* Name:Schuyler Hudak
* District: 2

Q2

Affordable Housing: How will you support infill development throughout the City along with affordability measures to keep residents in SF? How will you respond to pushback from your constituents regarding height and/or density? How will you support more compact walkable mixed-use neighborhoods as the City addresses its housing needs? (please limit your response to 250 words)

San Francisco needs to grow to ensure that every person who wants to live here can live here. We need our elected officials to work closely with their constituents, enabling them to feel that their voice is heard at City Hall. I will work with my colleagues on the board on the equitable distribution of affordable housing throughout the city, particularly focusing on opportunities for nurses and teachers. We must identify opportunities for growth throughout San Francisco. My background in public-private partnerships uniquely positions me to bring all stakeholders to the table to collaborate on infill development throughout the city, while finding potential sources of funding for infill property acquisition which would be earmarked for mixed use with the appropriate designated affordable housing allotment as part of the development. Keeping San Francisco’s iconic neighborhood’s walkable and compact is a top priority of mine, especially in District Two. Before any mixed-use development would gain my approval, I will work with the project sponsors to ensure that it says in tune with its surrounding neighborhood specifically addressing public open space opportunities, retail and other services. Working very closely with nearby existing residents and merchants will be a key component on addressing the needs of a particular neighborhood. I support having street-level retail and other service opportunities in mixed residential projects that keep our streets vibrant. My goals are to foster thriving communities by supporting the small businesses and retailers who are the backbone of our local economy, creating inviting safe streets with ample foot traffic, and grow vibrant neighborhood commercial corridors. This will fulfill the needs of the community and promote a safe walkable city.

Q3

Walkable and Bikeable Streets: How will you support safer streets? How will you help implement Vision Zero? How will you support walkable and bikeable streets in the City? Please include your thoughts about existing initiatives other than Vision Zero and what your response would be to opposition to better bike infrastructure in your neighborhood (such as traffic calming, bike lanes, bike and bike share docking stations?) (please limit your response to 250 words)

I support Vision Zero and the ongoing effort to eliminate vehicle related deaths on city streets, and will work to make sure the initiative is implemented quickly. Our public transit system is currently inadequate to meet the needs of our citizens, so we need last-mile solutions that work for all ages and physical abilities. This includes bike and electric scooter sharing programs, which help make our streets safer.

Q4

Reliable, Fossil Free Public Transit: How will you close the MUNI funding gap identified in the Mayor’s Transportation 2030 Task Force? How will you help fund vital new BART cars and station improvements? How will you address opposition to transit lanes in your neighborhood? Will you recommit MUNI to its fossil free pledge and ensure our future procurements eliminate diesel from San Francisco's public transportation fleet? (please limit your response to 250 words)

I am a strong supporter of the Mayor’s Transportation 2030 Task Force and all efforts that help San Francisco and the Bay Area address our woefully inadequate transportation infrastructure. I was a proud supporter of Regional Measure 3 because we need more strategic regional transit policy. RM3 will replace and expand new Muni busses and rail cars (all sustainable), as well as adding 300 new BART railcars. As someone who grew up riding BART, I understand what a vital mode of transportation this is for our region. While I’m happy with the outcome of RM3, this is only the beginning. We must be looking toward the future, and building the infrastructure we need now. We are moving into a world in which autonomous vehicles and TNCs will be the dominant forms of transportation. This requires us to build a different kind of transit policy starting today. In order to build that transit policy, be it transit lanes or another controversial development, our elected leaders must work closely with neighbors and residents. San Franciscans are tired of too frequently feeling like politicians are pushing hidden agendas. The process isn’t accessible enough and there isn’t sufficient outreach done by the individual Supervisors to their constituents. San Francisco is experiencing some severe growing pains and the role of our public servants is to build the bridges between our past and our future to facilitate these changes. When we are willing to be available to residents, when they feel that their concerns are truly heard, progress becomes possible. I plan to leverage the resources of the California Air Resources Board’s Cap-and-Trade program for greenhouse gas credits, which has resulted in a large pot of money available for proposed clean transport projects. Yes, I would recommit MUNI to the fossil free pledge and ensure future procurement eliminates diesel.

Q5

Energy Efficiency: What should the City do to encourage energy conservation by residents, businesses, and the City itself? Please include your thoughts on how the City can work, or continue to work, with homeowners and landlords to improve overall housing efficiency with efforts to upgrade windows, insulation, thermostats, fuse boxes, refrigerators, etc. (please limit your response to 250 words)

San Francisco has been at the forefront of energy conservation for many years, and has been lauded for its achievements in this area. However, there are many ways to make serious gains in environmental protection. I will work with the California Energy Commission to establish a collaborative working group with the SFPUC. That working group would implement incentive programs and identify low interest energy efficiency retrofit loan programs, such as Energy Upgrade California. I would also propose a localized incentive program similar to Energy Upgrade California which streamlines all current incentive programs and adds additional incentives to upgrade windows, insulation, and major appliances. San Francisco should set the gold standard for American cities on energy efficiency.

Q6

Renewable Energy: What specific changes would you make to CleanPowerSF to expand residents’ awareness of the program, affordability, and environmental impact? (please limit your response to 250 words)

I will work with the PUC and PG&E to develop a marketing and community engagement strategy that makes it easy for residents to understand the benefits of enrolling in this program. Overall, I support CleanPowerSF and the strides it is making. I will focus on incentives for energy sources and projects which include electricity storage options, as they help balance the intermittent nature of wind & solar resources.

Q7

Water Sustainability & Conservation: How will you ensure the City sustainably manages its water supply, wastewater, and stormwater runoff? How will you enhance the City's water resiliency and reduce its reliance on imported water through efficiency programs, recycling, distributed and green infrastructure, regional coordination, and/or stormwater management? (please limit your response to 250 words)

The city's current infrastructure for handling wastewater and stormwater warrants a district by district assessment for ensuring water quality and public health, and potential efficiency upgrades. I will work with SFDPW to identify major water users and whether they are using water as efficiently as possible. According to the State Water Resources Board, urban stormwater water runoff is the leading cause of water pollution in California. I will look at existing treated wastewater streams as a potential supply source throughout the year; assess whether water recycling could be increased. Check with other local governments such as Orange County on successful water recycling programs and work closely with local regional experts like the Berkeley Water Center. I will look at whether the city's golf courses are using recycled water for turf management, and whether large college campuses such as San Francisco State are maximizing use of recycled water. Finally, I also believe that San Franciscans should continue to be educated on the importance of water conservation. Educating our citizens to do their part in a variety of tasks such as, replacing old washing machines & toilets, fixing leaks, grey water use and preventing waste in our landscape, are simple and cost-effective ways to preserve our water supply.

Q8

Zero Waste: What specific actions would you take to ensure the City meets its Zero Waste by 2020 goal? Have San Francisco’s recent steps to meet its goal, including banning styrofoam containers, some bottled water sales, and plastic bags (and potentially soon plastic straws) been successful? What’s next? (please limit your response to 250 words)

Given recent information about the plummeting market for recycled materials such as plastics and paper, I will consult with Recology about where exactly our recycled products are going - specifically on the proportion that ends up in landfills. Furthermore, I will explore with recycling experts on how to better support their efforts towards zero waste. I will confirm with Recology that the City’s Zero Waste by 2020 contract waste hauler is being paid on a per tons of waste hauled basis, such that they have no incentive to participate in waste reduction.

I am a strong supporter of the ongoing efforts to restrict bottled water sales, banning styrofoam containers and plastic bags. I believe major sellers of bottled water, beyond retailers on city property, are also potential partners for waste reduction and recycling efforts. San Francisco’s grocery stores and other major retailers of packaged goods should be enlisted to participate in a city wide recycling and waste reduction effort. Waste collection rate revisions for businesses should be considered to provide incentives for every ton diverted from regional landfills.

Q9

Combating Climate Change: How would you update and implement San Francisco’s Climate Action Plan? How would you push City departments to meet their Climate Action Plan goals? Would you support divesting from fossil fuel investments? (please limit your response to 250 words)

We must allocate city budget money for a Climate Action coordinator in each department who would be responsible for tracking progress towards the Plan goals. I will absolutely support divesting from fossil fuel investments and invest in financially stable, green investment opportunities that involve very low environmental impacts. For example, I support modern wind energy development projects with energy storage components on already disturbed sites with no sensitive plant or animal species on site.

Q10

Your Environmental Priorities: Why should the San Francisco League of Conservation Voters endorse you? What will your top environmental priorities be in office? If you are an officeholder, please highlight the environmental achievements you are proudest of. (please limit your response to 250 words)

I am seeking your endorsement because I will be a true champion for environmental issues on the Board of Supervisors. Moreover, I will be an effective leader, one who actually delivers on that promise. I am committed to progressive environmental issues which will move San Francisco forward and create a healthier city for all of us. Our city has been a leader in the sustainable city movement in many ways, but we have so much more work to do. We need to incubate new ways for cities to be zero waste so that we can meaningfully contribute to reducing climate change and be a global leader in the conservation movement. I am not afraid of pursuing bold environmental solutions that will truly make a difference. It is incumbent upon every one of us to ensure that San Francisco remains at the forefront of environmental innovation, creativity and principle. I am excited about collaborating with the SFLCV as we lead the fight for a clean and healthy environment.