

BOS | League of Pissed Off Voters November 2020 Questionnaire

Hello candidates! Thank you for filling out the League's questionnaire. 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

Name

Connie Chan

Campaign Contact Person

Kelly Groth

Email Address

[REDACTED]

Phone Number

[REDACTED]

Office Sought

San Francisco District 1 Supervisor

Website

<http://www.conniechansf.com>

Where is one place in San Francisco you'll want to go celebrate when the pandemic is over?

I cannot decide if it is Hockey Haven or Trader Sam's but probably Trader Sam's for a scorpion bowl even though it is not my drink, just knowing that is something I absolutely cannot do right now, sharing a bowl of cocktail with umbrella with people, makes me really want to do just that when the pandemic is over.

Tell us about yourself.

Why are you running for this office?

I'm a first generation immigrant who came to San Francisco at the age of thirteen, arriving in the city with my single mother and brother. I learned how to navigate a new city while learning a new language. Today, I am running for District 1 Supervisor because of what San Francisco has given me and my family, and because I want those same opportunities to be available for all San Franciscans now and for generations to come.

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

Besides the fact that I have been a pissed off voter for a long time, I also have great respect for the League. Every general election, it has been my tradition to be sure to pass out the League's Voters' guide to my fellow voters both leading to the election and on Election. It is because I trust the League's vetting process for candidates and ballot measures. So it would be a great honor to earn the League's endorsement.

What are your values and how did you get them?

My mom still lives in the same rent controlled one-bedroom apartment that I grew up in in Chinatown and because of the computer and English classes she took in City College, she was able to get her first job at Chinese Hospital. I was educated at public schools Galileo High School and University of California-Davis. It was the progressive policies and values of San Francisco that allowed my family to succeed in a new city and nation and I'm committed to making sure those same opportunities are available to immigrant and working families today and in the future.

My career in the city started as a volunteer interpreter, working with pro bono attorneys for the SF Bar Association's Volunteer Legal Outreach. During this time I also served as a community organizer for SF SAFE and Community Youth Center.

In 2006, I was recruited to be an aide to then-Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, and later served as an aide to then-District Attorney Kamala Harris, working to provide language access and cultural competency in serving monolingual and immigrant communities. In 2016, I served as a legislative aide to Supervisor Aaron Peskin. Over the past fifteen years, I served in leadership positions at San Francisco Recreation & Parks and City College of San Francisco, overseeing millions of dollars in capital improvement projects and park bonds projects, and also oversaw the implementation of Free City College.

What communities do you represent and how do they hold you accountable?

If elected, I will represent every resident in District 1 and serve San Franciscans. But I also understand that my job as supervisor is to represent those who are vulnerable and often being ignored by the rich and powerful, and make sure they will have a voice in City Hall. Being an immigrant, a woman, and a woman of color, I have the lived experience and know the stories of those who need to have a voice, and depend on their government to thrive and need better access to these services. This ties me closely to issues around housing, affordability, access to transit, public schools, and so much more.

What three endorsements are you most proud of?

I am grateful to have the support of District 1 Supervisor Sandy Fewer, Senator Kamala Harris, and the San Francisco Democratic Party and others. But I am very proud to have the sole endorsements of AFT2121 City College Educators, California Nurses Association, and SEIU 1021 essential workers.

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

I am committed as a member of Lafayette Elementary Parent Teacher Association, Planning Association for the Richmond, the Richmond District Democratic Club, and am a long-time member of the San Francisco Women's Political Committee. I also volunteer delivering groceries for homebound seniors for the Richmond District Neighborhood Center.

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

Aide to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and State Assembly.

Local Issues

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

Yes

No

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

Yes

No

Did you support SB 50 (Senator Wiener's Zoning Bill) as written?

Yes

No

If not, are there amendments that would make you support SB50?

I opposed SB 50 because it takes away the process allowing local community input. We also lack state funding and support for infrastructure improvements including public transit and parks.

Do you support congestion pricing for the downtown core?

Yes

No

Do you support creating a Public Bank in San Francisco?

Yes

No

If Costa Hawkins was repealed at the state level, would you actively support legislation enacting 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?

Have you previously and/or will you in the future accepted donations from any law enforcement officers or associations?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain why.

What percentage of the SFPD budget do you think should be reallocated towards housing, homeless services, social workers, health, and education?

Would you support legislation to implement the Budget Analyst's recommendation to adopt a more efficient weekly staffing schedule for the SFPD? (Recommendation 2.2 here: https://sfbos.org/sites/default/files/BA_Report_PA_of_San_Francisco_Police_Department_061218.pdf)

Yes

No

November 2020 Election

Who are you supporting for US Representative, District 12?

Nancy Pelosi

Who are you supporting for State Senate, District 11?

Jackie Fielder

Who are you supporting for District 1 Supervisor?

Connie Chan

Who are you supporting for District 3 Supervisor?

Aaron Peskin

Who are you supporting for District 5 Supervisor?

Dean Preston

Who are you supporting for District 7 Supervisor?

No endorsement

Who are you supporting for District 9 Supervisor?

Hillary Ronen

Who are you supporting for District 11 Supervisor?

No endorsement

Who are you supporting for Board of Education?

Kevine Boggess, Mark Sanchez

Who are you supporting for Community College Board?

Aliyah Chisti, Han Zhou

Who are you supporting for BART Board, District 9?

Bevan Dufty

Do you support the charter amendment to create a Workforce Education and Recovery Fund for City College (WERF)?

Yes

No

Do you support "Vote 16" the SF charter amendment that authorizes youths aged 16 and 17 to vote in municipal elections?

Yes

No

Do you support the charter amendment to allow non-citizens to serve on boards, commissions, and advisory bodies?

Yes

No

Do you support the charter amendment creating the Office of the Public Advocate?

Yes

No

Do you support the charter amendment creating a Public Works Commission, Sanitation and Streets Commission, and Sanitation and Streets Department?

Yes

No

Do you support the charter amendment establishing term limits for City boards, commissions and bodies?

Yes

No

Do you support the charter amendment creating the Sheriff's Department Oversight Board and Inspector General?

Yes

No

Do you support the charter amendment to remove the minimum police staffing requirement and require the Police Department to submit a report and recommendation regarding police staffing levels?

Yes

No

Do you support the ballot measure to increase the gross receipts tax on businesses with a greater than 100:1 ratio of the pay of their highest-paid employee to the median pay of their SF employees?

Yes

No

Do you support the gross receipts ballot measure proposed by the Board of Supervisors (Yee, Haney, Peskin, Fewer) [File No. 200648]?

Yes

No

Do you support the gross receipts ballot measure proposed by Mayor London Breed [File No. 200645]?

Yes

No

Do you support the ballot measure authorizing development of up to 10,000 affordable rental units in the City?

Yes

No

Do you support California Proposition 15, Tax on Commercial and Industrial Properties for Education and Local Government Funding Initiative?

Yes

No

Do you support California Proposition 21, Local Rent Control Initiative (Costa-Hawkins changes)?

Yes

No

Do you support California Proposition 22, App-Based Drivers as Contractors and Labor Policies Initiative (AB5 Referendum)?

Yes

No

Do you Support California Proposition 25, Replace Cash Bail with Risk Assessments Referendum (Cash Bail Referendum)?

Yes

No

March 2020 Election

Who did you support for Superior Court Judge?

Maria Evangelista, Michelle Tong, Carolyn Gold

Who did you support for DCCC?

I supported the full Social Justice Democrats slate.

Did you support March 2020's Prop D, a tax on vacant storefronts?

Yes

No

Did you support March 2020's Prop E, limits on office development?

Yes

No

November 2019 Election

Who did you support for District Attorney?

Suzy Loftus

Who did you support for District 5 Supervisor?

Dean Preston

November 2018 Election

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

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 (You don't have to write a novel.)

What do you think is the best way to address San Francisco's culture of political corruption?

In an age where the public trust in San Francisco government has been undermined by alleged corruption I am committed to reform for more efficient services, stronger public oversight, and spending with accountability. I support regular auditing of city services and reporting about how funds are used to benefit the public equitably. I want to ensure that policies and resources are used to truly improve people's lives, rather than give political favors or simply maintain the status quo. From experience, I know that San Francisco can do and be better.

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?

San Francisco's homelessness crisis is a humanitarian one. I am invested in strategies to reduce homelessness and support unhoused people getting off the streets and into stable housing. Homelessness is a symptom of a systemic problem: the lack of economic and racial equity, the lack of equitable access to healthcare, and lack of access to food security for many generations of working people.

The Richmond District has not received our share of city resources, despite the growing homeless population in the neighborhood. We know that there is no one-size-fits-all approach to homelessness, so we need a multi-pronged approach to address the range of reasons that people become homeless. I am committed to fighting for the resources and initiatives that will get unhoused residents off the streets and into shelter. I support the expansion of shelters and navigation centers, permanent supportive housing, and mental health and substance use treatment facilities for long-term stays as well as job training and Free City College education.

We need coordinated and equitable services and resources for San Francisco's homeless residents to help them have safe shelter, supportive housing, food and job security, as well as accessible health care.

How would you expand checks and balances in regard to mayoral appointments?

To expand checks and balances to mayoral appointments, we need to reform commissions or any regulatory bodies that have only mayoral appointments. The appointments of these commissions and regulatory bodies should be split between the executive branch and legislative branch of government, setting term limits, and include non-citizen representation as well as to impose affirmative action requirements.

Would you propose any rezoning or other policy changes to increase housing -- particularly affordable housing -- while protecting against the displacement of current residents?

I will push to preserve and build 100% affordable housing in the Richmond District. With Prop E, the Educators and Workforce Housing measure in 2019, San Francisco voters voted to support rezoning to public and private lands for 100% affordable housing development. San Francisco's marketing rate housing production is well over 98% and yet we are still suffering a housing crisis, this is how we know, market-rate housing development does not bring us more affordable housing. We need to build affordable housing.

If you're elected, what racial justice policies will you push for?

My public service career has centered around connecting everyday San Franciscans from all walks of life to the government and advocate for their needs.

With the establishment of the Office of Racial Equity, every city department is now required to have a Racial Equity Action Plan. I will push for audit, and public hearing of their plans, and push policies that will address the gaps. I worked on reparation as aide to Supervisor Sophie Maxwell which we focused on collecting funds from banks that have a history of involving slave trades. As supervisor, I will support Supervisor Shamann Walton's legislative effort on reparation with the goal to break down structural racism in our City. I will also continue to push forward establishing a public bank in San Francisco because the banking industry has been deeply rooted with systemic racism that perpetuated generations of social economic and racial injustice. We can start breaking that down with the establishment of SF public bank.

Last Question

Is there anything else you want to tell us?

Re: SFPD budget, in the face of a \$1.7 billion budget deficit, I understand that we must prioritize resources to equitably serve working people, small businesses, and vulnerable communities. To support our city's recovery from this pandemic, we need to invest in our public health care system, public schools, and key economic and job development opportunities. These strategies are also an important part of creating public safety for our communities.

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms