision Zero

I have led a citywide campaign with Supervisors Yee and Avalos to reduce our traffic fatalities to zero by 2024 through increased enforcement, education, and engineering of city streets. 60% of our city's collisions are happening on 6% of our city streets, and I represent the District with the highest number of traffic collisions and fatalities in the City. Our office has convened a monthly D6 pedestrian and bike safety workgroup for the last four years bringing together our diverse constituents including SRO tenants, condo homeowners, seniors, and working class Latino and Filipino families in the Tenderloin and SOMA.

Homelessness

Homelessness continues to be a pressing issue for District 6 and our City. After personally going through the shelter reservation process and spending a night at one of our shelters, Next Door in District 6, I have been pushing for a greater public health focus and lens in addressing chronic homelessness. I worked with Department of Public Health to complete a mental health assessment of all shelter residents and conduct outreach to shelter residents in night. DPH has now committed to fund two full-time nurses

to rove our shelters at night, and we are working together to design and develop a 24 hour medical respite shelter.

**3. Do you support or oppose the following local measures on the November 2014 ballot?
(Yes/No)**

	Yes	No
A: Transportation and Road Improvement Bond	X	
B: Population-Based Adjustment to General Fund Appropriation to Transportation Fund	X	
C: Children and Youth Fund; Public Education Enrichment Fund; Our children, Our Families Council; Rainy Day Reserves	X	
D: Retiree Health Benefits for Former Redevelopment Agency and Successor Agency Employee	X	
J: Minimum Wage Increase	X	
Tax on Sugar-Sweetened Beverages to Fund Food and Health Programs		X
Pier 70 Development Site Height Limit Increase	X	
H: Requiring Certain Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park to be Maintained as Natural Grass		X
Park Code - Children's Playgrounds, Walking Trails, Athletic Fields	X	
G: Surtax on Transfers of Residential Real Property Within Five Year of a Prior Transfer	X	
K: Affordable Housing Goals	X	
L: Policy Regarding Transportation Priorities in San Francisco		X

4. Why is our club endorsement important to you?

This is one of the few District 6 democratic clubs, and it is an endorsement given by all District 6 residents. As the incumbent Supervisor, it is important for me to get the support of the residents I directly serve. South Beach, while a new neighborhood, has grown highly engaged neighborhood leaders whose advocacy around smart neighborhood planning, transportation, open space, and quality of life issues ensures that the voices of this neighborhood are heard and taken into account. This advocacy has also ensured that I have an on-the-ground perspective to help guide my decisions as a policy maker. I look forward to working with this coalition of residents on neighborhood issues.