

Candidate: Thea Selby

Position Sought: District 17 Assembly

1. Why are you running for this office? I am running for this office because we haven't had a woman elected in D17 for 20. I am the only parent in the race, and I know what it's like to raise kids in this district. I'm a small business person who wants to deliver for our mom and pops, who have gotten a raw deal during Covid. And, I am passionate about education and meeting or exceeding climate goals--I like to have goals and do my best to make them a reality.
2. What are your values and how did you get them? My values are: people-first. I got them watching people be put last in government and in corporations. I value celebrating diversity, having lived all over this country and in other countries. I value collaboration with a fair amount of challenge. If we all agree with each other, something's wrong. If we bully people who disagree, something is wrong.
3. What communities do you represent and how do they hold you accountable?

Communities	How they hold me accountable
Lower Haight Merchant + Neighbor Assn—merchants and neighbors	Through our work for them in the community, whether it's safety or transit or shared spaces or helping increase foot traffic
City College—faculty, classified, administrators, students, community as a whole	As Trustee, I am responsible for the entire college for the present and the future. As such, I have to make hard decisions to keep the college thriving. I am fortunate to have partners in faculty, classified and administrators who do what they can to help us to keep the college thriving for the most important constituents—current students and the community as a whole. They are there with public comment, letters, coffees, and zooms to keep us accountable. And they can vote us out—the ultimate accountability.
SF Transit Riders—SFMTA riders, operators	Riders: We consider ourselves to be the voice of the riders. That is only possible with our organizing. Riders are the most disadvantaged in the city and we do a lot of community organizing in places that have traditionally been underserved by the bus to make sure those voices are heard.
My family (2 boys, a husband a dog and a cat)	My dog and cat hold me accountable by peeing or pooping in the wrong place to express unhappiness. My children are on their own now and quite independent. I feel we did what we could for them at

	an earlier stage.
My clients (government agencies and media)	I am a small business owner. My business is Next Steps Marketing. I am accountable for the quality of work that our company does. If it is not good, clients will eventually fire us or not renew. I have several employees, full and part-time. I am accountable for their pay and for supporting them in their work. If I do not support them, their work suffers.

4. What three endorsements are you most proud of? Delaine Eastin--"Budgets are a reflection of your values." State Senator Connie Leyva, championed by labor and head of Education in the Senate. Marlana, owner of Marlana's bar, small business owner, Hayes Valley.
5. What do you think David Chiu's top accomplishment was as Assemblyperson for AD-17? AB1482--Tenant Protection Act of 2019.
6. Can you describe an instance where you would have done something different than David Chiu as Assemblyperson for AD-17? I would have co-authored our first attempt at a regional transformative transportation measure that was progressively funded instead of backing FASTER, which had a regressive sales tax and big corporations backing it.
7. What three policy changes at the state level would have the biggest impact on California's housing crisis? Specifically, how would you work for these policy changes if elected? We need more affordable housing for very low, low and mid-income families and individuals in SF to make the diverse city that we claim we want. A wise neighbor said that there are two things we need for affordable housing: money and land. A few policy changes:
 1. MONEY BAHAMAS HAD a huge impact. I will work to use it to get regional funding w/o having to go to the legislature.
 2. MONEY There is a transfer fee on property at the state level that was reduced dramatically. It was supposed to give \$1B a year, and it gives \$200K a year. This is an opportunity—increasing the transfer fee is easier than starting from scratch
 3. LAND Private educational institutions-- incentivize for affordable housing (think Art institute of SF).
8. What piece of legislation or policy are you most proud of having worked on? Ordinance at City Hall that makes it easier and more transparent to know when there are open commission seats to benefit women and people of color. Also, getting \$400,000 out of the developers of Balboa Reservoir for students to run a campaign for free Rams Transit passes.
9. Could you share a favorite San Francisco holiday tradition? Watching SantaCon in the Lower Haight. Young people having a ball, getting frisky.

