

# EBWPA Endorsements November 2022

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## Candidate Profile

### **Candidate Name**

Rebecca Kaplan, she/her/they/them

### **Office Sought**

Alameda County Board of Supervisors District 3, Alameda County

### **Party Affiliation**

Democrat

### **Campaign Website**

<https://www.supervisorkaplan.org/>

### **How would you use the platform of this elected office to advance gender equity?**

If elected as County Supervisor, I would become the only woman serving on the Board and would become the first ever openly-LGBT person elected to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. The County has the opportunity to hire, and to appoint people to numerous positions and Boards and Commissions, and I would use my role to continue to expand upon my efforts to promote, hire, recruit, support, endorse and nominate a diverse group of women for vital leadership roles. I have a track record of success in this effort, having recruited, hired, promoted, and endorsed wonderful new women leaders in my role on Council. In addition, the County controls our public hospital and public health system, and the majority of funding for homelessness. I would use that position to ensure full gender equity in healthcare, full and widespread access to all reproductive health needs, more access at community clinics for convenient service, and to expand access to childcare throughout the county. I would expand support for the growing number of homeless women and families and ensure LGBT equality in County services. I would also help remedy the issues of gender-based violence and abuse which have come up in regard to some County facilities, including in regard to the jail system. (This is an issue in which I have experience, having worked at Prisoner Legal Services, and having worked in Oakland to remedy sexual abuse and gender discrimination, including in the police department and elsewhere).

### **How will you work to end discrimination based on age, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, immigration status, marital status, socioeconomic status, and disability?**

I will be deeply and strongly committed to the work of ending discrimination, bringing to it my personal experience, my legal training, and my track record on this work. This includes that I was the lead author of the successful Council policy to prohibit OPD from colluding with ICE on attacks on immigrants, I helped pass language access provisions in Oakland to ensure all of our communities can access public services, I fought for transgender people to be treated with respect, and for public services, from bathrooms to homeless shelters, that are welcoming to people of all gender identities and orientations. When Oakland had a law on the books making it illegal to wear "the clothing of the opposite sex" I led the successful effort to remove it. When LGBT people were being harassed by police, I worked with community groups to help remedy it and add training

and awareness. I have helped fight for immigrants facing deportation, for expanded access to public services in underserved communities. In my service on the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, I helped to dramatically shift the approach to air pollution, which has major disparate impacts on communities of color, and I got the agency to shift away from saying that things are OK because air pollution on "average" isn't so bad throughout the region, to instead bringing awareness that some fence-line communities, along truck routes and near major industrial sources, are subjected to disproportionate asthma, cancer and other diseases from air pollution, which are disproportionately communities of color. Thus, I convinced the Air Board to fund interventions to remedy these inequities, including with new zero-emission trucks, cleaner locomotive engines, and hybrid-electric cranes, and the adoption of new policy rules to remedy the historic over-concentration of toxins, by adding review and remedy of existing major toxin emissions to the air district's work. I would be honored to bring this track record and dedication to the County, to make sure we have language access, gender equity, sexual orientation non-discrimination, racial justice in county services, access to jobs, and treatment.