SF League of Pissed Off Voters 2020 DCCC Questionnaire

Hello candidates! Thank you for filling out the League’s questionnaire. Please complete the questionnaire by 5pm on Sunday, December 1st if you wish to be considered for the League’s 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

Need to see the other questions before you get started? Just fill this in. It’s the only section with required answers.

Name *

Leah LaCroix

Campaign Contact *

Email Address *


Phone Number

Website

in progress

Tell Us About You

Why are you running for this office?

I am running for re-election to the DCCC because I want to maintain the progressive majority on the DCCC, and continue delivering on the proven progress we (the Reform Slate) made over the past 3+ years. For me, serving on the DCCC isn’t about personal political gain, it’s about holding candidates accountable and ensuring the full make-up of my city is represented.

As a DCCC member, I want to ensure candidate and measures endorsed by the party are actively addressing the needs of the Black, low-income, and other marginalized communities. Specifically, the out-migration and over-incarceration of Black and Brown SF residents, the increasing number of homeless on our streets, the utter lack of affordable housing, and need for proper investment in transportation across the City are among my primary concerns.

As an SF Native, the progressive values of San Francisco are a big part of who I am, and these values shape my politics. I am running alongside members of the Social Justice Democrats slate because I believe in what we stand for, and what we can accomplish. We are bold community activist that truly represent the makeup and diversity of San Francisco. I hope to earn the support of the League of Pissed Off Voters once again.
What are the top three issues you will work on and how will you implement solutions in a timely manner?

- Ensuring political enfranchisement for 16 and 17 year olds (Vote16SF).
- Building out the outreach and voter registration program to reach sf voted throughout the year, not just during election season, especially out south-eastern neighborhoods and the Black and Asian communities in SF.
- Continue making the party accessible by rotating our meetings throughout the City, in both AD 17 and AD19.

I plan to run for VC of Outreach again, and will work with my colleagues on an aggressive outreach plan within the 1st month of being sworn in.

What three endorsements are you most proud of?

Jane Kim, Sandy Fewer, and Janice Li
(and earning the League's endorsement for my DCCC race in 2016!)

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

I currently serve on the Executive Board of the SF DCCC as the Vice-Chair of Outreach and as Parliamentarian. I also serve on the Board of Black Young Democrats of San Francisco for which I am a founding board member

What local and state commissions or policy bodies do you serve on?

I do not currently serve on a local or state commission/policy body. Previously, I served on the SF Youth Commission (2009-2012) with two terms as Chair. I also served as a member of the SFCTA's Geneva Harney Bus Rapid Transit Feasibility Study Citizen Advisory Committee in 2013.
Do you pledge to support San Francisco Employees' Retirement System (SFERS) fully divesting from fossil fuels within three years and holding SFERS accountable at the ballot if they do not divest?

- Yes
- No

Do you pledge to support San Francisco purchasing PG&E assets to create public power in San Francisco?

- Yes
- No

Do you pledge to support the closure of 850 Bryant, jails #3 and #4?

- Yes
- No

Do you pledge to vote to endorse only those candidates that support Abolishing ICE?

- Yes
- No
Do you pledge to vote to endorse only those candidates that support decarceral criminal justice reform?

- Yes
- No

Do you support the expansion of charter schools? Yes/No (Please explain your answer.)

No, charter schools undermine the fundamental mission of our public school system.

Did you support SB 50 (Senator Wiener’s zoning bill) as written?

- Yes
- No

If not, what amendments would make you support SB 50?

Do you pledge to endorse only candidates committed to ending homeless sweeps?

- Yes
- No
Do you support the City funding community land trusts?
○ Yes
○ No

Do you support congestion pricing for the downtown core?
○ Yes
○ No

Do you support and would you vote to endorse a Public Bank in San Francisco?
○ Yes
○ No

Do you pledge to vote to endorse only those candidates that support Medicare for All?
○ Yes
○ No
○ Other: 

Do you pledge to only endorse those candidates that support a full repeal of the Ellis Act and Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act?
○ Yes
○ No
Do you believe the number of real estate contributions to a candidate impacts their fitness as a progressive candidate?

- Yes
- No

If Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act is repealed, would you work to enact vacancy control in San Francisco?

- Yes
- No

Do you support a baseline percentage of 40% of affordable housing in developments when negotiating the number of housing units?

- Yes
- No

Do you support requiring 100% affordable housing on public land?

- Yes
- No

If not, under what circumstances would you support allowing a percentage or all market-rate housing on public land?
DCCC Policy

Do you support contribution limits for DCCC races?

- Yes
- No

What are your ideas to avoid a corporate takeover of the DCCC?

Avoiding a corporate takeover of the DCCC means supporting candidates for DCCC who have demonstrated themselves as true community activist, and have a body of work to show for it.

Do you support limiting DCCC ex-officio member voting rights for endorsements?

- Yes
- No

Do you support banning elected politicians from running for DCCC?

- Yes
- No

Do you pledge not to resign your seat before the November 2020 endorsement vote?

- Yes
- No
If not, please explain why:

I am committed to serving on the DCCC for the duration of my 4 year term. Additionally, I pledge to attending every meeting as I have for during my current term.

November 2020 Election

Do you pledge to vote to SOLE endorse Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer in District 1?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Do you pledge to vote to SOLE endorse Supervisor Aaron Peskin in District 3?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Do you pledge to vote to SOLE endorse Supervisor Dean Preston in District 5?

☐ Yes

☐ No
Do you pledge to vote to not endorse Karim Salgado or Joel Engardio for Supervisor in District 7?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Do you pledge to vote to SOLE endorse Supervisor Hillary Ronen in District 9?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Do you pledge to vote to SOLE endorse Former Supervisor John Avalos in District 11?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Do you support restrictions on Prop 13 in the November 2020 and future elections?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Do you support the proposed commercial vacancy tax?

☐ Yes

☐ No
Do you support the Fair Elections charter amendment to prohibit mayoral appointments of candidates 90 days before an election?

- Yes
- No

March 2020 Election

Which candidate will you support in the March 2020 Presidential Primary?

Bernie Sanders

Do you support San Francisco Balanced Development Act which seeks to update 1986’s Prop M?”

- Yes
- No
Which candidate will you support for Congress in District 12?

- Agatha Bacelar
- Shahid Buttar
- Douglas Deitch
- Tom Gallagher
- Nancy Pelosi

Which candidate will you support for SF Superior Court Seat 1?

- Pang Va Ly
- Maria Evangelista

Which candidate will you support for SF Superior Court Seat 18?

- Dorothy Chou Proudfoot
- Michelle Tong

Which candidate will you support for SF Superior Court Seat 21?

- Kulvinder “Rani” Singh
- Carolyn Gold

November 2019 Election
Who did you support for District Attorney?

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<th>2nd Choice</th>
<th>3rd Choice</th>
<th>Unranked Endorsement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Suzy Loftus</td>
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<td>Leif Dautch</td>
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<td>Nancy Tung</td>
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<td>Chesa Boudin</td>
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Who did you Support for D5 Supervisor?

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<tr>
<td>Dean Preston</td>
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<td>Vallie Brown</td>
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<td>Ryan Lam</td>
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<td>Nomvula O'Meara</td>
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November 2018 Election

Need a refresher of what was on the ballot? Use this link: [https://sfelections.sfgov.org/november-6-2018-election-results-summary](https://sfelections.sfgov.org/november-6-2018-election-results-summary)
Who did you support for Board of Education? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Alison Collins  
Faauugaa Moliga  
Monica Chinchilla  
Li Miao Lovett  
Gabriela Lopez

Who did you support for D2 Supervisor? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Catherine Stefani

Who did you support for D4 Supervisor? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Gordon Mar

Who did you support for D6 Supervisor? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Matt Haney

Who did you support for D8 Supervisor? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Rafael Mandelman
Who did you support for D10 Supervisor? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Shannon Walton, 1st
Theo Ellington, 2nd

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

- Yes
- No

June 2018 Election

Need a refresher of what was on the ballot? Use this link: https://sfelections.sfgov.org/june-5-2018-election-results-summary

Who did you support for Mayor in June 2018? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Jane Kim

Did you support June 2018’s Prop C, Tax on Commercial Rent for Child Care & Early Education?

- Yes
- No
Did you support June 2018’s Prop F “Tenant’s Right to Counsel”?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Did you support June 2018’s Prop H “Arm Police With Tasers”?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Past Elections

Did you support 2016’s Prop D "Let's Elect Our Elected Officials" to have special elections to fill vacancies on the Board of Supervisors?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Did you support 2014's Prop G, the anti-speculation tax?

☐ Yes

☐ No
Short Answer Questions

Short Answers Please

Do you identify as an activist?

- Yes
- No

If so, please describe specific accomplishments in your activism. What did you get done, and what was your role?

I led the campaign for Free Muni for Youth from its inception as the Youth Life Pass through three years of advocacy at the Board of Supervisor, Board of Education, SFMTA, the MTC, and within youth-led organizations to securing free monthly transit passes for all young people in San Francisco. From this organizing efforts, we were able to secure Free Muni for Seniors and People with Disabilities, and expand Free Muni for Youth to include TAY.

What communities do you feel you represent in SF and how do those communities hold you accountable?

I am a young Black women with immigrant parents, and a native San Franciscan. My advocacy is firmly rooted in youth organizing, youth empowerment, and democratic activism. I feel deeply connected to each of my intersecting identities, and the communities that shaped who I am. I continue to be held accountable by seeking their input and guidance from my peers and elders when making decisions and taking actions on the DCCC.

Please list specific ways you have shown up for immigrants at risk of deportation.

I am a child of immigrant parents, and have experienced family members being deported. For me, showing up for immigrants facing deportation means standing on the front lines, providing information and resources, and showing up when and how it it most needed.
Please list specific ways you have fought against racism and white supremacy.

My operating in SF politics as a young woman of color, and using my voice in this arena for my community is in and of itself a statement against racism and white supremacy. I am committed to calling out racism and white supremacy in ALL spaces.

Please give us some examples of situations you've encountered where gender and LGBTQ inequity was evident, and what you did or would do to address it?

As a woman, I am intimately familiar with anger inequity and I have actively committed addressing gender and LGBTQ inequity in my personal, professional and political life.

In the midst of a homelessness crisis, how can the City and County of San Francisco improve the effectiveness of our city’s homelessness and supportive housing services?

The solution to homelessness is safe, stable, and supportive housing. Period.

To improve the effectiveness of our homelessness and supportive housing services we need an audit of our existing services to accurately assess what's working and what isn't. We also need to expand permanent affordable housing as exits from homelessness, increase our short term housing portfolio, and drastically increase the number of our shelter beds to meet the present need. Our goal needs to be getting people off the streets.

While housing is a primary solution, it must also be coupled with mental health, job placement, and other wrap-around services when needed. That said, to truly address homelessness, we need a plan to prevent homelessness altogether. SF needs to invest aggressively in a variety of housing for options (studio and family housing), in addition to crafting and supporting measures that help prevent homelessness.
How would you expand checks and balances in regard to Mayoral appointments?

through measures like 2016’s Prop D “Let’s Elect Our Elected Officials”, splitting appointments between the Mayor’s office and Board of Supervisors, and requiring a community nomination process in order to be considered for an appointment to any seat (filling a vacancy on the BOS, to serving on a Board or Commission).

Do you work for the City and County of SF?

- Yes
- No

Are you a member of a union?

- Yes
- No

If so, how will you balance accountability to union leadership, workers, and constituents?

I will seek the input and guidance from my peers, elders, colleagues, and Union when making decisions and taking actions on the DCCC, in addition to organizations that have endorsed me. I will consider their positions as a whole prior to making any commitments/endorsements on the DCCC.

Last questions...we promise.
What do you for fun in San Francisco?

Each year I try ride every Muni line (bus, trains, and cable cars) from beginning to end. Transit nerd, yes, I know but it’s the best way to see every corner of San Francisco. I listen to my favorite podcast and people watch along each route. I also enjoy binge watching my favorite shows, cooking and baking, and spending time with my friends and family.

Why do you want the League of Pissed Off Voters’ endorsement?

League guides have always been the go-to guide for election season in my family, and I value the throughout review of candidates and ballot measures the League puts into their guides. Growing up in San Francisco, I would notice these little folded pamphlets with League of “Pissed Off Voters“ boldly typed across the front, scattered across town on bus seats and in local laundromats well before I could vote. Now as a candidate years later, being endorsed by the League is means the world to me both politically and personally. The League guides have helped shape my politics from a young age, and continues to be a touchstone of the San Francisco’s progressive values. Earning the League endorsement in 2016 when I first ran for DCCC was a major highlight for me. I hope to earn your endorsement again.
Is there anything else you want to tell us?

(Personal note: I sincerely apologize for submitting my questionnaire late after the 5pm deadline. My nephew had a medical emergency late this afternoon, and I was with my family during the time I had scheduled to submit this questionnaire. I hope you still consider me for endorsement. Please let me know if I can answer any outstanding questions. Thank you for reviewing all of our questionnaire, and I hope to earn your endorsement once again. -LL).

Listed below are my explanation for certain questions

Regarding the question, “Do you support limiting DCCC ex-officio member voting rights for endorsements?”
I do not support limiting DCCC ex-officio members from voting rights on endorsements, because fundamentally I would not support limiting any members voting rights on the DCCC.

Regarding the question, “Do you support banning elected politicians from running for DCCC?”
Similar to the previous question, I do not support banning elected politicians from running for DCCC because it’s not fundamentally right to ban anyone from seeking to serve on the DCCC.

Regarding endorsements for the Nov 2020 Board of Supervisors Race
I am committed to not pledging an endorsement in any race or for any candidate prior to the DCCC’s endorsement meetings, and meeting with the members of the Social Justice Slate. With that in mind, I left these questions blank. Also, I firmly believe in Rank Choice Voting, and I have not, and would not commit to sole endorsing any candidate before knowing who all is in the race. RCV is something progressive fought to put in place, and as a voting DCCC member, it is our responsibility to provide recommendations to voters for each rank.

Regarding endorsements for the Superior Court Judge races (seats 1, 18, and 21)
I am committed to not pledging an endorsement in any race or for any candidate prior to the DCCC’s endorsement meetings, and meeting with the members of the Social Justice Slate. With that in mind, I left these questions blank.

Regarding the Nov 2019 Election - D5
I did not personally endorse in the District 5 Supervisors race, and I voted to abstain at the DCCC endorsement meeting. This race was particularly challenging for me as a progressive women of color... I am accountable to multiple communities that have competing viewpoints on this race. While I know abstaining would be an unpopular decision, it is one that I stand by to this day. I was fully transparent to the campaigns and my colleagues on the DCCC of of my thought process prior to our meeting.
That said, what does not sit well with me since our endorsement meeting is the people of color on the DCCC (who either abstained or didn't vote for progressive candidate, myself included) being attacked/dismissed by overwhelmingly white (male) progressives both online and in meetings because of our vote. There is an inherent privilege in assuming someone’s motivation or actions solely based in one aspect identity.

I hope that as the League of Pissed Off Voters consider people to support, you look at our body of work as a whole and not just one vote.

Sincerely,
Leah LaCroix