Q1

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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 moved to San Francisco ten years ago as an LGBTQ activist and community organizer wanting to be a part of creating social change. I never thought one day I’d be a candidate for political office. I have been active in the progressive political movement in San Francisco since getting involved in my first electoral campaign back in 2010. Since then, I’ve supported dozens of progressive candidates for elected office, knocked on doors to turn out the vote, and fought back as we saw San Francisco overtaken by big tech money and developer greed. I believe in the power of grassroots political organizing and was proud to serve as President of the Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club from 2015-2016. I’m running for the SFDCCC because I refuse to sit back as Donald Trump continues to attack everything we stand for. In the wake of the 2016 election, I took my disappointment and channeled it towards building a better Democratic Party. In January 2017, I ran and was elected as a delegate to the California Democratic Party on a progressive platform of change. For the past two years I’ve had the privilege to serve on the SFDCCC, where I’ve brought forward resolutions in support of Medicare for All, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, and opposing a public bailout of PG&E. As Corresponding Secretary for the SFDCCC, I’ve helped the Party grow its visibility and grassroots engagement. I've also stood up to corporate and moneyed special interests to ensure our local Party is accountable to those who need it the most. I’m running because I want to continue to serve the city that I love and fight for a more affordable, equitable, and just San Francisco that puts the needs of everyday San Franciscans first.

Q3

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

San Francisco has long been an environmental leader and we are far ahead of most cities in the country when it comes to our climate action policies and goals. In fact, since 1990, San Francisco has reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by 36% even as our population increased by 22% and our GDP by 166%. But as the UN’s IPCC report makes clear, we are running out of time. We are going to need to take bolder and faster action if we’re going to have any chance at avoiding the most catastrophic impacts of climate change. In San Francisco, our biggest challenges from a climate mitigation standpoint are the transportation and building energy sector. Together, these sectors are the source of over 80% of San Francisco’s greenhouse gas emissions. In order to effectively achieve net-zero emissions as a city, we need to decarbonize all transportation and building energy use, which means eliminating natural gas as well as diesel and gasoline. We also need to ensure San Francisco is prepared to adapt to the impacts of climate change and that, in particular, the City is taking the steps necessary to protect our waterfront, critical City infrastructure, and neighborhood communities from sea-level rise. As drought, wildfires, and heat waves increase in years to come, we need to be asking questions today about what safety and resilient measures the City must put in place to ensure we have adequate air filtration, cooling centers, and water resources to support public health and safety, especially for vulnerable communities. Lastly, we know that the San Francisco Bay Area is expected to grow significantly over the next few decades. San Francisco will need to effectively manage a growing population and increased economic activity without causing additional environmental degradation and community displacement. Effective long-term planning, including substantial investments in affordable housing and public transportation, such as a second BART tube, will be necessary to ensure growth is both equitable and sustainable.

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)

I believe we need a local Democratic Party that is not beholden to corporate, real estate lobbyists and moneyed special interests, but represents the interests of working people in our city. At the core of what we do at the San Francisco Democratic Party is endorse candidates and ballot measures, and those endorsements are a reflection of our values. When we look at the November 2020 election and the races on the ballot, I believe we need to be united in supporting candidates who are going to stand with renters, hold developers accountable, and fight for deeply affordable housing. As the last election showed us, San Francisco voters are tired of the status quo and are eager for independent leadership and transformational change. I believe the San Francisco Democratic Party should endorse candidates that reflect those values so that we can continue to have a progressive majority on the Board of Supervisors and a policy agenda that delivers equity, affordability, and real change for all San Franciscans. I also think it’s imperative that the San Francisco Democratic Party push for greater local, state, and national actions to address the climate crisis. As a climate justice advocate, I strongly support a Green New Deal for San Francisco and California. I also believe it is time for a publicly owned energy utility with public oversight to serve San Francisco. We cannot let PG&E continue to take our ratepayer dollars for the purpose of enriching shareholders and giving millions of dollars in executive bonuses while, at the same time, deferring maintenance of their assets and putting our communities in danger. I strongly support San Francisco’s offer to buy PG&E’s assets and municipalize our power services, and, if elected, I will make sure the San Francisco Democratic Party continues to push our local and state elected leaders, including the CPUC, to take decisive action on the future of PG&E that puts people over profits.

Q5

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

Environmental protection and improving quality of life must go hand in hand in San Francisco. I have spent the majority of my professional career in San Francisco working on environmental policies and programs that not only reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but that strive to make our residents, neighborhoods, and city healthier, safer, and more resilient. As Policy Coordinator at the San Francisco Department of Environment, I have worked on a number of zero waste policies passed by the Board of Supervisors to reduce the use of single-use disposable food and beverage ware, like straws and cups, which studies have shown comprise two-thirds of the litter entering San Francisco Bay. When we tackle single-use disposable items we are not only reducing the use of fossil fuels to create virgin plastic, we are reducing the impacts of plastic litter and pollution in our environment, which improves the quality of life for all San Franciscans. I have also worked on policies to decarbonize the building sector and incentive greater electrification of new residential and commercial construction to eliminate the use of natural gas, a fossil fuel more potent than carbon dioxide. Building fossil fuel free buildings not only reduces emissions but can improve indoor air quality, reduce asthma rates, and enhance the quality of life for building tenants. I believe our environmental policies across issue area -- whether it’s waste, transportation, or buildings -- must also prioritize equity, affordability, health, and safety, in order for us to achieve a more sustainable and just future for all San Franciscans, especially those communities who will be disproportionately impacted by the impacts of climate change.

Q6

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

As a climate justice advocate running for SFDCCC, I believe that climate change is the single greatest issue of our time. I have spent the majority of my professional career working to combat climate change at the local level and developing innovative policy solutions to accelerate action to reduce emissions and improve the quality of life of all San Franciscans. If elected to serve on the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee, I will continue to be a strong voice on the issues that SFLCV cares about. As a current member of the SFDCCC, I’ve already demonstrated that commitment. I’ve pushed the Party to take a stand on environmental issues, authoring a resolution, in partnership with Citizens’ Climate Lobby, urging Congress to pass the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (HR 763) and for Speaker Pelosi to allow hearings in the House on the Green New Deal. I also authored a resolution along with DCCC member Kelly Groth and AD19 Delegate Li Miao Lovett that put the San Francisco Democratic Party officially on record opposing a public bailout of PG&E. I believe the San Francisco Democratic Party must continue to push our elected leaders locally, at the state level, and nationally to make action on the climate crisis a priority. I would be honored to have the San Francisco League of Conservation Voters’ endorsement in this race.