

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



Candidate/Campaign Information

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| Anticipated budget: \$143,000 |
| Funds raised to date: \$50,000 in private funds |
| Percentage of donations under \$50 – 40% |

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

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

Having been born and raised in District 10, I remember an era when the district looked very different. Before the close of the Navy shipyard, we had a much higher rate of unemployment and a stronger middle class where residents could afford to invest in their neighborhoods. Our schools were healthier, our parks were more full and our community was safer.

My campaign's focus on jobs, public safety and resources for our next generation is part of a roadmap for improving all of District 10, including Potrero Hill. I have a vision of an economically stronger community with a more secure middle class, which will mean a safer district and more to offer our next generations.

As my track record as a public servant shows, I bring the talents and skills necessary to make this vision a reality.

2. What sets you apart from your opponents?

I believe my career in public service has given me a substantial advantage from other candidates in this race. Not only do I understand the many facets of the complex issues facing District 10, I have built strong relationships with key decision makers who have influence in this realm. My track record has proved my ability to see projects through to completion and advocate for my community.

As a Director on the BART Board of Directors, I have successfully reformed the BART police by championing legislation to add citizen oversight to the police force. Today BART has a 4.5 Million dollar surplus, due to our financial stewardship.

I attribute my successes in public service to specific skills, which includes my ability to critically analyze and solve problems. I also believe I possess a talent for building consensus and support on issues.

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

With twenty years of experiencing managing banks, I take pride in being a strict fiscal manager. I have taken this experience to public service and now BART where I have helped ensure that today we have a \$4.5 million dollar surplus. I will apply the same methods I have in other positions as Supervisor to ensure our budget is balanced.

While fiscal responsibility is key, I also believe in a socially progressive vision that sees all San Franciscans as having the right to basic entitlements. These include the ability to afford to live and work in one's community. It also means basic right including education and healthcare. At BART I have worked to increase opportunities for our most vulnerable, including women and minorities to ensure they too have these entitlements. By changing the size our contracts we have enabled smaller contractors, which are often women and minority owned companies, the ability to bid, since they can now afford the insurance bonding required with these contracts. This is an example of the progressive, fiscally responsible leadership I will champion as Supervisor.

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

1. Budget deficit and imbalance - With twenty years of experiencing managing banks, I take pride in being a strict fiscal manager. I have taken this experience to public service and now BART where I have helped ensure that today we have a \$4.5 million dollar surplus. I will apply the same methods I have in other positions as Supervisor to ensure our budget is balanced.

2. Need for economic growth – San Francisco is a city of immense beauty and history that can always draw new residents. Small businesses and developers, however, need a climate that promotes investment in San Francisco.

As Supervisor I will support legislative policies that promote business growth and sustainable development that benefits our residents. I will also champion programs that ensure the jobs created here are available to residents who live here.

3. **Education and healthcare disparities** – With education we see schools in certain communities that are falling below standards, because of inadequate resources and under-involved teachers. With healthcare, even though the City has tried to make inroads to universal coverage, there is still a segment of the population that isn't aware of the services or are afraid to take advantage of them.

As Supervisor I will highlight these disparities and encourage the organizations that lead on policy in these arenas – the Board of Education, in the case of schools and the Mayor's office, in the case of healthcare – to address them. I will also seek policy solutions that address these concerns.

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

1. **Jobs** – The need for job creation will be my number one priority as Supervisor. I believe as many people as possible should be able to make a living and live in San Francisco.

The climate is right to bring manufacturing back to District 10, not the jobs of the past but the clean tech and green jobs of the future.

We must also take the steps necessary to attract a diverse set of new businesses to District 10 and ensure those businesses create good – union - jobs for local residents.

2. **Public Safety** - The need to make our community safer is absolutely critical. At the very core, we should not need to constantly worry about our family and friends we love so dearly who could, much to easily, become a victim of unnecessary violence. Too many tears have been shed.

Making San Francisco and most especially District 10 safer is also critical to improving the economic engine here. Not until our streets are safer will businesses want to bring their offices or jobs here.

The problem is, of course then, cyclical. We cannot bring jobs without improving safety, but we cannot improve safety when so many people are out of work and lured by crime. We must address both the need for economic improvement and safety at the same time.

3. **Resources for the Next Generation** - Having been born and raised in San Francisco, I remember an era when our libraries were healthier, our parks were

more full and our community was safer. As Supervisor I will focus rebuilding those resources for our youth.

Specifically protecting our parks and libraries will be a chief priority. This means taking steps to make them safer and funded.

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?

I think it would be unfair to say that taxes are shared equitably between businesses and individuals, but I do not believe they should be. For businesses, taxes are a cost of doing business. For individuals, taxes are a cost of living.

With that said, I believe businesses are critical to our communities. They offer necessary services and help build our middle class by offering jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities. As Supervisor I will be looking for opportunities to help grow our small businesses in District 10.

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

As a Board Member of the Bayview Hunters Point YMCA and founding Director of the Bayview Hunters Point Center for Arts and Technology (BAYCAT), I have long advocated for our district's youth.

As mentioned above, I believe that ensuring we have resources for our children is critical for San Francisco's future. As such, I am committed to defending these resources against budget cuts. Specifically, under the purview of the Supervisor, I will ensure our parks and libraries remain strong.

I believe the job is Supervisor goes beyond just budgetary, however. I believe a Supervisor should be an advocate for children. As a part of my campaign I have already begun the type of community organizing I will continue to foster as Supervisor. This includes programs that connect youth to jobs in the community or enrichment programs.

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

As Supervisor, I will work tirelessly to make job growth happen. I will ensure new development translated into new jobs for local workers. I will use all the resources available to ensure proper training is offered for new jobs that may come to the district. I will also propose legislation that ensures local companies are consistently hiring local workers, not just when they first come to the district.

The long lasting and best paying jobs will be 'green collar.' As Supervisor, I will work to bring the alternative energy industry to the district.

9. Please give your views on Rebuild Potrero.

I fully support the Rebuild Potrero program. The Hope SF program is critical to addressing the need to improve the dilapidated public housing that includes the Potrero Terrace and Annex.

Having seen the process first-hand, I appreciate and respect both the phased approach to rebuilding these communities as well as the strong input these communities had in developing this plan.

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

While on the Redevelopment Commission, I voted to award the contract to Lennar. Lennar proved to have the capabilities to properly execute this project. Most importantly, Lennar agreed to the many expectations and obligations we set that will benefit the residents of District 10.

This includes proper environment testing and regulation during development to ensure the development does not create environmental hazards for local residents. They also have specific requirements to hire local residents for much of their work. In the project plan, they've also agreed to a number of concessions to ensure affordable housing is included.

As Supervisor I will ensure Lennar's work meets these criteria and they live up to their word. I will hold them accountable for the project I signed off on as a Redevelopment Commissioner.

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