

Community College Board | League of Pissed Off Voters

November 2019 Questionnaire

Hello candidates! Thank you for filling out the League's questionnaire. Please complete the questionnaire by midnight on Friday, July 19th if you wish to be considered for a League endorsement. Please use THIS FORM rather than formatting it into a Word document or PDF. If you have any questions, you can contact us at TheLeagueSF@gmail.com.

Candidate Info

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Ivy Lee

Campaign Contact Person

Jeffrey Chuong

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Office Sought *

SF Community College Board

Website

www.voteivylee.com

When did you first fall in love with San Francisco?

In the late 80's, we took a family road trip to San Francisco. On that trip, I told my family that I would live in SF when I grew up and that it felt like home.

Priorities

Please list the 3 endorsements you are most proud of

Jane Kim, London Breed, entire City College Board of Trustees

What are the top three issues you will work on, and how will you implement solutions in a timely manner? (1250 character limit)

- 1) Make Free City college permanent + year-round;
- 2) Ensure the college remains the community's college, with courses that recognize the desire of students to upskill, graduate, transfer, AND lifelong learning; and
- 3) Stabilize the college's fiscal health + ensure rigorous financial oversight so the institution remains stable into the future.

I've been working on these 3 priorities since I was appointed a year ago. Concrete milestones were set for each one, including the timeframe. Free City: A charter amendment was proposed for the November 2019 ballot that would set aside money from the city's general fund for 10 years to continue the program. Alternatively, there was a non-ballot option proposed which ultimately resulted in an agreement with the City that's supported by BOS, unions, mayor, and college. Courses are developed before each semester with emphasis on offering classes required for transfer + graduation, vocational classes + high-demand classes for lifelong learning. A budget committee, monthly public budget reports, independent Controller position are all in progress now. This year will be our first year in a decade that we have a balanced budget with zero deficit spending.

What for-profit or non-profit boards do you serve on, including political organizations?

I am a former member of the Board of Directors for the Asian Women's Shelter, a domestic violence and human trafficking shelter, but am not serving on any board now.

What local and state commissions and policy bodies have you served on -- currently or in the past?

Immigrant Rights Commission, San Francisco
California State Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force
San Francisco Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force
Freedom Network (national anti-trafficking coalition)
SF Immigrant Legal Education Network (SFILEN)
American Immigration Lawyers Association, Northern California Chapter
Alternatives to a New Jail Work Group (As Sup. Kim's proxy)

Local Issues

Some of the things pissed-off voters are watching right now!

Do you support the closure of Juvenile Hall?

Yes

No

Do you support the Facilities Bond slated for the March 2020 ballot?

Yes

No

With 1.5B in deferred maintenance, how would you prioritize the allocation of the 850M if the bond measure is passed?

My understanding based on facilities and bond reports, is that there is currently over \$450M in deferred maintenance across the City College campuses. (I understand that another trustee may have provided these numbers and I will doublecheck to ensure that, as a board, we have the correct information and communicating accurately.) If the contemplated \$845M bond is approved by voters, I have publicly stated that I want the priority projects to be determined according to the highest health-safety needs (such as seismic safety) and an equity analysis (i.e., addressing learning and teaching spaces that are the most in need for students, especially low income students and working adults). For example, I advocated the inclusion of the campuses in Bayview/Hunter's Point on the project priority list because the majority of our vocational and career technical classes are taught there, from construction to welding to plumbing to auto repair, and those campuses are in dire need of maintenance and expansion. I also supported ensuring that any new construction or renovation would be developed with eye on the environment, such as choosing to repurpose materials, install only energy-efficient fixtures, have a grey water system, and basically choose to go as green as possible.

With the ballot measure to permanently fund Free City withdrawn, and funding a priority but not guaranteed, how would you work to secure funding beyond 2030?

There's no guarantee of permanent funding for any program. Therefore, it's incumbent on the college to take on an advocacy role and consistently show the public and policymakers that Free City works to improve people's lives and that it is worth the investment. It is in the economic interest of the City to have an educated populace and a place which is welcoming of anyone who wants to learn. Even though the investment of the City at a baseline amount of \$15M is less than we spend on programs that are not as inclusive or as economically beneficial as Free City and is only 0.125% of the City's \$12.8B budget, we have to keep showing proof of concept. The college should also pursue independent funding sources for the expansion of Free City - ultimately, I would love to see Free City opened up for all workers in San Francisco. It's cost-free to SF businesses that their workers are now eligible for free higher education or advanced certifications or upskilling -- industries and foundations would potentially support such an expansion because industry knows that a happier workforce is a positive on every front.

With a structural budget deficit, how do you envision balancing the budget and keeping vocational and continuing education courses not supported by state funding?

The state funding formula is no longer supporting community colleges based solely on headcount of full time equivalent students (FTES). It is now weighting its funding so that an increasingly higher amount of our support is dependent upon the number of students that we graduate and/or transfer. To protect as many of the courses as possible that do not lead to a transfer degree or graduation and that are not being supported any longer by the state, we should consider every option - from expanding Free City to workers and not simply SF residents, to closing physical campuses that we are leasing or that we own outright and merging their offerings with nearby campuses and providing easy transportation between locations. If the college can boost enrollment to 32,000 FTES, we can maintain a balanced budget for the long-term with zero deficit spending and a capacity to grow our reserves which are at or about the state-mandated minimum of 5%. I believe that we also have to invest in support services for students to ensure that they are able to succeed. If we can help students succeed, if we continue to offer classes that students want and need, the college can continue to grow its enrollment as it has been doing over the past year. It's worth noting that our City College grew its enrollment over the last year while the majority of other community colleges statewide have seen theirs decrease. It's also noteworthy that our student success rates have increased by nearly 40% over the past year, which is an incredibly encouraging sign that we are on the right track since our achievement gap has been a serious concern for the past several years.

There is a proposed housing project on City-owned land along Balboa Reservoir, adjacent to campus. Do you support the proposed housing development? If yes, how do you envision working with the City, the SFPUC who owns the land, the developers, and your colleagues on the Community College Board to support the development of maximum affordable housing on public land? If you do not support the development, please explain your position fully.

Yes, I support this development, especially because it will provide for student, staff, and faculty housing, which stakeholders have told us that they desperately need. In an ideal world, the affordability for this project would be 100% vs. the 50% that it is now. Because the environmental impact report is being performed now and won't be presented to the college until the spring or summer of 2020, I think we have the opportunity to keep working on the final affordability and AMI levels as well as the concern I personally have about the traffic and transportation plans. A good transportation management plan for this location should minimize car use and maximize getting people who can, out of their cars and onto other forms of transit whenever possible.

How do you plan to close the opportunity gap for students of color?

One of the key reasons that the college has had a very poor graduation and transfer rate for students of color has been the structure of remedial math and English class placement. A placement exam has been used for years which resulted in a disparate impact on students of color who were disproportionately placed into remedial classes, which typically extend the amount of time required to graduate or transfer. The unintended consequence has been keeping students at the college far longer than necessary, burning students out and discouraging them from actually completing their studies - when it takes 6 years to finish, no wonder so few of these students were making it through. However, effective January 2018, AB 705 is a gamechanger: it mandates that no student be denied entry into a transfer-level math or English class. Our faculty and administration have worked closely to restructure the courses and curriculum to comply with AB 705 while still maintaining the highest educational quality. We are in the process of implementing an early warning system by which students who are hitting bumps in their coursework and who might need some help, are immediately identified and connected with tutoring, counseling, and any other relevant support. We have to keep a close eye on our counseling staff numbers to ensure that while we are balancing the budget, we try our hardest to keep resources for students and the classroom as robust as possible. Restructuring placements into basic math and English classes, having an early warning system to identify students who need additional support, and maintaining and strengthening our student support services are all pieces of the plan to close the opportunity gap. Last, slightly attenuated, but still connected, is also making sure that we are paying our educators so that they can survive in the Bay Area. I personally believe that teachers in the classroom are our first responders when it comes to closing the achievement gap -- they are the ones who work with students directly every day and if they're constantly struggling to survive themselves, they can't be the strong model and resource and inspiration that we depend on them to be to help their students succeed.

Do you support the Juul ballot measure that would override the vapor products ban ordinance passed by the Board of Supervisors and add restrictions on the sale?

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support the ballot measure “Sunlight on Dark Monday Initiative”?

Yes

No

Do you support the proposed tax on net rider fares of TNCs, autonomous vehicles and private transit services vehicles?

Yes

No

Do you support the proposed additional tax on businesses with disproportionate executive pay?

Yes

No

Who are you supporting for Mayor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
London Breed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Robert Jordan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wilma Pang	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paul Y. Robertson	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Joel Ventresca	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ellen Lee Zhou	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for D5 Supervisor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Vallie Brown	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Ryan Lam	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nomvula O'Meara	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dean Preston	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for City Attorney?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Dennis Herrera	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for District Attorney?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Chesa Boudin	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Leif Dautch	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Suzy Loftus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Nancy H. Tung	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for Public Defender?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Manohar Raju	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for Sheriff?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Paul Miyamoto	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Ronald Terry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for Treasurer?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
José M. Cisneros	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for Board of Education?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
William Carduner	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jenny Lam	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for Community College Board?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Yi Quan Guo	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ivy Lee	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Past Elections

Did you support 2018's Prop C "Our City, Our Home" tax on gross receipts of businesses to fund homeless services?

Yes

No

Who did you support for Mayor in June 2018?

	1st	2nd	3rd
Angela Alioto	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Michelle Bravo	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
London Breed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Richie Greenburg	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jane Kim	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mark Leno	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Amy Farrah Weiss	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ellen Lee Zhou	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who did you support for D2 Supervisor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Catherine Stefani	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Nick Josefowitz	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Schuyler Hudak	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
John Dennis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who did you support for D4 Supervisor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Gordon Mar	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Jessica Ho	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trevor McNeil	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Arthur Tom	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lou Ann Bassan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mike Murphy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tuan Nguyen	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adam Kim	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who did you support for D6 Supervisor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Matt Haney	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Christine Johnson	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sonja Trauss	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who did you support for D8 Supervisor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Rafael Mandelman	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Lawrence "Stark" Dagesse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who did you support for D10 Supervisor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Shamann Walton	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Tony Kelly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Theo Ellington	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Uzuri Pease-Greene	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gloria Berry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Asale Chandler	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Final Question

Is there anything else you want to tell us? (3000 character limit)

Thank you for creating and producing the voter guide. I've handed these out in multiple election years and it is the one sure piece of literature that voters are interested in reading. I think your guides actually help get people interested in civic engagement because they make ballot measures and politics fun and interesting to read unlike any other guides I've seen. Anything that helps to turn the tide of indifference or outright mistrust of government that's been cultivated eagerly by the far right, such as the Koch brothers, is a benefit.

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