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 *

Mike Chen

Campaign Contact *

Email Address *

Tell Us About You

Why are you running for this office?

San Francisco is a special place, and I’m lucky to live in this city. Very few other places in the world have the history and networks of support for LGBTQ people, for Asian Americans, for artists and dreamers. People want to live here and to stay here: 80,000 people move to San Francisco every year. But the dark side is that San Francisco is becoming more expensive, more congested, and more isolating. It’s getting harder and harder for people to live and stay in San Francisco.

But it doesn’t have to be this way. I believe that everyone who wants to live in San Francisco, who shares our progressive values, should be able to live here. No matter where you’re from or what your background is, you should be able to make your livelihood here, raise a family here, find a community here, and age in dignity here. I want to build a more inclusive city. I don’t see enough in our discourse about how to make our city more open, more accessible, more inclusive. I want to start pushing the Democratic Party to make sure that we live and embody our values of tolerance, diversity, and welcome.
What are the top three issues you will work on and how will you implement solutions in a timely manner?

Housing, transportation, and community.

Meta point: The DCCC does not pass legislation, but I want to shape the party platform to emphasize these things.

Housing: We must build more homes at all income levels. Our population is growing, but our housing stock is not growing to match. I want to re-legalize building apartments everywhere in the city and make the process more predictable. We should especially open up high wealth, high opportunity neighborhoods to housing.

Transportation: We need to encourage and foster more efficient modes of transportation: trains, buses, bicycles, walking, even scooters. We need to make investments in our public transportation. We need to prioritize sustainable and efficient transportation methods on our streets. We need to protect vulnerable road users like children and the elderly with safer street designs.

Community: Social capital and civic participation have been declining in the US since the 1970s. People who have a rich social life create a social safety net that improves their health and well being. I want to help people build communities, where people get to know each other, help each other, and support each other.

What three endorsements are you most proud of?
What for-profit or non-profit boards do you serve on, including political organizations?

* Edwin M. Lee Asian Pacific Democratic Club (Democratic Club for promoting civic participation for people of Asian descent)
* Penn Club of San Francisco (alumni association for University of Pennsylvania)
* Northern Neighbors (District 2 neighborhood group that promotes affordable, sustainable, livable neighborhoods)

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

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DCCC

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. I'm not well versed in this but my understanding is that charter schools are not proven to have better student outcomes. I'm planning to read "Cutting School" by Noliwe Rooks.

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

- Yes
- No
If not, what amendments would make you support SB 50?

I would exempt Communities of Concern from the new zoning entirely to allay fears of displacement from low-income groups.

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?

When we can get more low-income and middle-income affordable housing by cross-subsidizing with market rate homes.

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**DCCC Policy**

Do you support contribution limits for DCCC races?

- Yes
- No
What are your ideas to avoid a corporate takeover of the DCCC?

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:

November 2020 Election
Do you pledge to vote to SOLE endorse Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer in District 1?

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

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

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

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

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

Do you pledge to vote to not endorse Karim Salgado or Joel Engardio for Supervisor in District 7?

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

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

- [ ] Yes
- [x] 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?

Elizabeth Warren

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?

- Kulvindar “Rani” Singh
- Carolyn Gold

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November 2019 Election

Who did you support for District Attorney?

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<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>1st Choice</th>
<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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<th>1st Choice</th>
<th>2nd Choice</th>
<th>3rd Choice</th>
<th>Unranked Endorsement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dean Preston</td>
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<td>Vallie Brown</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.

Phil Kim, Michelle Parker, Alida Fisher

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

#1 Nick Josefowitz, #2 Catherine Stefani
Who did you support for D4 Supervisor? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

#1 Trevor McNeil, #2 Jessica Ho

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

#1 Sonja Trauss, #2 Christine Johnson

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.

Theo Ellington

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](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.

#1 London Breed, #2 Mark Leno

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
- [x] No

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**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?

Advocate for apartments at 915 North Point St.
Rally people to support housing at 3333 California: 744 homes, of which 558 were market rate and 186 were affordable to low-income seniors.
What communities do you feel you represent in SF and how do those communities hold you accountable?

* Chinese and Asian communities
* LGBTQ community
* Newcomers

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

Please list specific ways you have fought against racism and white supremacy.

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?

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?

Better tracking of services with the ONE system.
Ensure that every community is doing something with shelters, services and supportive housing.
How would you expand checks and balances in regard to Mayoral appointments?

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?

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

Take walks around the city. Grab dinner or drinks with friends. Ride the bus. Go to the public library. Get a donut from Bob's. Give tourists directions.

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

LPOV is very influential. I don’t expect that I’ll get the endorsement but I want to introduce myself.

Is there anything else you want to tell us?

I have written voter guides for friends in the past. It's a lot of work. Kudos for writing a voter guide.

June 2018:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/13X3Pd7H_c6uVSc4BZmh39LIYMeOAH_ZJLXeYWHdbqJl/edit#heading=h.4oxaeihnpav1

November 2018:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1z4O1XfQrCrOHGQyNOdaM1nDNXMlVxhblgEkR4T8qV5A/edit#heading=h.4oxaeihnpav1

November 2019:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/11m67emOA6qHsNGAfNOtUBMbNr40prH3KcVoQRAkBf_s/edit?usp=drive_web&ouid=102084035942692026757

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