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



## Candidate/Campaign Information

Candidate name:
Teresa Duque
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Anticipated budget:
\$150,000.00
Funds raised to date:
\$1500.00
Percentage of donations under \$50
c.70%-90%

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

- 1. Why are you running? Why should we vote for you? The Potrero Hill area is changing demographically. In the past 10 years, we have seen the district change into a district that has been historically known as an African-American district, to one wherein Asian-Americans make up the majority of the population of the district. The recent crimes along the Third Street corridor are just a symptom of this situation. As such, we need leaders who are able to address the grassroots needs of the community in a timely and measured basis. Anything less would be a disservice.
- 2. What sets you apart from your opponents? First, unlike my opponents, I am not a lifetime politician. I am a single-mother who knows about hard work and sacrifice, pushing my children through the public school system, and making sure that they were ready for the UC system. I am a person who is working everyday to make sure that needs of the community are being met, rather than attempting to pad my resume for some higher office. For the past 3 years, I have been actively working to build bridges between the African-American and Asian-American community, through the Asian Pacific American Community Center (APACC). These are all things I am proud of.

- 3. Potrero Hill Democratic Club endorses fiscally responsible and socially progressive candidates. Please give examples of why you fit these criteria. Currently, I am a Business Development for Sogo Trading, Mainly to bring Products to MainStream Company like Walgreens, Costco. Since 1991, I have been fostering comprehensive and constructive links between parties throughout the Pacific Rim and Bay Area community leaders. We need a leader who is capable of bringing jobs into the district, rather than watch helplessly as they are being outsourced.
- 4. What are the top three issues facing San Francisco? What will you do about those issues? The 3 most pressing issues in the City of San Francisco are jobs, housing, and crime. The 10<sup>th</sup> District serves as a small microcosm to address these issues. Jobs are important to the life and development of the district. Unless jobs are brought into the district, especially in this recession, this community will continue to degrade and will become a problem area for residents. Housing, especially affordable housing, is important to the needs of the district. Unless the needs are addressed, the exodus of home owners are met, those families that have lived in the city for over three generations will continue to leave the city. Finally with crime, the rifts between the Asian-American and the African-American communities will continue to grow unless concrete measures are taken to build bridges and foster understanding.
- 5. What are the top three issues facing District 10? What will you do about those issues? The 3 most pressing issues in the district are jobs, housing, and crime. All of these issues are linked with each other. Jobs are important to the life and development of the district. Unless jobs are brought into the district, especially in this recession, this community will continue to degrade and will become a problem area for residents. Housing, especially affordable housing, is important to the needs of the district. Unless the needs are addressed, the exodus of home owners are met, those families that have lived in the city for over three generations will continue to leave the city. Finally with crime, the rifts between the Asian-American and the African-American communities will continue to grow unless concrete measures are taken to build bridges and foster understanding.
- 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 don't believe that the tax burden is being shared fairly by people throughout the city. Proof of this can be seen in the exodus of businesses from the city. It is a sad testament that more tax breaks are being made for the white-collar jobs which have failed to create either the jobs or services that were promised in better economic times. We need to invest in the blue-collar jobs that make up the life blood of our communities, and the small "mom-and-pop" businesses which make up the basis of the American Dream.

- 7. How do you propose to address the needs of District 10 youth, in the face of drastic cuts to youth programs? I believe that we need to coordinate the needs of the various community centers and faith community. Rather than duplicating services and projects, if accomplish. This is not a new or revolutionary idea. For the past 5 years, the members of the Human Rights Commission's Employment Subcommittee called for the creation of a "one-stop" community center, which would coordinate the resources of the different groups.
- 8. How do you envision bringing more jobs to all parts of District 10? We can certainly bring the jobs here, if we can create an environment that is more accessible to small businesses. We have to embrace the businesses from the "Mom and Pop" stores, the "Dollar Stores", and the small family restaurants. We need to start asking them what are their needs and what they need to survive.
- 9. Please give your views on Rebuild Potrero. The Rebuild Portrero program is remarkable in its scope of building 6,000 housing units, but we also need to make sure that local businesses and merchants are brought into the process, or the danger is that the community will lose its distinct character and nature. While development is certainly important, let us make sure that there is a legacy that can be passed onto our children, that shows the achievements and the scope of history of the neighborhood.
- 10. Please give your views on Lennar's plans for Candlestick/Hunters Point. Unless efforts are taken to insure that local unions and residents are made part of the building and development process, rather than serves as an investment in the community. One problem in the development of these projects has been the fact that many of these projects seem more concerned with gentrification rather than the overall needs of the community and its future.

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

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