

# Candidate Questionnaire

Name and email address

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What Berkeley City Council District do you live in?

District 7

Do you have any background in Berkeley politics or community organizing? Please describe.

Yes. I have been involved in community organizing and public service work in Berkeley for years, particularly around housing, homelessness, public space, neighborhood conditions, and People’s Park. I previously served as Vice Chair of the Berkeley Homeless Commission and have participated in advocacy, direct service, tenant support efforts, and community engagement connected to Southside Berkeley. My work as a clinical health worker has also shaped my understanding of public systems, crisis response, and the everyday challenges many residents face.

What local issues are most important to you?

Housing affordability and displacement, homelessness and public health, safety at night in Southside, clean and accessible public spaces, support for local businesses, tenant protections, and ensuring Berkeley remains livable and inclusive for students, workers, families, and longtime residents.

Will you opt into public financing of your campaign?

☒ Yes

☐ No

What policies would you put forth/endorse regarding housing and rent control?

I support expanding deeply affordable housing, protecting tenants from displacement, preserving rent stabilization protections, and ensuring new development fits neighborhood infrastructure and community needs. Berkeley requires more housing that working people, students, seniors, and low-income residents can actually afford. I also support stronger enforcement against unsafe housing conditions and policies that help people remain stably housed before they fall into crisis.

What are your views on upzoning and support of local businesses?

I support thoughtful housing growth, especially near transit and commercial corridors, but I do not believe neighborhoods should be treated as blank slates for speculation or extraction. Growth should come with investments in infrastructure, transit, public space, and affordability. I also believe Berkeley should do more to support small and locally rooted businesses by reducing unnecessary barriers, improving street conditions, and maintaining clean, safe, active commercial corridors like Telegraph Avenue.

How do you plan to make yourself available to and interact with constituents, particularly those that disagree with you?

I believe local government works best when people feel heard, even when there is disagreement. I plan to maintain regular office hours, neighborhood meetings, accessible online communication, and direct outreach throughout the district. I want residents to know they can speak honestly with me about concerns related to housing, safety, development, public space, or city services without being dismissed.

What are your views on police accountability? Please discuss both surveillance and crowd control measures (Flock cameras, tear gas) as well as fiscal accountability.

I support strong civilian oversight, transparency, and accountability in policing. Public safety should be rooted in trust, de-escalation, and measurable public benefit. I have serious concerns about the expansion of surveillance technologies without clear oversight, data protections, transparency, and demonstrated effectiveness. I also oppose the use of tear gas and overly aggressive crowd control tactics against demonstrators. Berkeley should continue investing in non-police crisis response, mental health support, violence prevention, and public health approaches alongside accountability for public spending.

How do you view the role of the City Council in Berkeley's long history of standing up for international human rights? How will you deal with outside foreign lobby groups, such as the JCRC (Jewish Community Relations Council), when evaluating such concerns?

Berkeley has a long tradition of engaging with human rights issues and standing in solidarity with communities facing injustice. I believe local officials should approach these issues thoughtfully, independently, and with a commitment to human dignity, civil liberties, and democratic values. I will listen to constituents directly and evaluate issues based on principle, community impact, and factual information rather than pressure from outside organizations or political interests.

How do you plan to campaign? What are your strengths as a campaigner?

My campaign is focused on direct voter contact, neighborhood engagement, coalition building, and community visibility. I plan to prioritize conversations with residents, students, workers, renters, and small business communities throughout District 7. My strengths are persistence, communication, grassroots organizing, policy knowledge, and the ability to connect lived experience with practical governance issues affecting daily life in Berkeley.

Do you have any community, labor, etc. groups that you anticipate will endorse your candidacy?

I am currently in conversations with labor, LGBTQ+, tenant, environmental, and progressive community organizations, and I am actively participating in several endorsement processes.

How can we help you with your campaign?

Endorsements, volunteer support, grassroots fundraising, and opportunities to connect directly with residents would all be extremely valuable to the campaign. We are especially looking to build a strong field presence through tabling, neighborhood outreach, and community engagement in District 7. Support in amplifying the campaign's message among renters, students, workers, and local community networks would also make a meaningful difference.

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