Q1

Please enter your contact info here

* Name:Tyra Fennell
* Phone #: 2026315004
* Email:tyrafennellsf@gmail.com

Q2

Why do you want to be a member of the County Central Committee of your party? If you are currently a member, why are you seeking another term? (Please Limit your response to 250 words)

I am a resident of the Bayview Hunters Point in San Francisco and have a small business in the Dogpatch. I am running for the Democratic County Central Committee (DCCC) to grow by ability to enact positive change in both my community and the greater San Francisco. I have spent years working in community through both my work and volunteer positions. I am also the founding director of Imprint City, an organization activating underutilized areas in neighborhoods with arts projects that encourage increased foot traffic in support of local merchants. I serve as vice chair of San Francisco's African American Arts and Cultural District located in the Bayview, an effort to elevate the Bayview into the Black arts epicenter in the city. I am a long time advocate for the arts in San Francisco, having worked in partnership with a coalition of stakeholders to pass Proposition E, legislation to support funding for youth arts programs, artists, cultural centers, cultural districts, arts organizations, and more through a portion of the Hotel Tax. I also co-authored the legislation designating the Bayview as an African American Arts and Cultural District. Serving on the DCCC will afford me the privilege to work with the Democratic Party to register voters, a much needed effort in the Southeast sector of the City, which has a history of low voter turnout. It will also be a mechanism to propose a support resolutions that seek to move our city forward. Finally, the DCCC has a strong influence with endorsing candidates that align with the party’s platform. I truly believe all of the relationships I have developed and work I have produced for the community makes me the ideal candidate to support the growth of the party. I currently serve as an Assembly District 17 (AD17) Delegate for the California State Democratic Party as well as on the board of the San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR), Open Door Legal, the Bayview Community Advisory Committee (Bayview CAC) as well as a Film Commissioner. I am a proud Emerge California Alumni and a legacy graduate of Howard University.

Q3

What do you see as the city's most important environmental issue, and why? (please limit your response to 250 words)

Homelessness is currently the City’s most important environmental issue because not only does it leave many of our most vulnerable at risk of being exposed to the elements, leading to hypothermia, frostbite, and even dying from exposure, it also exposes the entire City to public health and sanitation risks and environmental degradation. We can prevent homelessness with creative solutions in addition to traditional support services to ensure our City is a healthy place for all. For over six years, I served on the board of Open Door Legal, an organization that not only advocates for universal legal access because as a practical matter, the law does not protect the poor. Protecting residents with universal legal access before they are in jeopardy of entering the homeless population is an important long term solution to San Francisco’s homeless crisis. I will also commit to decriminalizing homelessness and poverty by redirecting those that are in need into programs to support their rehabilitation. For example, by expunging criminal records, restricting past evictions, and eliminating fraudulent accounts from their credit report, we can ensure that low-income households can qualify for housing they would otherwise have been denied for. Denials are also sometimes wrongful – disability discrimination is especially common – and when this happens we step in and ensure fair treatment.

Q4

What do you see as the function of the County Central Committee? What are its strengths and weaknesses? What role does it play with environmental issues? (please limit your response to 250 words)

The DCCC essentially mobilizes and leads the party, which includes passing resolutions to strengthen the party platform; this includes resolutions that are pro-environment. The DCCC also registers Democratic voters and forges partnerships to ensure they are engaging all residents and its members can also supports the broader party with working to flip seats in other parts of the State and sometimes, members can support National initiatives through volunteer phone banking and canvassing. These are the strengths of the DCCC, if done effectively. The weakness of the current San Francisco DCCC is it allows elected Supervisors to run and take seats that should be for grassroots candidates, who have both the time and the energy to implement strategies to achieve the aforementioned goals. Additionally, there has been a lack of new community partnerships as well as strengthening existing partnerships that lead to increased voter registration and help DCCC members become more informed on how to engage those disenfranchised voters. The DCCC should additionally host more fireside chats in underserved communities to educate residents on ballot initiatives or educate them on resolutions that are being put before the DCCC.

Q5

What relationship do you see between environmental protection and the quality of life in San Francisco? (please limit your response to 250 words)

The quality of life in San Francisco includes creating equity and access to healthy spaces, including providing clean and safe streets as well as improving the ecological health of San Francisco’s parks and significant natural areas. To support access to open spaces for all, I serve on the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department’s Bond Working Group. The bond this working group advises on will fund the majority of the capital improvements to San Francisco parks, recreation centers and pools through general obligation bonds authorized by the voters. Our role is to advise on the plan for the next $255 million effort as well as develop sub-goals through in-depth knowledge of needs and issues of citywide parks and facilities. Environmental protection includes issues such as climate change and more specifically as it pertains to San Francisco, sea level rise as a byproduct of climate change. As a board member of the San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR), I have worked to shape strategies for addressing this issue. Environmental protection ultimately supports our overall quality of life therefore supporting policies that strengthen these protections are vital to our overall health.

Q6

Why do you want the SFLCV's endorsement? (please limit your response to 250 words)

I am a resident of the Bayview Hunters Point, a neighborhood with a history of environmental injustices including toxins at the Hunters Point Shipyard site and the prevalent smell of the Wastewater Treatment Plant--- to name a few. Environmental issues that are important to me include ensuring housing is not built on contaminated soil as well as addressing sea level rise by advocating for a sea wall along the entire Southeast sector, Treasure Island and the Marina. Additionally, I support alternative transportation methods to help lower greenhouse gas emissions in a city with a fast growing population. It would be an honor to secure the League’s endorsement and work on implementing your environmental values as a member of the DCCC.