

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



Candidate/Campaign Information

Candidate name: Ed Donaldson
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Anticipated budget: \$20,000
Funds raised to date: \$2500
Percentage of donations under \$50 80%

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

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

I'm running in an effort to bring about community control in D10, which is consistent with district politics and I believe I'm the most qualified candidate that been in the district working in the area of affordable housing. More importantly, I have an understanding of the "politics of land use" and what the implications are for the future of the city and its neighborhoods.

2. What sets you apart from your opponents?

I'm a neighborhood candidate that has lived in the district my entire life. Also, my experience with affordable housing development and finance will be of great assistance with making the tough decisions regard these issues. Furthermore, I have the mental toughness to deal with the hard issues in D10. Finally, I have turned down all financial inducements offered to me to comply with the establish agenda for D10 since I'm more concerns with the well-being of the folks in the district.

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

I have refused to accept special interest money since it violates the spirit of district politics and I've refused to accept any endorsements from outside the district. Also, my work with the Greenlining Institute, a statewide coalition of progressive organizations has enabled me to gain an understanding of statewide issues and how they impact San Francisco.

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

The city's budget and that fact that \$300MM of the budget deficit is due in part to pay increases and benefits. I'm concerned that S.F. spends more money per capita than any other city in the U.S. and it's clear that we are not getting our money's worth.

Affordable housing and how some of 1,400 homes lost to foreclosure on the southeast side of the city in the past 2 yrs can be preserved as affordable housing.

Working to make the city more family friendly and ethnically diverse in light of the out-migration of families and people of color.

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

Public safety: The core of the crime problem is the 2,000 men/women returning home each yr from prison and the majority of them are coming to the southeast side of the city. Since 71% of them will re-offend within one yr it's clear that this is the core of the crime problem in the city. The issue is how we eliminate the legal discrimination that contributes to their re-offending? I will attempt to make policy changes in the areas of housing, financial aid for education, and employment so that these folks have a good chance of not reoffending and staying out of prison.

Jobs/Economic Development: Clearly, with the 2nd highest concentration of poverty in the city more needs to be done to ensure that there are job opportunities for all able body residents in D10. The first step is to make sure that the workforce development organizations are fiscally responsible, transparent in their operations, and making the best use of the city funding they receive each year. The next thing is to make sure that the training residents receive actually leads to a reasonable chance to get a job. Finally, I would support a local workforce hiring ordinance to ensure that D10 residents get their fair share of the present and future jobs in the construction trades.

Environmental Justice: All residents of D10 have the right to live free of environmental hazards and with the high rate of cancer and respiratory illnesses in the area we can do

more in this area. In particular, I will be vigilant in regards to the levels of particulate matter in D10 and overall air quality.

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?

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

Youth are a one of the vulnerable populations that should be protected at all cost through add backs in the city budget process. You can learn a lot about a society by how it treat its elders and young people so, I would seek to leverage every relationship possible as a part of doing business in the city or with the city to contribute to the resources and services our youth need.

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

The key to bringing jobs to D10 is by supporting small businesses since they are the biggest providers of jobs in the United States. Also, I would be vigilant in working with the communities to identify other anchor employers that's willing to work with the various workforce development programs. Such employers can be key in building the customer base for small businesses.

9. Please give your views on Rebuild Potrero.

As with all the HopeSF sites in D10 I'm concerned for the existing residents since it's not totally clear if the policies for their return is completely spelled out. I say this in light of the mismanagement and poor record keeping at SFHA and the fact that 50% of all public housing residents do not return once their home is rebuilt. In particular, if they are forced to relocate outside of the city. I'm equally concerned about the city's inability to secure financing for HopeSF considering the difficulty they've up until now. Finally, the jury is still out on the idea of mixed income developments but, it's my sense they can work if the lower income residents can share in the business and economics opportunities that come along with such developments.

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

It stinks and the FEIR is seriously flawed!!! I do not support the early transfer by the Navy, capping of the toxic Superfund Site or the Yosemite Slough Bridge as it's currently proposed. Research conducted on mega plans around the country demonstrates that such plans do not turnout as originally plan. Instead, a much better approach would be a plan where local developers build smaller projects once the land is cleaned to residential standards as called for in Prop P.

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

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