

SF League of Pissed Off Voters 2026 Questionnaire

Hello candidates! Thank you for filling out the League's questionnaire. Please complete the questionnaire **by 5pm on Friday, August 7th** if you wish to be considered for the League's endorsement. Please use this form rather than formatting it into a Word document or PDF. If you have any questions, you can contact us at TheLeagueSF@gmail.com.

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Motivation

Why are you running for *this* office?

I jumped into this race because I wasn't seeing true progressive policies actually being fought for, just defended in theory and abandoned in practice. I'm unapologetically progressive, but I'm also the common sense community candidate: I lead with innovation and resourcefulness instead of just talking about problems. I've spent twenty years building organizations, coalitions, and community in our city, and I bring that same instinct to City Hall: find the resourceful path, stay positive even when the work is hard, and measure success by results, not by who gets the loudest press release. I'm an independent voice beholden to no special interests, and I'm not going to be a rubber stamp for this Mayor's agenda. I'm also running to be the first drag queen, the first Vietnamese American, and the first person of color to represent Harvey Milk's district. That history matters, but what matters more is what I will actually deliver once I'm there.

What are your values, and how did you get them?

Innovation, resourcefulness, positivity, leadership through service to community, and a focus on results over grandstanding. I got them the hard way. I came to San Francisco alone in 2006 for law school, without money or connections, and spent time in an SRO before I found my first apartment in Noe Valley. When you show up in a city that doesn't know you yet, you learn fast that complaining doesn't build anything, resourcefulness does. That's the same lesson that took me from patent attorney to drag performer to community organizer to candidate: find the path, stay positive, serve the community you're building alongside, and let the results speak.

What communities do you represent, and how do they hold you accountable?

I represent the LGBTQ community, the Vietnamese American and broader AAPI community, the drag and nightlife community, and the residents of District 8. Often I'm representing whole communities every time I walk into a room, that's been true my whole life living as a queer Vietnamese American in this country, long before I was a candidate for anything.

I hold myself accountable to them by staying present and active in the organizations that represent these communities, not showing up once a cycle. They're in constant communication with me, and they're not shy about giving feedback, which is exactly how it should be. I'm not shy about being open to it either. As supervisor, I'd formalize that same relationship through a co-governance model: participatory budgeting, at least one town hall every quarter, and giving community members real decision-making power, not just a seat at the table, to help deliver the change we want in our neighborhoods. That's the difference between accountability as a talking point and accountability as an actual practice I've already been living.

What three endorsements are you most proud of?

Tom Ammiano — a historic figure in our movement, and someone whose legacy I feel personally connected to.

The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club — where I found my voice and learned how to organize.

AFT 2121 — because I believe community college is one of the clearest paths we have to lift our most marginalized neighbors into economic security.

What are the top three issues you will work on, and what is your plan for achieving your goals?

Affordability. Working families, mom and pop small businesses, and the people who keep our city running are being pushed out of our city by the skyrocketing cost of living here. As supervisor, I will push for bold solutions that make San Francisco a place where working class people, not just the wealthy, can thrive. This means creating a commercial rent control ordinance, expanding free Muni for youth under 26, fighting to raise the minimum wage to a real living wage, and building the enforcement infrastructure to make sure it actually gets paid, not just legislated.

Housing production for working families. I will introduce Social housing legislation on day one, in partnership with the local organizations that have already been doing this work for years. I want to push hard on this, because I know we can make it happen. My strategy includes going after underused parcels the city already owns or could acquire. Practically, that means:

Repealing the local barriers that make housing more expensive to build: remaining parking minimums or de facto parking mandates, excessive discretionary review delays for projects that already meet adopted planning standards (these should get a fast-track, ministerial path), and rules that let entitled projects sit idle or get flipped without ever breaking ground. San Francisco should have real use-it-or-lose-it timelines and fees on stalled entitlements.

Pairing that with the state density bonus so it's used to produce real homes, not just more parking or more paper entitlements.

My goal isn't building for the sake of building. It's getting real housing built without uprooting the people who already live here.

Good governance. It is critical that we have an independent Board of Supervisors that checks the Mayor's office instead of deferring to it, with the same co-governance and participatory budgeting approach applied to how the city spends its money. I believe in a system of checks and balances and I do not feel that is what we currently have in City Hall. As Supervisor, I will not be shy about working to tilt things back in the other direction.

What local and state commissions or policy bodies have you served on?

San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee (DCCC)

LGBTQI+ Advisory Committee to the SF Human Rights Commission

What political organizations are you a member of (e.g., democratic clubs)?

Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club (founded its AAPI Caucus)
GLBTQ+ Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) (past Chair; Miss GAPA 2016)
United Dems
Noe Valley Democratic Club (affiliate member)

What for-profit or non-profit boards have you served on, including political organizations?

National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys (NCVAA) – past President
Livable City – past President
Proud Ultimate (Big Gay Frisbee league) – past President
Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF) - LGBTQ Bar Association
Southwestern University Alumni Association Alumni Council

What campaigns have you worked on?

Tom Temprano for City College Trustee (2020) (Campaign Manager / Field Director)

What recent candidates and ballot measures have you supported financially?

Natalie Gee for Supervisor, Jane Kim for Insurance Commissioner, Igor Tregub for Berkeley City Council,
DJ Brookter for Supervisor

What is one concrete thing about the League of Pissed Off Voters (for example, something we have done, said, or published) that you appreciate and that would make you proud to have our endorsement?

The League endorsed me in March of 2024 as part of the Labor and Working Families Slate for DCCC so I already know firsthand what their process looks like. What I appreciate most is their candor. Every election cycle they go measure by measure and race by race with an honest, unsparing assessment, they'll tell you plainly when something deserves a "no," and they're not afraid to withhold an endorsement rather than force one. Progressives rely on that kind of candor because staying on top of every single ballot measure is a genuinely huge lift. I cut my teeth doing exactly that on the Harvey Milk Club board, and I do it all over again every cycle at the DCCC. Having an organization that does that work rigorously and says what it actually thinks, not just what's safe, is something San Francisco needs more of, and that's exactly the type of organization I'd be proud to have backing my campaign.

How long have you lived in your supervisor district?

15+ Years

How would you explain the biggest challenges your district faces?

Affordability. Longtime residents, working families, and small businesses are being priced out of Noe Valley, the Castro, and the rest of D8. Sadly, the district hasn't produced enough housing, especially permanently affordable housing, to keep pace. That's why I will prioritize establishing solutions like commercial rent control and social housing to make sure District 8 works for working families and community members who are the heart of our district.

What do you feel are your district's biggest opportunities?

D8 has the institutional legacy of Harvey Milk, an engaged and organized community, strong small business corridors, and residents who show up. That's a foundation for real innovation: we have real opportunities to push for social housing, participatory budgeting, and a supervisor's office that actually shares power with the neighborhoods instead of just representing them from a distance.

In what ways would your work as supervisor align with, or be different from, the last supervisor from this district?

I give Supervisor Mandelman credit for prioritizing community feedback. I was at a recent public safety town hall that was packed, standing room only, and that kind of engagement matters. But residents always want more attention than they're getting, and I've now heard it twice: people asking for tree removal where roots are pushing up sidewalks, and getting nowhere. That's on top of concerns about basic constituent services, potholes, trash cans on corners, more street lighting on dark corridors in the Castro, that shouldn't be this hard to get addressed.

More broadly, Mandelman's approach has been incremental, and over time he's moved toward the center, even the right, on some issues. I'd be different. I'm a proud, community centered progressive. I'm going for bigger structural changes and bigger ideas, not incrementalism, and I'd pair that with a dogged, relentless customer service attitude toward the basics. I'm a workhorse, and D8 residents deserve a supervisor who acts like one – both on the big structural fights and on getting their tree roots and streetlights handled.

Do you support getting rid of district elections for the Board of Supervisors? Why or why not?

No. Before district elections, the only supervisors who could afford to run citywide races were wealthy, mostly white residents with deep, entrenched power. District elections opened the door to more diversity and more real representation. My own candidacy wouldn't be possible without them, and I'm not interested in closing that door behind me.

Which specific city services do you feel should be protected from budget cuts, but have not been?

The Street Crisis Response Team, and specifically its peer support model, where people trained in de-escalation respond to crises instead of police. There was a recent story about a woman holding a baseball bat who, it turned out, just wanted a hug. That's exactly the kind of situation this model exists for, and it's terrible that the peer responder involved is having their position cut. Alongside that, we have to protect HIV/AIDS services, immigrant legal defense, and queer youth services that connect people to care. Not one, but two health clinics serving these communities were recently in danger of closing. I'm sick and tired of watching city services get cut in the name of balancing the budget while police get a 14% pay increase. Many of the elected officials who voted for terrible cuts this budget cycle opposed Prop. D, which would have brought in hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue. We're balancing the budget on the backs of vulnerable communities, and I'm over it.

Please describe your familiarity with the City Charter. Please give specific examples of what you would change in the charter, and what you think is important to preserve.

The City Charter is San Francisco's founding document, guides how we govern ourselves, and it's grown long and unwieldy over decades of amendments. I'm in favor of streamlining and eliminating genuinely obsolete provisions where it makes government work better for people. But I believe in preserving the spirit of the Charter: that everyday San Franciscans, not just well-resourced special interests, get a real say in how we're governed.

That's exactly why I'm watching the current Mandelman-Lurie charter reform effort closely, and why I don't support it. Some of the streamlining work, cleaning up outdated code, is worth doing. But the Commission Streamlining Task Force proposals go further than that: they'd cut the number of city commissions by nearly half, and in many cases strip commissions of their role in hiring or firing department heads, shifting that power to the Mayor's office. That's not streamlining, that's consolidating power in the executive branch and away from public oversight. I want a leaner Charter, not a less accountable one.

I also oppose the Mayor's effort to increase the number of signatures required for San Franciscans to bring an issue to the ballot. While it wouldn't stop monied interests from collecting enough signatures to qualify a ballot measure, it would strip San Francisco voters of a right we have had for a long time and make it basically impossible for grassroots efforts to run ballot measures.

I believe it's vital we preserve public access to City Hall through commissions and hearings. Without proper accountability, transparency, and public input, backroom deals and power struggles happen out of public sight, decided by whoever has the most access, not the most standing.

Please describe your familiarity with the Board of Supervisor budget process. How would you approach the City's budget? What would you prioritize? How would you ensure community voices are represented?

I've been an active participant in the budget process. I have been on the receiving end of cuts during the budget process, not just watching from the outside. As the founder of QTAPI Week, I fought to get a line-item addback in the budget, twice, for a block party activation through the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, \$30,000 each time, and I helped shepherd that funding through budget reconciliation myself. This year we fought for and won another \$30,000 reallocation, and the event happened successfully.

That experience taught me how hard this process is for small nonprofits and community-based organizations. Community grants require an infrastructure most small groups simply don't have, and I've watched grants get wiped out entirely for organizations doing great work, like Livable City, which runs Sunday Streets. This year Sunday Streets' budget was decimated, and it only survived because of Darin Ow-Wing and the board finding private funding at the last minute. I've also seen government contracts go unpaid for a full year after an event is delivered, which makes it nearly impossible for nonprofits to plan or operate. City Hall needs to make the hard call: fund the programs that deliver results, on time, or help transition them to sustainable private funding, not string them along.

More broadly, I've watched this Mayor balance the budget on the backs of poor and working families, queer folks, immigrants, and disabled and elderly residents, tens of millions of dollars in cuts fought back only through sustained advocacy from the People's Budget Coalition and community pressure. It's absurd that we spend that much energy fighting for scraps when the Mayor could bring in new revenue by asking large corporations and the wealthy few to pay their fair share. That energy would be better spent pushing at the state level for San Francisco to establish its own local income tax, the way New York has, to actually capture the wealth this city is about to generate.

I'd approach the budget the same way: prioritize the people already being asked to sacrifice the most, and ensure community voices are represented through participatory budgeting and quarterly town halls where residents help direct real dollars, not just comment on decisions that have already been made.

Under what circumstances do you think it's appropriate for the Board of Supervisors to delegate its oversight function to the Mayor?

Practically none. A hallmark of my campaign is that I will not be a rubber stamp for the Mayor's agenda. I'll be an independent voice, beholden to no special interests, and I'll be the check and balance this city deserves.

How did you vote or would you have voted on Mayor Lurie's Family Zoning Plan? How would you explain your position to your constituents?

I was against the Family Zoning Plan because it didn't protect renters the way it needed to, and I would have voted no. Since it passed D8 needs a fighter who will protect our neighborhoods — some of the most beautiful neighborhoods in the world. I'm pro-housing, but I'm also anti-displacement, and I think the city needs a measured approach, not the extremes being offered by my opponent Manny Yekutieli, who's proposing unlimited height allowances and effectively gutting the Planning Code's regulations. There's a reason we have those regulations: to protect our neighborhoods. I'm a lawyer who has spent decades working through complex regulatory frameworks. I can pick up the details quickly, and I'd rather do the careful work than tear the whole rulebook up.

To explain that to constituents: San Francisco should use Housing Element 8.1.5 as an opportunity to rezone for additional housing where it makes sense, but in a way that reflects neighborhood realities and avoids displacement. The city is behind on its housing obligations, and City Hall should focus on making sure zoning changes produce quality housing that can actually be built, not just symbolic paper compliance.

In District 8, I will prioritize transit-rich corridors and underused commercial sites where modest increases in density fit the existing scale. In many parts of the district, 6- to 7-story wood-frame multifamily housing is reasonable, especially along corridors like Market, Church, and Castro, where housing can pair with neighborhood-serving retail and transit access. I will focus on:

The Church and Market Safeway site, where mixed-use redevelopment could replace surface parking with a grocery store at street level and housing above.

Nearby retail parcels and oversized parking lots around Market and Church that could be redeveloped in phases.

Underused sites around Castro and Market, including the former Pottery Barn location, where vacant or blighted space should be put to better use.

City-owned and underused public land, especially parcels that could support social housing, land trust ownership, or partnerships with nonprofit developers.

Small Sites and at-risk rent-controlled buildings, where acquisition and preservation tools can help keep housing permanently affordable.

I support additional height where it's appropriate, especially on already upzoned sites and major nodes, but I wouldn't treat height as an end in itself. The question should always be where new homes can be added with the least displacement, the most transit access, and the greatest public benefit. I strongly support a phased approach on large sites like Safeway and other major commercial parcels, enabling redevelopment but sequencing it so grocery access, construction feasibility, and neighborhood stability are handled responsibly. The goal isn't building for the sake of building, it's getting real housing built without uprooting the people who already live here.

Whose voices are not being heard at City Hall? What new voices would you bring into City Hall?

AAPI and Vietnamese American residents, drag and nightlife workers, and immigrant small business owners are underrepresented in D8's political leadership. If elected, I would be the first Vietnamese American, the first drag queen, and first person of color to represent Harvey Milk's historic district. I'd bring those voices in directly through the co-governance model, participatory budgeting and real decision-making power, not just a seat at the table. I've spent two decades building the organizations that connect City Hall to communities that don't usually get heard there, and I am a unique candidate who can create bridges to city hall that elevate these very voices.

Did you join educators at the UESF picket line during the strike? Which school site did you go to and why?

I was extremely proud to join educators at the inspiring UESF mobilization at City Hall. I wasn't able to make it to a picket line itself because of intense work obligations, but I stand firmly with educators and their demands for a better contract - and always will!

How will you vote on the Affordable Housing Guarantee Act in the November election? Explain your position.

Yes, and I've already publicly endorsed it. Social housing is a signature part of my platform, and this measure reflects exactly the direction I think San Francisco needs to go: exploring new ways to bring more housing online, especially permanently affordable housing, instead of leaving it entirely to a private market that isn't building what working families actually need.

How will you vote on the Mayor's Clean Up City Hall ballot measures on the November ballot? Explain your position.

I don't support raising the signature threshold to put initiatives on the ballot. That makes it more expensive and harder for regular San Franciscans to bring something forward themselves, and that right is worth protecting even though I understand the frustration people feel with ballot fatigue. I also don't support the executive branch changes that would give the Mayor more power to hire and fire department and commission leadership. I don't think the answer to a bloated Charter is handing the Mayor's office more control. Where I do agree is on the city administration and contracting measure. I've seen firsthand how hard it is to administer government contracts, the delays, the year-long waits for nonprofits to get paid, and I support streamlining that process.

How would you address affordability in your District? Provide concrete ideas.

Making District 8 affordable is the core of my platform. I will create a commercial rent control ordinance on day one, to keep small businesses on our corridors from being priced out. I will push forward Free Muni for youth under 26, so young people are empowered to use public transit at a time when the cost of living is skyrocketing. I will begin a real campaign to raise the minimum wage to a living wage, with the enforcement infrastructure to back it up. I will create social housing legislation on day one, built in partnership with the organizations already doing this work, on parcels the city already owns or can acquire. Lastly, I will endeavor to cut the local red tape, parking mandates, discretionary review delays, and stalled entitlements that make every unit of housing more expensive before a single shovel hits the ground.

Endorsements and Support - November 2026

Who will you support in the November 2026 election?

Supervisor, District 2

No endorsement

Supervisor, District 4

Jeremy Greco

Supervisor, District 6

No endorsement

Supervisor, District 8

Michael Ngyuyen #1, Gary McCoy #2

Supervisor, District 10

DJ Brookter

SFUSD School Board

Reina Tello, Virginia Cheung, Ryan Hazelton

City College Board of Trustees

Jeremy Lee, Leah LaCroix, Kimberly Hui

Past Endorsements

What candidates have you supported in past elections?

November 2024 Supervisor, District 1

Connie Chan

November 2024 Supervisor, District 3

Sharon Lai

November 2024 Supervisor, District 5

Dean Preston

November 2024 Supervisor, District 7

Myrna Melgar

November 2024 Supervisor, District 9

Jackie Fielder #1, Stephen Torres #2

November 2024 Supervisor, District 11

EJ Jones #1, Chyanne Chen #2

November 2024 Mayor

Aaron Peskin #1, London Breed #2

November 2024 District Attorney

Ryan Khojasteh

November 2024 State Assembly, District 19

David Lee

November 2024 School Board

Matt Alexander, Virginia Cheung

November 2024 City College Board

Alan Wong

Past Props

How did you vote on specific ballot measures in past elections?

June 2026 Prop D: Increase Business Tax

☒ Yes

☐ No

Nov 2024 Prop C: Inspector General

☒ Yes

☐ No

Nov 2024 Prop D: Mayoral Commission Reform

☐ Yes

☒ No

Nov 2024 Prop 32: Raise Minimum Wage

☒ Yes

☐ No

Nov 2024 Prop 33: Allow Local Rent Control / Repeal Costa Hawkins

☒ Yes

☐ No

Nov 2024 Prop 36: Treat Misdemeanors as Felonies

☐ Yes

☒ No

Mar 2024 Prop E: Surveillance Tools for Police

☐ Yes

☒ No

Mar 2024 Prop F: Forced Drug Screening for the Poor

☐ Yes

☒ No

Nov 2022 Prop M: Empty Homes Tax

☒ Yes

☐ No

Jun 2022 Prop H: Recall District Attorney Chesa Boudin

☐ Yes

☒ No

In Closing

What is your favorite branch of the SF Public Library and what is the last thing you checked out from there?

The Main Library, hands down. It's home to the James C. Hormel LGBTQIA Center, which makes it the queerest library in the city, and my friend SNJV has put on events there that I always make a point to check out. The last book I checked out was a book on mindfulness (Breathe, You Are Alive) by Thich Nhat Hanh.

Is there anything else you want to tell us?

I would be honored to have the League of Pissed Off Voters' endorsement. I've relied on your voter guide for years, and I got to see how hard your members work on it firsthand when I ran for DCCC and was endorsed through the Labor and Working Families slate. It's genuinely the best voter guide in the city, the kind of resource that gives a regular voter honest, clear-eyed reasoning on issues that are otherwise nearly impossible to keep up with. That work is thankless, so let me say it plainly: thank you for being one of the main sources of political education in this city.

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