

Questionnaire for candidates for the office of  
**San Francisco Supervisor, District 10**  
**General Election, November 2, 2010**



**Candidate/Campaign Information**

Candidate name: Geoffrea Morris
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Anticipated budget: 10,000
Funds raised to date: Approx. 1,000
Percentage of donations under \$50 Approx. 8

*Please write a brief response (fewer than 150 words) to each question.*

1. Why are you running? Why should we vote for you?

The purpose of district elections is to have someone at City Hall to represent the voice of the people of each district. Someone who is not afraid to speak up for the needs and desires of the residents. It's important that it is not controlled by a political machine that is only in office because of their agenda and who shows little regard for the majority of the people who put them there. I am running for D10 supervisor because I am a community leader who is invested in the community and strives to make it better. I am a Social Worker in the district, I am a parent in the district, and a volunteer in the district. I am what the average person would call a real community leader. I am running because I want to see some real changes in the district as it relates to public safety, school performance and real local hire. As a native who is rooted in the community I am devoted to creating an environment that all San Franciscans are proud of.

When I become Supervisor you will have your next door neighbor in office representing you. A vote for me says you want to support community relationship building, public safety, better schools and mandatory local hire. In these tough economic times putting San

Franciscans to work is extremely important; especially among those that are most often overlooked.

2. What sets you apart from your opponents?

First and foremost I do not belong to anyone, any organization or any political machine that will dictate my behavior in office. I have freedom in my thinking and will represent the people of the district based on my engagement with the residents and my experiences. I believe that engaged residents make great communities and in order to have a viable and vibrant District 10, I believe D10 needs an elected official who believes in the community's potential. Unlike other candidates vying for the seat, I have spent my life in the social support field from being a program developer and director for a local non-profit, to being apart of the teaching staff for the school district, to my current position with the City & County of San Francisco as a Social Worker. I am and always have been committed to helping all San Franciscans reach their potential in our City.

Many candidates tend to use a deficit model in regards to our district and make a habit of pointing out what's wrong within the community however I come from a totally different framework. I believe that the best policies and practices are created by people who first believe in the ability of their district to be the best in the City. I am dedicated to individual empowerment.

3. Potrero Hill Democratic Club endorses fiscally responsible and socially progressive candidates. Please give examples of why you fit these criteria

Being labeled socially progressive, moderate, or conservative are all marginalizing terms that create an opportunity for divisiveness in our City. I am for the people of District 10 and the overall betterment of San Francisco. I am a proponent of local hiring amongst civil service employment and giving tax breaks to businesses who employ sizable numbers of San Franciscans when appropriate.

Additionally, I believe that the City has to be responsible in how it conducts its business and to manage within its budget parameters. We can not spend what we do not have, so hard decisions have to be made and the Board of Supervisors must work collaboratively to represent what's best for the entire City.

4. What are the top three issues facing San Francisco? What will you do about those issues?

The top three issues facing San Francisco today is the:

1) Balancing the City's budget.

Once elected I planned to work with my colleagues on the board, the City's staff, and the Mayor to make sure that the information provided is factual while focusing on finding areas where there is waste and duplication. As a result, hard decisions including cuts in spending along with taxes and fee increases may be necessary. In addition, I would work diligently to address the current process where favoritism and business as usual will be challenged.

2) Public Education and the performance of schools in District 10.

Working collaboratively with the school board to help the schools and students of D10 is extremely important.

3) Public Safety

Public safety is of the utmost importance within our city. Different approaches have to be created to make sure that our streets are safe throughout the entire night. We need to improve the communication amongst our residents and the police. Officers need to go back and to the days where they knew names, faces, and the adults of the community.

5. What are the top three issues facing District 10? What will you do about those issues?

The top three issues impacting District 10 is quality of life with safety being significant, school performance, and employment opportunities.

I believe that the police and our community members need to increase our efforts to ensure public safety. I believe in having open communication with the residents in the District, regularly scheduled meeting with the local Captains and officers working in the District is vital so that we can address various issues from a community's perspective. I am an advocate for higher standards for D10 schools, I will work with the school board to make sure that get well trained teachers into our schools and encourage parents to become involved in their children's education. Finally there's employment, I will support legislation that mandates mandatory hiring of San Franciscans at a percentage that makes sense for the business community and San Francisco on all publicly funded projects.

6. Do you think the overall tax burden is shared equitably among businesses and individuals in San Francisco? If not, what changes in tax policy would you advocate to remedy any inequity and/or what would you do, if elected?

First of all the overall tax burden may not be shared equitably among business and individuals in San Francisco as we need to attract new businesses and maintain those that are located here. They bring employment opportunities and other resources to the City so certain tax breaks and reliefs to businesses entice them to come and stay in San Francisco. I understands that individual San Franciscan bear the burden of the ill-fiscal management we are faced with today, but we don't need to over burden our business community we need to change the way we do business as City.

7. How do you propose to address the needs of District 10 youth, in the face of drastic cuts to youth programs?

I believe schools are the first line of defense in supporting and nurturing students aside from parental figures. Instead of creating programs outside of schools, I believe more youth programming and funding should be created within the school itself. As a former staff person at the Bayview Beacon Center, I believe that Beacon Initiative was headed on the right track because of its ability to address programs for our youth and when designed properly the Beacon Initiative could be expanded to more sites and be one of the most fiscally sounded programming centers for the youth in San Francisco.

8. How do you envision bringing more jobs to all parts of District 10?

I believe we need legislation for mandatory local hiring. I am an advocate for getting our residents back to work by first attracting businesses to the district. We have the opportunity due to the increase in local development coming on line to ensure that projects are saturated with our districts residents.

9. Please give your views on Rebuild Potrero.

I think it's important to monitor all of the SF Hope projects. They have the ability to result in housing for our most economically challenged families. However; I am opposed to the selling or give of federal land to create huge profits for private developers. I believe the entire property should be replaced with family housing as we have in other Hope VI site in the City. The Rebuild Potrero, Sunnydale, and Hunter's View should all duplicate the original Hope VI model. I believe in tax-exempt building. I believe affordable public land should stay affordable in San Francisco. With 42,000 voters losing against prop F, it's important that we keep land that has been indigenously used to help low income, moderate to working class San Franciscans remain affordable.

10. Please give your views on Lennar's plans for Candlestick/Hunters Point.

As the great granddaughter of a Mississippi sharecropper who brought his wife and four children to the economic promise land of the Hunter's Point Shipyard in the 1940's and whose early death of lead poison is attributed to the toxins at the Hunter's Point Naval Shipyard, I can attest to the concerns of the BVHP residents regarding the toxicity of the Hunter's Point Naval shipyard. I understand that D10 and particular BVHP needs the economic boost but a complete land clean up prior to an early land transfer is even more important. In June (2010), our city government decided to finalized the environmental impact report. The Navy should responsible for the clean up. The Navy is the one that dismantled the Restoration Advisory Board and for the past two years the work at the Hunter's Point Shipyard has been going on without any citizen advisory control.

I understand that Lennar is a developer and a for-profit business. We want 100% local San Francisco hire on the site with 50 % coming from District 10. Revitalization of the shipyard is the next chapter in the life of District 10 and as residents I know we want something beautiful that we can routinely use. But our safety is our highest priority and it isn't until we demand a 100% guarantee that the area is safe will we be comfortable with our residents living there.

*Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us.*