Board of Supervisors Questionnaire

1. What should the Board of Supervisors do to address San Francisco's housing problems? What resources should the Board of Supervisors use to address these problems?

Are we still a sanctuary for the most vulnerable? Do we still welcome trans refugees, immigrants looking to build a new life, and the wonderful artists and quirky people who make San Francisco great?

Then we must build more homes they can afford. And we must do it while preserving our beautiful neighborhoods.

We can do both.

We've been slow to approve new housing, but **even slower to** build it.

Here's one example.

Have you walked by the **abandoned carwash site at 400 Divisadero?** It was approved for 182 homes five years ago (20% affordable), but was **tied up in delays and never built**.

Dean promised 100% affordable housing there, but couldn't get it done.

We need affordable homes on that site. I will work with the mayor and city departments to use every tool at our disposal to actually build those affordable homes.

Why is it slow to build? One reason is PG&E. It can take years for affordable housing to get an electric connection (while PG&E makes record profits). Meanwhile, grants expire and financing falls through. We must not allow PG&E to hold our affordable housing hostage.

2. What should the Board of Supervisors do to address issues around homelessness?

It is **inhumane to leave our homeless neighbors on the street** in exchange for the promise of permanent housing someday.

We must build shelters and ban encampments.

This means creating more housing, including **enough shelter beds to house every homeless person on our streets**... and quick. I would also consider a **right to shelter for children** on our city's streets.

And if we're talking about the suffering of our brothers and sisters in the Tenderloin— then housing is not enough; we must also shut the open drug markets. 811 people died last year of overdose, most of them indoors.

We must not abandon people who have fallen into drug use — often due to severe trauma that was not their fault. The drug cartels are holding them hostage, and few of them can escape on their own.

If it was my child using drugs on our streets, I would move heaven and earth to get them the most effective treatment we have — because that's what love looks like. We must provide immediate access to drug-assisted treatment beds, as well as support afterward to get people back on their feet.

And we must **support the neighborhood**— the Tenderloin's amazing restaurants are barely hanging on, and 3500 children live there, walking by sights that would erode anyone's compassion.

The Tenderloin needs immediate help and I will do everything in my power to help them recover their neighborhood from the **worst capitalist organization in our city** — the drug cartels.

3. What is your stance on public transportation vs TNCs? Are there ways to make transportation more accessible? Should we be

increasing or decreasing fares, or even make public transportation free for all? How can the Board of Supervisors effectively address these issues?

These things are not in opposition; I prefer public transit but use TNCs when time is tight or public transit doesn't serve my destination well.

I support **free public transit for children**, and fares for adults to provide a fast, convenient, safe service we can all enjoy.

My opponent wants to defund Muni by refusing to collect fares; I want to keep fares to make sure Muni remains reliable and frequent and safe far into the future... as well as expanding Muni as our city's needs change.

4. What should be the role of TNCs and autonomous vehicles in your ideal future San Francisco? How will you work with the other members of the Board of Supervisors, the Mayor's office and state agencies to accomplish this vision?

When you first see an autonomous vehicle in the streets, it's scary and uncomfortable. How can these things be safe?

And yet statistics are beginning to show that they are safer than human drivers... and getting safer every day.

As autonomous vehicles become safer and cheaper, I expect that there will come a time when TNCs simply fade away.

If autonomous vehicles become inexpensive enough, they may even fill a gap for <u>working families who live in affordable homes without parking</u>.

5. Should we increase or decrease the number of police on the streets of San Francisco, and why? Please describe the financial

impact this would have on the city budget and on other departments.

We have fewer police than most other cities our size. The Tenderloin and Lower Haight are asking for beat cops; we don't have the staff to provide them. And we cannot shut down the open drug markets without the help of police. (We've tried.)

What I'm hearing from our most disadvantaged neighborhoods is, we don't need fewer police – we need GOOD police.

As we up the number of police officers, we must make sure that 1/ we hire GOOD police officers who treat everyone with dignity and respect, and

2/ the police department (and every city department) spends its money wisely.

As for funding – there is also a cost to having fewer police. Right now we have hundreds of closed storefronts downtown, in Union Square, and in the Tenderloin. This takes a big bite out of our city budget.

The Tenderloin's closest grocery store – the Whole Foods on Market – closed due to dangerous street conditions, and other supermarkets have not been eager to take its place... so the TL has **no grocery store**.

When we look at the cost of staffing our police department, we must weigh it against the cost of understaffing it – the money our city loses when businesses close, the people harmed by dangerous conditions on our streets, the working class neighborhoods deprived of their grocery store.

6. Do police make our streets safer and how? Explain? What alternatives to policing should the Board of Supervisors consider to make San Francisco safer?

We've experimented with having fewer officers, and it has made our communities less safe.

If some of my neighborhoods do want to decrease police presence – *in their own neighborhood* – I'm open to having that conversation. But at a city level, we do need more police.

Social services and community ambassadors also play an important role in keeping our streets safe – and I fully support using them so our police officers can concentrate more fully on crime.

7. Did you support or oppose the March 2024 Measure B, and why?

I was against Measure B - I don't want to have to wait for new taxes to fully staff our police department.

8. Did you support or oppose the March 2024 Measure E, and why?

I supported it. I believe some of the tools we gave the police in Measure E will be necessary to close the open drug markets in the Tenderloin, and as Supervisor I will ensure that those new tools are used wisely.

9. Did you support or oppose the March 2024 Measure F, and why?

I supported it. I would like to have an additional tool to help get people into treatment when everything else fails. (Not a fan of blanket drug-testing everyone.)

10. How do the federal and state budgets impact San Francisco?

There are problems we cannot solve on our own. When times are tight at the state and federal level, it can make it much tougher to address serious issues like homelessness and declining school enrollment. 11. Do you support the proposal to limit the authority of the Board of Supervisors to take action on issues such as the War on Gaza? Why? If yes, please detail the limitations you would place on the Board of Supervisors and explain your response.

I support a resolution to make sure our Board of Supervisors is focused on solving our city's problems.

Unfortunately, the proposal in question is non-binding and can be ignored.

I would have proposed a binding measure to force our city to focus on our own pressing problems — like the 811 people who died of drug overdoses last year, many of them in this district.

There is a limited amount of BoS time, and how we spend it matters.

We have serious issues ahead of us, and we cannot afford to be distracted. I want our government fully focused on our own problems, for at least the next five years. (Happy to revisit after then.)

(BTW, this doesn't mean we lose our voice when international events compel us to speak. That's what protests are for.)

12. There are at least 4 local petitions being circulated for consideration on the November 2024 ballot (https://www.sf.gov/reports/november-2024/potential-local-ballot-measures). What is your position on each of them? Explain.

Mayor's Authority Relating to City Department Heads and Mayoral Staff - has been abandoned and will not be on the ballot. However, I generally support giving the winner of the Mayoral election – no matter who it is – the power to keep their promises to the voters.

<u>Election of Members of the Board of Supervisors</u> - I'm not convinced voters want to vote in 11 different Supervisor races, but I'm open to changing my mind.

<u>City Commissions and Mayoral Authority</u> - In favor. Every commission has a cost in time and money and focus. Passing this measure would keep us focused on the most important commissions, and would also give more power to our Mayor. I'm inclined to give whoever wins the November election the power to implement their policies... you win the election, we respect the results.

<u>Additional Business Tax on Transportation Network Companies and Autonomous Vehicle Businesses</u> - What problem will this solve?

13. If the other candidates in your race would agree, are you willing to reject all PAC and "dark money" support for your race and to publicly denounce spending on your behalf through such entities? Are there entities from which you would reject support and/or publicly denounce spending on your behalf? Will you publicly denounce dark money expenditures against your opponents?

No.

14. What makes you the most qualified candidate to be your District Supervisor?

With no connections, no funding, and no authority, I have already made big changes in San Francisco.

With my partner, I co-founded the school board recall. We worked with people across the political spectrum, from members of the Berniecrats to the GOP... and every neighborhood in the city voted to replace our failed school board members with practical people focused on getting results for our kids.

This triggered a revolution in San Francisco. We are now focused on **getting results for the ordinary people** of this city.

As your Supervisor, I will fight for practical policies – like the campaign I ran to bring Algebra back. I am committed to actually building the affordable housing we've already approved, and I have a **track record of getting things done**. I'm also committed to providing excellent neighborhood services.

But the real reason you want me as Supervisor is that I talk to everyone – in fact, I LOVE talking with people I disagree with. Your arguments sharpen my thinking and reveal places I've overlooked something important. And you often give excellent advice. What I've found is that even in our sharpest disagreements, we often share the same values.