

**BernieCrats Mayor Questionnaire**

1. What will you do to address San Francisco's housing problems? What resources will you use to address these issues?

San Francisco faces an affordable housing and displacement crisis. I have been a champion of local programs to zone for, fund, and build tens of thousands of affordable housing units and have pioneered and crafted new approaches to secure funding and otherwise intervene in the housing market in favor of affordability, including supporting the first inclusionary zoning policy, four housing bonds which successfully raised over \$1.3 billion in funding and the Community Opportunity to Purchase Act which gives community-based non-profits the ability to have first access to affordable acquisition opportunities. I am pioneering new forms of affordable housing funding, including more expansive housing revenue bonds, which can radically expand available financing for workforce housing projects.

I have a long record of defending tenants' rights, and strengthening rent control, including legislation restricting owner-move-in evictions with increased fines for infractions. I have pioneered a creative workaround that allows rent control to be applied in new construction of ADU's and in the "fourplex" ordinance, a first in the state since the passage of Costa Hawkins.

2. What will you do to address issues around homelessness?

Homelessness prevention and shelter are critical. We often hear that substance abuse and mental health problems cause homelessness. But just as usual, these problems only become acute after people lose their homes and are forced to the streets.

By keeping people housed, we can stop the downward spiral before it happens. We showed during the pandemic that rent relief and eviction protection keep at-risk individuals safely in their homes. Yet millions of dollars that could be spent on this effort are not being used. I will change that. We must also protect, strengthen, and expand rent control because rent control provides a bedrock of tenants rights that also prevent homelessness.

I have brought new shelter capacity to District 3 such as the TAY navigation center, not by imposing it on our community but through robust community engagements. By making shelter available and helping people access treatment for drug misuse, we can give the gift of a healthier community to the SF of tomorrow and achieve a healthier, safer city.

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? Where do SFMTA Board appointments fit into all this?

I pushed for and helped pass the first tax effort for TNCs in California. It aimed to reduce Uber and Lyft's documented impact on local traffic congestion, and raised revenue which goes to

funding public transit. This has now been extended to Waymo. I previously served as the chair and commissioner of the Transportation Authority board, where I prioritized strategic investments for transportation affordability, sustainability, and accessibility. In that role, I passed a resolution opposing Muni fare hikes.

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

Welcoming new tech as new forms of transportation can be good for the community, and increase accessibility for those with limited mobility and for the environment. Still, they are only as good as they are accessible to everyone. TNCs and autonomous vehicles remain only a mode of privatized transportation and will only benefit those who can pay for it. We need to invest in mass transportation, as I have for many years. Private, venture-capital funded transportation options are not sustainable ways to provide a public good. Take Lyft's ownership of Baywheels for example, which dramatically increased its fares after it finally needed to seek to become profitable. We need stable well-funded public transportation that serves all San Franciscans and all neighborhoods.

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.

Public safety is a progressive value. I voted to support increased police budgets, overtime, and greater police staffing. It is not the quantity, but the quality of policing that matters. I will be smart on crime. We need more staff –additional police on the street walking beats, more medics, emergency room nurses, mental health providers, drug treatment specialists, and 911 call operators who are also essential in keeping us safe. This isn't just about funding – it's about digging deep into the broken structures of government and fixing them from the inside out.

6. Do police make our streets safer, and how? What alternatives should the Mayor's office consider to make San Francisco safer?

I have publicly promised to establish citywide community policing with foot patrols and community ambassadors in every neighborhood. I know first-hand how effective community policing can be and that culturally competent policing makes neighborhoods safer, deepens trust, and strengthens communities. One unequivocally positive outcome of the George Floyd political moment was that cities including ours have begun to pilot non-police behavioral health response like the Street Crisis Response team which have built out our public safety infrastructure to make better use of clinicians and EMTs to respond to people in mental health crisis.

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

I helped craft measure B and put it on the ballot because it is a fiscally responsible measure. We already have hundreds of budgeted for but unfilled police positions. This took a measure put forward by Supervisor Dorsey which would have hamstrung our budget and ensured that police spending would only be mandated if the Board of Supervisors came up with new revenue to pay for it.

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

I opposed Prop. E primarily because it was bad policy and a bad way to make policy. It seems to have been primarily motivated by the goal of creating an end run around the police commission where one commission appointed by the Mayor has had the gumption to express an independent view of policing policy.

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

I opposed this because this measure will increase the number of people experiencing homelessness in San Francisco by taking away the basic services and support systems that keep those in greatest need off the streets. This measure was not only cruel but ineffective as San Francisco does not have the treatment infrastructure that is mandated by the measure.

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

Historic reductions in State and federal funding for key issues like housing, homelessness, and mental health services have played a large part in the issues we see today. Federal public housing spending has been cut dramatically in the last several decades and is at the core of our affordable housing crisis, and has left our local government trying to fill the gap. State affordable housing money has also recently been significantly cut, at the same time that the state has dramatically increased its mandate for local governments to zone for and build affordable housing. We need leaders who will advocate for and work with our federal and state partners to push for funding and sensible policy for San Francisco.

11. 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.

- 1) Mayor's Authority (Together SF) – Thankfully this measure was pulled from the ballot, apparently because its sponsors lacked confidence in their own candidate.
- 2) Ending District Election of Supervisors (Submitted by Quentin Kopp) - NO. District election of supervisors is the seminal progressive struggle that was fought by organized communities and neighborhoods against downtown business interest in many

successive ballot measures over three decades and have given us the high level of democratic participation and responsive government we now know. The At-large system has been much less responsive to particular community needs and more responsive to business interests.

- 3) City Commissions and Mayoral Authority (Together SF) - This is a bad way to make policy. There may be a kernel of truth at its core, that we have some number commissions that were formed for specific purposes but have passed their usefulness. This measure goes far beyond that and is design to take away the control of voters of which parts of government they have oversight over.
- 4) Additional TNC tax - (Submitted by transit riders). This is similar in concept to other TNC tax and regulations I have supported for similar reasons: TNCs and AVs are fundamentally not public transportation and have been documented to cause congestion, slow public transit, while poaching some of its ridership. I wish it the best.

12. 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 you willing to reject all PAC and "dark money" support for your race and to publicly denounce spending on your behalf through such entities?

I am the only candidate in the race to refuse to be funded by billionaires and PACs and have already denounced the spending on my behalf from large corporations.

13. What makes you the most qualified candidate to be Mayor of San Francisco?

I have a depth of experience with how our city works that is unmatched. I am a candidate everyday San Franciscans, and neighborhoods and working people with deep experience, a pragmatic approach to governance, running a grassroots campaign because I love this city.