

SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN SERVICES NETWORK

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE Board of Supervisors, November 2008 Election

The following questionnaire focuses on issues related to health, human services and community-based nonprofit organizations. The sponsor of this questionnaire is the San Francisco Human Services Network (HSN). Please see the appendix for more information about HSN and the San Francisco health and human service nonprofit sector.

Please limit responses to each question to 100 words. (To ensure fairness, HSN will truncate any answers longer than 100 words.) We encourage candidates to respond immediately, and will post responses on our website as they are received. Please return your responses via email only to debbilerman@sfnhsn.org. If you have any questions, please call Debbi Lerman at 668-0444 x-2.

(A) Contact Information

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(B) San Francisco Community

(1) In your opinion, what are the top three issues facing the City & County of San Francisco that you will prioritize as a Supervisor?

MY TOP 3 PRIORITIES

1-PUBLIC SAFETY-ESPECIALLY ELDER ABUSE IT IS EPIDEMIC IN SF

2-FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT CITY SERVICES

3. HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND LAND USE

(2) What are the most important steps we need to take to improve the public health of our City?

WORK TO MAKE THE HEALTH ACCESS PROGRAM FEASIBLE WITHOUT DRIVING OUT THE BUSINESSES THAT PROVIDE THE JOBS AND TAX REVENUES TO FUND THE PROGRAM & ENTIRE BUDGET

(3) What are the most important steps we need to take to improve the fiscal health of our City?

1- REFORM EXCESSIVE HIRING AND WASTEFUL SPENDING
2- REFORM UNFUNDED MANDATES AND SET ASIDES

(4) Do you support or oppose the following November ballot measures? (Optional: You may add an explanation of your position, limited to 100 words per ballot measure.)

- a. Prop A: San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center Earthquake Safety Bonds
 Support Oppose

“A MUST”

- b. Prop B: Establishing Affordable Housing Fund
 Support Oppose

DOES NOT ADDRESS HOUSING FOR MIDDLE INCOME AND WOULD LEAD TO CUTS IN HUMAN SERVICES

- c. Prop H: Setting Clean Energy Deadlines
 Support Oppose

CITY CANNOT DO PGE WORK

- d. Prop K: Changing the Enforcement of Laws Related to Prostitution and Sex Workers
 Support Oppose

ENDANGERS YOUNG WOMEN

- e. Prop L: Funding the Community Justice Center
 Support Oppose

WORKS WELL IN NY

- f. Prop M: Changing the Residential Rent Ordinance to Prohibit Specific Acts of Harassment of Tenants by Landlords
 Support Oppose

NEEDED TO REDUCE INTIMIDATION OF TENANTS

- g. Prop N: Changing Real Property Transfer Tax Rates
 Support Oppose

DOES NOT DETER ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

- h. Prop O: Replacing the Emergency Response Fee with an Access Line Tax
 Support Oppose

WILL PROTECT \$45 MILLION FOR CITY BUDGET

- i. Prop Q: Modifying the Payroll Expense Tax
 Support Oppose

THIS IS AN EQUITABLE APPLICATION OF CITY'S BUSINESS TAX

- j. Prop S: Policy Regarding Budget Set-Asides and Identification of Replacement Funds
 Support Oppose

IT KEEPS THE PROBLEM

- k. Prop T: Free and Low-Cost Substance Abuse Treatment Programs
 Support Oppose

DOES NOT IDENTIFY SOURCES OF FUNDS

- l. Prop V: Policy Against Terminating Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC)
 Support Oppose

MOST JROTC GO ON TO COLLEGE

- m. Prop 4: Waiting Period and Parental Notification Before Termination of Minor's Pregnancy
 Support Oppose

PARENTS HAVE RIGHT AND RESPONSIBILITY

- n. Prop 5: Nonviolent Drug Offenses, Sentencing, Parole and Rehabilitation.
 Support Oppose

REHAB FOR NON VIOLENT IS ESSENTIAL

- o. Prop 8: Eliminates Right of Same-Sex Couples to Marry.
 Support Oppose

I SUPPORT DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT signed by President Clinton

(C) The Health and Human Services Nonprofit Sector

(1) In what ways have you shown leadership in supporting the nonprofit health and human services sector and low income, disadvantaged populations? Please identify any nonprofits where you worked, served on the Board of Directors, or played an active role.

As CEO of Community Counseling Service I spent a career working successfully with business and community leaders to help fund non profit health, and social services. Projects include On -Lok Senior Services BRIDGE Affordable Housing. I am on the Board of the HANDICAPABLES. Two mayors and the Governor have appointed me to city and state commissions dealing with aging and human services.

(2) Do you have any specific recommendations to improve the programs or services provided or funded by the City & County of San Francisco for low-income and homeless populations?

I served on the mayor's council to end chronic homelessness and worked with Angela Alioto to write the City plan for Supportive Housing. I want to end homelessness-not manage it.

(3) The San Francisco Housing Element has identified the need for some 13,000 very low to moderate income homes, including: 3200 units of affordable accessible housing, 1500 units of affordable senior housing, and 5600 units of affordable multi-bedroom family housing. Given the declining level of federal and state financing for affordable housing development, how would you finance this level of affordable housing?

I helped secure funding for the BRIDGE AFFORDABLE program. The affordable housing crisis can only be solved by public private incentives AND to slong term sources of revenue

(4) As Supervisor, through what mechanisms would you seek input from nonprofits when considering legislation that would affect agencies and the clients that they serve?

I have a career working with NPs No candidate knows them better or will protect them a I will. SF's NPO's serve almost one million clients a year and match every city dollar received with \$1.50 in non -city funds.

I will ALWAYS work with the NPO's to assure their input on all decisions affecting them.

(5) Do you feel that nonprofits receive adequate funding to meet the needs of the city and its vulnerable populations, and to ensure the health and sustainability of their organizations? If not, how would you address the need for more funding?

As noted above, NPOs do not receive adequate funding..I especially an determined to increase funding for senior services and the disabled.

(6) As Supervisor, what would you do to reform the City's current budget process of cuts and add-backs? How would you incorporate decision-making about nonprofit cost-of-living-adjustments (COLA) and cost-of-doing-business (CODB) increases into the budget process? (See the appendix for more information.)

I will call for a study by the Budget Analyst Office and hearings with the Budget Committee.

(7) Do you support the following:

- (a) Annual CODB increases for nonprofit contractors?
- (b) Annual CODB increases that reflect actual increases in the cost of operations?
- (c) Contractor COLAs tied to the amount of the civil service COLA?
- (d) Increases on general fund contracts only or on all nonprofit grants and contracts?

YES on Questions a,b,c,d
based on supportive facts and data.

(8) Should employees working on nonprofit city contracts earn wage rates that are comparable to civil service employees in similar job classifications? If so, what specific steps would you take to advance wage parity?

Ideally yes but it would destroy many NPO's unless they are subsidized by city funds

(9) Many nonprofits urge San Francisco to undertake a longterm planning process that would guide the implementation of health and human services over the next 5 to 10 years, analyze and prioritize community needs and resources, ensure the sustainability of our system of care, and develop a plan that transcends the cyclical nature of the political process and individual department policies. What recommendations would you make to guide this planning process?

My priority as supervisor is to bring key business and community leaders together with all NPO leaders to advance understanding and support the NPO sector. I have the EXPERIENCE and COMPETENCE to lead a long term planning process to analyze and prioritize needs and resources to ensure sustainability.