* Name:Mike Murphy
* District: 4

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)

I will legislate a vacancy tax, a pied-a-terre tax, and true disclosure in real estate transactions. As our available housing stock is being hoarded by speculators in Real Estate Investment Trusts doubling as developers, and as the market may be headed toward a repeat of 2008, my first priority is to put an end to (or at least curb) this activity. I do believe that there is some wiggle room on transit corridors on streets serviced by light rail to build within existing zoning laws and to do so without further taxing our overburdened infrastructure. Angry antagonism over a created crisis should not require solutions that benefit those who helped create the crisis.

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)

Safe streets are a hallmark of civilized cities. Sadly, the administration of city departments responsible for their creation have largely succumbed to cronyism which is a hallmark of an entrenched and powerful party machine. At its beginnings, SFBC effectively organized in a real grassroots fashion and created the conditions for positive change--making our streets safer for cyclists and pedestrians. I believe in that sort of organic movement. I would champion protected bike lanes in areas of the city that need them (where bike collisions occur far too often--especially the Embarcadero where I have been knocked down and bloodied). In D4, a sensible approach would be the establishment of North/South bicycle boulevards that connect to Golden Gate Park. I am not a believer in the share-the-crumbs economy and do not believe that Uber/Lyft/bike share docks/Bird/Lime should be able to operate in a disruptive manner on our public streets and sidewalks.

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)

Efficient use of bond funding which voters passed and budgeted set-asides should enable the city to address much of our transportation infrastructure needs. MUNI needs help to be resourceful. Diesel buses (including those ordered by the Mayor's office without BOS authorization) should be phased-out and eliminated from the fleet. SFMTA's heavy-handed, ill-informed, phony-public-process approach to transportation network changes in D4 has greatly damaged it's credibility in my neighborhood. I look forward to talking with SFLCV about this.

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)

On the larger scale, the City should focus on creation of incentives to transition to clean renewable energy. Further incentivizing smaller users similarly should also be further explored. Energy use audits are useful and could be coupled with incentives that incorporate a thoughtful analysis of the real cost of replacement of energy inefficient appliances, hardware, and components.

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)

In formal district council meetings and in regular office hours in the district, I would bring the merits of CleanPowerSF to the attention of residents. Active SF Green Party members helped see to it that this program made it off the ground.

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)

We need to remove the city's toxic turf playfields and allow rainwater to recharge our groundwater supplies. We need to stop the ever more frequent combined sewer overflow discharges into our Bay and Ocean. We need to stop selling our water to CalWater through San Mateo County municipalities. The PUC should operate more in the public interest and less as an enterprise agency. I have too many words for this topic and look forward to a conversation with SFLCV members about water issues.

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)

It appears that Zero Waste is a show pony. SF is not a very green city. Working closely with our private waste management vendor to insure that steps are actually being taken to put us on track for that fantasy goal would be a start. Education (which is happening) is critical. Next, we educate our elected and appointed officials. Next, we initiate hyperlocal recycling programs. Plastics in our environment are an enormous problem. The City should stop replacing living matrices (grass fields) with plastic.

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)

I fully support divesting from fossil fuel investments.

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)

As an elected SF Green Party County Councilmember, I've led and participated in a number of significant environmental actions. The Green Party is an activist party and we have helped put legislation on the ballot to limit the City's use of toxic artificial turf. In addition we have advocated and had marginal success in reclassification and limiting the use of environmental toxins (herbicides and pesticides) in our public parks. We have spoken for the trees--and, sadly, facing an intransigent juggernaut, are not being heard. I've personally fought for our right to clean water and advocated to protect our Coastal Zone. I've conducted public forums on these matters and have written for internationally renowned publications and been a guest on public radio speaking about these issues. To be the change we wish to see, we need leadership to not only express a sense of Ecological Wisdom but to embody Ecological Awareness. I will do just that and make it a primary focus of my campaign and, if elected, my tenure on the Board of Supervisors.