



A California Non-Profit Political Action Committee

**PDA-CA CANDIDATE  
QUESTIONNAIRE for the SAN  
FRANCISCO**

**SUPERVISORIAL RACE**

**NAME OF CANDIDATE** Ryan Solomon

**CAMPAIGN ADDRESS:** 1135 Masonic Ave. Apt 8 San Francisco, Ca 94117

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ryan@voteryanfor5.com\_\_\_\_\_

Date of the Election: November 5, 2019

Campaign Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 415-786-4544 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

PDA-CA is non-profit political action committee newly formed by grassroots progressives in California. The primary objective of PDA-CA is to identify highly progressive Democratic Candidates within the state for statewide offices including, but not limited to, Governor, for State Assembly and Senate Offices, and for offices at the county and municipal levels. Candidates may be invited to apply for the Endorsement of PDA-CA. If that occurs, the candidate may enjoy grassroots help from the activists within PDA-CA to include walking precincts, phone banking and other activities, to assist that candidate to win election to the office sought.

We ask that the candidate observe the format of this questionnaire, and have it back to the requestor in PDF by the time designated in the cover letter, in order to be eligible for endorsement.

NOTICE: YOUR RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE PDA-CA WEBSITE AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC VIEWING AND USE.

## HOUSING

What steps would you take to make housing more affordable, while also creating more units and not displacing existing vulnerable communities?

I think the HOME-SF is a great program to make housing more affordable. It requires between 20-30% of rental units in newly developed buildings be affordable. Which means from very low income (up to 55% of median income) to middle income (up to 140% of median income). It also does not allow any demolition to happen, so there's no displacement existing communities.

Another big part for affordable housing would be rent control. I believe that all rental residential units should be rent controlled. Everybody wants a reliable place to live. To not have to worry about coming home and finding out your rent has gone up by an amount you can no longer afford. Everyone should feel safe that they will not be displaced next month simply because the property owner can raise the rent astronomically whenever they want.

Do you support the construction of public and/or non-profit housing?

I do support the idea of public housing, but San Francisco does not have a good record of oversight on its properties. I would suggest that the city works with other non-profit housing organizations together, constructing and overseeing the property.

## HOMELESSNESS

What is your position on conservatorship?

I am for conservatorship for those that are a danger to themselves or others. One may ask, how do we determine that? Let me answer that with a brief story:

On April 15th of 2018 I was attacked and stabbed by a mental unfit homeless person. I was in life threatening condition and thanks to the wonderful staff at SF General, I'm still here. Also thanks to the wonderful work of the SFPD, specifically Sergeant McDonald, the man who attacked me was caught. But here is where problems start. When the PD arrests someone for a possible crime, it is solely up to the DA to take the case. Thankfully in this case they did, but there are no obligations. If the DA does not take the case, whoever the police arrested are put back onto the streets. If the DA does take the case the first trials will be for mental competency. If the defendant is deemed mentally unfit for trial, they are then put

into conservatorship until they are mentally well enough to stand trial for their supposed crime. And yes, that can mean that they may have to continue treatment for a long time and possibly forever, if they are not able to be rehabilitated.

So my long answer, is yes, I support conservatorship. But only when these guidelines are met. The big push here would just to make sure the DA has the time and push, to take more cases that could be deemed harmful to the city.

What is your position on navigation centers and homeless shelters in your district?

I am for navigations centers in my district and all districts. Supervisor Haney's proposition on this is great.

## TRANSIT

How will you get more people to use public transit and reduce the number of cars in?

We need to make public transit more appealing to everyday people. That could mean more frequency of transit lines, cleaning public transit, safer public transit and reliable service. Im excited to see how the Van Ness project turns out. If numbers of riders goes up on that line due to the improvements, we should expand it to other high density routes. But if we want to remove cars from the roads, we must first provide a good alternative. We do have way to many Uber and Lyft cars in the city. Traffic is out of control and accidents involving injury or death have risen by 40% from 2010 to 2016. But we can't just remove them, or limit them, without providing a good and reliable alternative. Making MUNI more reliable and appealing is what we need to provide first.

What would you do to improve transit and pedestrian safety?

I think with what we are doing throughout the city with the bike lanes is a good start. There was a specifically bad intersection at Masonic and Fell that has a unique bike lane that has worked out great. More specific looks at intersections like this would be great, rather than just a broad sweeping approach.

I also believe in driver education. In Norway, they train drivers to open doors with their right hands instead of their left, so it causes them to look back, to see if anyone is coming. This lowered bike related injuries by 30%. We need drivers to be aware at all times, I can't tell you the number of times a car has just slowly driven into me while crossing a cross walk, simply because they were not paying attention. We need driver education to be more than speed limits and lights, we need to involve community and awareness.

## EDUCATION

Charter schools are controversial in many areas—what is your position with regards to them?

I am more in favor of public schools. I grew up in public schools and they served me well my whole life. If people in this district would want a Charter school, I would love to chat and see what we are missing with our public schools that we should fix.

## ENVIRONMENT

What steps will you take to reduce the carbon footprint for your district and SF as a whole?

This can be tied back in to improving MUNI lines, so we have less emissions on the streets. We should also be taking care of our parks and city streets. I always hate when I see a notice of removal of decades old trees. We need to make sure no matter how dense we become, we always have green space.

## EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT

What percentage of your donations are under \$100? What percentage of your donations are from SF residents? 75% of my donations are at or under \$100. All of my donations are from SF residents. I am trying to run a fiscally responsible campaign.

Do you support the creation of a Public Bank?

I think this would be very interesting, but just like public housing, we would have to make sure it did not fall by the wayside. If we did create it, we would have to create another sect of our local government dedicated to just it.

## POLICE & SAFETY

What is your position on police brutality?

I believe that everyone should be held to the same accountability of law. Either you be a citizen or law officer, the law needs to apply the same. If a police officer beats someone, especially if they are already detained, they need be charged with a crime. Power can make people think they are above the law. We must always be there to remind them that no one is above the law.

How do you propose to involve the community in improving safety?

I would like to have a separate department of police force dedicated solely to community involvement. They would be trained separately and specifically to work with their neighbors, neighborhoods and businesses. If we had officers that we know, walking our streets, talking with us, engaging with us, we will be far more trustworthy of them. We need training to deal with the mentally ill and homeless. Sometimes they can cause more harm than good, not because they want to, but because they lack the experience or training to handle the situation.