

Santa Monica Democratic Club

2024 City Council Candidate Questionnaire

Thank you for your interest in the Santa Monica Democratic Club endorsement. Candidates seeking the endorsement of our Club must complete and return the following questionnaire. Only registered Democrats are eligible for our consideration. Submitting this questionnaire constitutes acknowledgment that its contents are now part of the public record and may be reproduced and distributed by the Santa Monica Democratic Club.

Please send the completed questionnaire to smdemocrats@gmail.com by 11:59pm on May 18, 2024. Interview appointment times with our Executive Committee will be scheduled on a first come first served basis for the weekend of May 25/26 as the questionnaires are returned.

None of these questions shall be construed as litmus tests. There are no questions that must be answered a certain way to be considered for our endorsement.

General Information

Candidate Name: Dan Hall

Email Address: dan@electdanhall.com

Candidate's Current Occupation: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Professional

Candidate's Employer: Amazon

Campaign Contact Person (if other than candidate): n/a

1. What qualifications do you bring to this office?

I am a renter, Iraq War veteran, and Santa Monica Pier Board Member.

Community Involvement:

- Santa Monica Pier Corporation Board of Directors
 - Chair the Leasing Sub-Committee promoting economic growth
 - Advised City staff on public safety (to implement DART Team and PA system) and infrastructure improvements (Pier Bridge Replacement Project and Bike Lane connector projects)
 - Voted to bring Cirque du Soleil back to Santa Monica
 - Championed long-term strategic plan for financial sustainability and operations
 - Hired Executive Director
- Santa Monica Democratic Club
 - Organized for labor during Summer 2023
 - Championed Bylaws changes ensuring Club is led by Santa Monicans and endorsements are voted on by Santa Monicans, implemented civility pledge, and formalized positions of Vice Presidents of Legislation and Diversity and Inclusion
 - Campaigned for multiple progressive ballot measures and candidates in 2022 including Measures GS and RC, Measure A, Ted Lieu, Rick Chavez Zbur, Caroline Torosis, Jesse Zwick, multiple members of the Rent Control, College, and School Boards.
- Meals on Wheels volunteer

Education:

- Master of Public Administration with concentration in Local Government, University of North Carolina School of Government
- Master of Business Administration, Harvard Business School
- United States Military Academy at West Point
- Certificate in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Workplace, University of South Florida, Muma School of Business
- Certificate in Citizen Planning, Extension Foundation

2. Why are you running?

I'm running to restore progressive leadership to Santa Monica, guided by our values, data, and policy. I believe that we can build a brighter future together: one that's safe, affordable, and inclusive for all, no matter which neighborhood they're from, where they work, the color of their skin, or who they love. Our beautiful beachside city deserves a government that serves and protects everyone: renters, workers, home and business owners, and visitors. We've lost our way under our reactionary current majority on Council; I will lead us back to being a leader in innovation and progressive policy once again.

3. What are the top issues of your campaign? How do you plan to address those issues once elected?

- Clean streets and safe neighborhoods.
 - Investments in pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure for safe routes to work and schools.
 - Attract and retain top talent for our law enforcement, firefighters, and public safety professionals.
 - Strong civilian oversight and investments in technology that works.
- Affordability and inclusivity.
 - Bring down housing costs by protecting tenants, subsidizing and incentivizing affordable housing (100% deed restricted and inclusionary), and removing restrictions that cause housing costs to skyrocket (e.g. parking minimums).
 - Explore ways to repair past harm against racial minorities through policy changes that restore equity (e.g. land return).
- Good Government that works for everyone.
 - Ethical leadership.
 - Efficiency in permitting.
 - Equity in policy-making.
 - Transparency and accountability through implementation of program measures of performance and effectiveness.

4. Please list all of your individual and/or organizational endorsements.

Individuals (*all titles are for identification purposes only and do not imply organizational endorsements*):

- Rick Chavez Zbur, State Assemblymember and Democratic Caucus Chair
- Sheila Kuehl, former Los Angeles County Supervisor
- Gleam Davis, Santa Monica City Councilmember and former Mayor
- Ted Winterer, former Santa Monica Mayor, Co-Chair, Community for Excellent Public Schools
- Judy Abdo, former Santa Monica Mayor

- Kevin McKeown, former Santa Monica Mayor
- Paul Rosenstein, former Santa Monica Mayor
- Terry O'Day, former Santa Monica Mayor Pro Tempore
- Caroline Torosis, Santa Monica City Councilmember
- Jesse Zwick, Santa Monica City Councilmember
- Mike Bonin, former Los Angeles City Councilmember
- Dr. Margaret Quiñones-Perez, Chair, Santa Monica College Board
- Dr. Nancy Greenstein, Vice-Chair, Santa Monica College Board Trustee
- Dr. Sion Roy, Santa Monica College Board Trustee
- Dr. Tom Peters, Santa Monica College Board Trustee
- Jennifer Smith, President, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education
- Laurie Lieberman, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education Member
- Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education Member
- Anastasia Foster, Santa Monica Rent Control Board Commissioner
- Danny Ivanov, Santa Monica Rent Control Board Commissioner
- Alan Toy, former Chair, Santa Monica Rent Control Board
- Lonnie Guinn, former Santa Monica Rent Control Board Commissioner
- Shawn Landres, Planning Commissioner
- Brian Stedge-Stroud, Public Safety and Reform Oversight Commissioner
- Carter Rubin, former Planning Commissioner
- Frank Gruber, former Planning and Housing Commissioner
- Kay Ambriz, former Social Services Commissioner
- Bruria Finkel, former Arts Commissioner and former Board Member of Downtown Santa Monica, Inc.
- Anuli Kronheim Katz, former Housing Commissioner
- Carl Hansen, former Housing Commissioner, Co-Chair, Santa Monica Forward
- Derek Devermont, Democratic National Committee Member
- Susan Sheu, Los Angeles County Democratic Party Region 4 Vice Chair
- Jon Katz, President, Santa Monica Democratic Club
- Keith Coleman, Vice President, Santa Monica Democratic Club
- Sam Cozolino, Vice President, Santa Monica Democratic Club
- Isabel Storey, Vice President, Santa Monica Democratic Club
- Rana Kirkland, former Vice President, Santa Monica Democratic Club
- Luis B. Castañón, Treasurer, Santa Monica Democratic Club
- Dolly Sloan, Executive Board Member, Santa Monica Democratic Club
- Lynn Cervini, Executive Board Member, Santa Monica Democratic Club
- Cris Gutierrez, Co-Chair, Santa Monica Safe Streets Alliance, Co-Founder, Climate Action Santa Monica
- Brad Ewing, Co-Chair, Santa Monica Forward
- Abby Arnold, former Co-Chair, Santa Monica Forward
- Nicole Faries, Co-Chair, Community for Excellent Public Schools Steering Committee Member
- Sirinya Matute, Community for Excellent Public Schools Steering Committee Member
- Melissa Goodman, Community for Excellent Public Schools Steering Committee Member
- Debbie Mulvaney, Community for Excellent Public Schools Steering Committee Member

Organizations:

- Western States Carpenters Union
- VoteVets

5. How long have you lived in Santa Monica? Where else have you lived?

I have lived in Santa Monica since Summer 2021. I have lived in the following other places:

- Los Angeles, CA
- Boston, MA
- Taji Air Base, Iraq
- Camp Buehring, Kuwait
- El Paso, TX
- Pyeongtaek, Republic of Korea
- Enterprise, AL
- Coetquidan, France
- West Point, NY
- Chattanooga, TN
- Redworth, United Kingdom
- Wilmington, NC
- Nashville, TN

6. Will you pledge to serve on City Council for your entire four year term?

Yes.

Campaign Finance

1. How much money have you raised for your campaign to date?

\$30,000+

2. How much do you intend to raise by Election Day 2024?

\$75,000 - \$100,000

3. Candidates for local office often choose not to take campaign contributions from particular types of organizations or industries. Are there any such sources from which you would decline donations? If so, which?

Dan Hall for Santa Monica City Council 2024 does not accept donations from corporate PACs and will not accept donations from businesses or business management associated with the Santa Monica Pier (to avoid Levine Act issues).

Party / Activism

1. How long have you been a registered Democrat? Have you ever been registered as a member of another political party, or as Decline To State? If so, which party and why?

I left the Republican Party sometime in the early 2010s, I don't remember which year. I was raised in a conservative Roman Catholic family. I left the GOP because of the rise of the Tea Party movement which I felt was detrimental to good governance, social justice, and the economy and after President Obama signed the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" out of gratitude for Democratic leaders for immeasurably changing my life for the better.

2. What is your experience with political activism? Have you ever volunteered or worked for a political campaign other than your own, and if so, in what capacity were you involved?

I was SMDC's Vice President for Political Action in 2023 and organized our club's efforts to support the various labor strikes in 2023.

I have volunteered on a few political campaigns. My first campaign I volunteered for was Beto O'Rourke's campaign for U.S. Senate in 2018 where I door knocked, text-banked, and phone-banked. In Santa Monica, I volunteered heavily for 2022 Santa Monica City Council candidates Caroline Torosis, Jesse Zwick, and Natalya Zernitskaya, Measures GS and RC, and SMDC's endorsed Rent, College, and School Board candidates. I volunteered for Rick Chavez Zbur's successful 2022 run for Assembly by door knocking and supporting his endorsement in many democratic clubs in the LA region. I have text-banked for the Justice for Renters Act in 2024.

3. Which political candidates have you endorsed or supported publicly in the past? Please list as many as possible, especially where you endorsed during a contested primary.

Adam Schiff for U.S. Senate (CA) 2024 (contested primary)

Rick Chavez Zbur for California Assembly 2022 (contested primary)

Caroline Torosis for Santa Monica City Council 2022

Jesse Zwick for Santa Monica City Council 2022

Natalya Zernitskaya for Santa Monica City Council 2022

Joe Biden for U.S. President 2020 (contested primary)

Beto O'Rourke for U.S. Senate (TX) 2018

Prior to 2018 I could not endorse or support candidates publicly due to military regulations.

4. Have you ever signed for or publicly supported efforts to recall a public official from office? If so, please list the name(s) of the officials and why you felt they should be recalled.

No.

5. Please list any organizations with which you are a member, including any leadership position you have held in each organization.

- California Democratic Party - elected Delegate representing Assembly District 51, appointed by the Party Chair to the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee
- California Democratic Renters Council
- Los Angeles County Democratic Party - former Associate Member representing SMDC
- Santa Monica Democratic Club - immediate past Vice President, Political Action, former Treasurer, At-Large Executive Board Member, and Vice Chair of Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- Santa Monica Pier Corporation - Board Member
- Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights
- Stonewall Democratic Club
- West Point Society of Los Angeles - former Board Member

6. Please confirm that you have read the latest version of the California Democratic Party Platform, as found below. List any items in the CDP Platform with which you disagree.

<https://cadem.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/FinalPlatform2024.pdf>

Yes, I confirm I have read the entirety of the platform.

Planks with which I have an issue with that are within my interest as a local government official, relevant to Santa Monica City Council:

- Business and the Economy - I would like to see inclusion of veteran-owned small businesses in opportunities for contracting and increased access to opportunities
- Disabilities - I would like to see an explicit call out for support of neurodiverse individuals.
- Political Reform - The California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) must be reformed to address situations like Santa Monica faces, where internal movement of a minority group might change over time and thus cause a majority of said group to now be 'cracked' into majority white populated districts in order to create a minority-majority or minority-influenced district under the CVRA. A majority of a minority demographic group or community of interest should not be disenfranchised to empower a significantly smaller group in a single neighborhood.

City Governance

1. What is your brief assessment of how City Council has functioned over the past few years?

I've been disappointed and frustrated that policies and ordinances that would seem common sense to support for a progressive community have had to be fought for and protected from the current Council majority's reactionary tendencies.

2. Do you believe we should keep the current system of seven at-large council seats? Why or why not? If not, how would you change this system?

Yes. I believe that the political-administrative dichotomy in an at-large, Council-Manager form of government is best suited for our community.

3. What other type of changes to our City Charter would you be interested in exploring to make the City government more democratic?

- I am interested in making Council full-time, paid positions to allow for more responsiveness to constituent service needs and provide opportunity for greater diversity of representation on the dais.
- I am interested in the idea of an elected Controller to hold Council and staff accountable between elections.
- I am interested in implementing instant-runoff, rank choice voting.

4. Should each City Council member have their own paid staffer? Should Council be a full time job?

In an ideal world, where the City has economically recovered and finished with the Uller settlements, yes, Councilmembers should have their own paid staffers to better support constituent services. Yes, re whether Council should be a full time job, see my response above.

5. What changes, if any, should be made to the current structure of boards and commissions in terms of how they are empowered or how members are selected?

- I am open to exploring the idea of having mixed representation on our boards and commissions in the form of both majority-appointed seats and individual councilmember-appointed seats.

- I believe the Santa Monica Pier Corporation should be restructured as a Business Improvement District in collaboration with the Lessees' Association.
- I am interested in striking the right balance between residents, businesses, and certified professionals on boards and commissions and codifying that balance.

Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

1. In what concrete ways would you support the City of Santa Monica following through on the promise of the Black Apology?

I supported Councilmember Torosis in her efforts to explore restitution and return of the Ebony Beach Club / Viceroy property to the descendants of Silas White, making the motion at the Dem Club meeting to endorse this effort. I am interested in doing the same for families whose properties were unjustly taken through racially motivated eminent domain in the Belmar, Broadway, and Pico neighborhoods.

2. In what form, if any, should reparations be considered for racist wrongs from our city's past? Are there specific examples in our city where you believe this would be an appropriate response?

I support efforts to return land and repair lost wealth generation to families. I am keen on learning more about the reparations package of bills currently being drafted and advancing through the state legislature; the concept of reparations - monetary and otherwise - aligns with my values. Assuming the bill package stays rooted in the recommendations of the Office of the Attorney General's Reparations Task Force, I hope Santa Monica will end up endorsing many of these bills, if not all.

3. In what ways can the City of Santa Monica protect its undocumented residents?

The Santa Monica Police Department is not Border Control and it is not ICE. To ensure the safety of our community, all of our residents, including those who are undocumented, must have a level of trust with our law enforcement professionals that is engendered by our sanctuary policies. In accordance with state law, we should continue to deprioritize our support of federal immigration investigations.

4. What are the most significant environmental justice issues in Santa Monica, and how will you address them?

In the United States, our main contributions to the global climate crisis are burning of fossil fuels and cement production. The Council's recent adoption of Councilmember Zwick's low-carbon concrete ordinance was a great step and shows the kind of policy innovation and leadership Santa Monica should return to. We must also make our city more walkable and bikeable to reduce vehicle use, which means more housing in our commercial areas and safer streets everywhere.

I was disappointed when our Council majority didn't direct staff to pursue grants from the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grants Program when the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill was passed. This was a real missed opportunity to begin repairing the environmental and racial harm caused by the 10 Freeway's placement through the Pico neighborhood.

5. What specific initiatives to increase diversity and promote inclusion among City staff are you interested in pursuing, and how will you work with the City Manager to implement these policies?

I would:

- Support our employee resource groups.
- Recommend talent acquisition strategies such as hiring Master of Public Administration and public policy undergraduate students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic-Serving Institutions.
- Request talent retention analyses for regretted and unregretted attrition of underrepresented talent, which are typically higher than majority employees in workplaces.
- Recommend talent sponsorship programs to facilitate equity in promotions and performance reviews.

I will work through the City Manager and City Attorney with the Human Resources Department and Equity and Inclusion Manager to implement these initiatives.

Housing / Development

1. What steps or solutions would you propose to address the homelessness crisis in the City of Santa Monica?

Homelessness is a direct result of housing unaffordability and unavailability. It's critically important that we prevent folks from falling into an unhoused situation by continuing to stabilize our long term, senior, and young family renters with best in class tenant protections, subsidize affordable housing development, and remove outdated restrictions that block supply and cause housing costs to skyrocket.

For individuals who are already unhoused, we must remove barriers to getting these folks housed with supportive services. I am interested in investing further in Project Homekey opportunities and exploring transitional tiny home options based on successful models seen in Los Angeles and at the VA.

2. In what specific ways has Santa Monica failed to address the housing affordability crisis? What concrete steps would you take on Council to better address the crisis?

Santa Monica should be willing to gently increase densities and raise height restrictions throughout most of the city to ensure that new housing (especially affordable) is located throughout the city: in our high resource neighborhoods, near schools, downtown, and next to transit. Downtown should be a focus, as well as our main transit corridors such as the Expo Line, and our commercial boulevards. This would increase the walkability of our neighborhoods and demand for public transit, while keeping us compliant with state law so we don't fall under the Builder's Remedy attack caused by the incumbents and their non-compliant Housing Element.

3. What is your philosophy on the appropriate scope of development that should be approved in Santa Monica?

See my answer to #2 above.

4. What should the balance be between state and local control of zoning?

For decades, cities across the state have not pulled their fair share of housing production, which has greatly contributed to the housing crisis we see in our state today.

I support the state forcing exclusive communities like Huntington Beach to not “pull up the ladder” of opportunity behind them by restricting housing production.

It's incredibly unfortunate that the incumbents on Council did not pass a compliant Housing Element which exposed us to the Builder's Remedy attack. Staff, public commenters, and other Councilmembers warned that this could happen, and the majority chose to not comply. And now, my neighborhood (Mid-City), Wilmont, and Pico all have proposals for giant skyscrapers in order to meet our 6K units of affordable housing in our RHNA. I would much rather we take the approach of gently densifying across the city, concentrated in Downtown, along transit, and along our commercial boulevards to meet our 6K allotment, so that we don't have skyscrapers along Michigan Ave. or in the College Streets.

5. What do you see as the mission or purpose of Rent Control in a city where 70% of the population are renters?

Rent Control's purpose is to act as a “wet blanket” uniformly across the entire community to prevent skyrocketing housing prices. Stabilizing our long term tenants is important to allow seniors to age gracefully in place and preserve our diversity, while providing some opportunity for workers, young adults, and families to live in Santa Monica.

6. How would you enhance or change tenant protections for renters?

I would propose the following:

- City-wide rental registry to include rent control and market rate units to ensure we have real data (I know Rent Control staff and City staff are working on this currently).
- If the Justice for Renters Act passes, I would support reimplementation of vacancy control with a rolling rent control program similar to Sen. Wahab's proposed SB 466 framework where developers could earn their fair return and the community could grow our rent controlled housing stock that has been decimated by Costa-Hawkins and the use and misuse of the Ellis Act.
- I commit to strong enforcement of short term rentals including investing in scraping technology to find illegal online listings.

7. What is your history of involvement with 2022 Santa Monica Measure GS?

I supported Measure GS every time it came to a Board vote at SMDC while I was on the Executive Board and knocked on hundreds of doors promoting Measure GS during the 2022 election.

Public Safety

1. What steps do you think need to be taken in the next two years to reduce crime in the City? If this requires additional funding, how should it be funded?

We need to focus on preventing root causes of crime (unstable housing, lack of education, lack of opportunity). Activation of empty storefronts and increasing foot traffic through increased housing development along our commercial corridors and downtown is critical.

For law enforcement, I am in favor of expanding the drone program. I would work with our state legislators to include Santa Monica in any expansion of 2023's AB 645 for speed cameras, and think we should fully fund and expand a real-time crime operations

response center. Until such time as speed and red-light cameras can be implemented, I believe public safety should continue to be funded through the General Fund. In the future, I would be interested in exploring the establishment of an enterprise fund, funded by camera violations to upgrade and expand technological improvements to public safety.

2. Is the Santa Monica Police Department presently well funded? Should more or less of the City budget be allocated to hiring SMPD officers?

Police Chief Batista has stated that he believes SMPD is staffed appropriately. I believe it is important we maintain our competitive salary and benefits package to attract and retain top talent in law enforcement.

3. Do you support the LA County Department of Health's needle exchange program as it is currently constructed? What changes, if any, would you suggest for this program?

I support clean syringe exchange programs as a science backed, proven method of stopping deadly communicable diseases such as Hepatitis and HIV. I believe we should have a program that provides for clean up sweeps of Reed Park where the program exists and implement sharps drop off boxes in the park as a mitigating measure.

4. Do you support or oppose the re-election of District Attorney George Gascón? Do you support DA Gascón's special directives on restorative justice? If not, what approach should be taken?

Support and yes.

5. Do you support the Public Safety Reform and Oversight Commission's proposal to adopt the same policy on pretextual stops as the LAPD in Santa Monica? Why or why not?

I do not support the use of pretextual stops. AB 2773, effective January 1, 2024, requires that officers clearly provide persons the reason for a stop immediately at the start of an encounter. This new state law already encompasses part of LAPD's Special Order No. 3 regarding notice. This is important; a National Academy of Sciences study found in 2023 that traffic stops where an officer provided the reason for the stop within the first 45 words of an encounter with a Black man (versus issuing a command or asking a question) were less likely to escalate, and less likely to result in searches, handcuffing, or arrest. SMPD trained all personnel on this new requirement in December 2023 and is finalizing a new policy to reflect AB 2773.

Since implementation of Special Order No. 3, the City of Los Angeles reports that, "while some disproportionality in the race of persons stopped still exists, the proportion of Black drivers who were stopped declined relative to the previous year [2022]." We should have a similar policy in Santa Monica.

6. Four years after the start of the pandemic, what is your assessment of the health of the Third Street Promenade? Do you support DTSM Inc.'s decision to replace the downtown ambassadors with private security? If not, how would you change the current agreement?

This question would be more appropriately located under a section on the Local Economy instead of 'Public Safety' as the answers to the Promenade's problems lie in

zoning, outdated building designs, and property owners who aren't properly incentivized to lease (or penalized for holding a property vacant).

I did not support DTSM's decision to replace the Downtown Ambassadors with private security. I would return the funding to the Ambassador program.

Mobility

1. Should Santa Monica encourage more pedestrian-only streets like the Third Street Promenade? If so, on which streets would you consider this?

Many cities experimented with closing streets to vehicular traffic throughout the 1960s and 1970s, most at great expense, and most went downhill - the Promenade is one of the great exceptions. It is possible that Main Street in Ocean Park could be another. Montana Avenue also shows some promise between 17th and 7th with the right additional mixed-use development. I would like to continue investing in the "Open Main Street" and "Montana Avenue Art Walk" events to further prove viability of these ideas and would be very open to exploring additional closures of Main Street to promote economic activity, community building, and healthy living.

2. What changes should be made to promote safety for bike riders, pedestrians, and other alternate modes of transportation?

- All lighted intersections should have LPIs (6 seconds minimum, longer where appropriate for distance).
- Raised crosswalks and use of pedestrian islands near schools.
- Bulb outs where appropriate.
- Perpendicular cross-cuts (as opposed to diagonal into the intersection).
- Infrastructure like bike racks, garden planters, and bollards in every daylighting zone.
- More dedicated bus lanes (with red paint).
- Delivery vehicle parking spots to prevent delivery vans from blocking bike lanes.
- Generally, I am in favor of the city following best practices as promoted by NACTO and will not assume I know better than trained transportation and planning professionals.

3. Do you support additional Metro rail lines being built in Santa Monica, and if so, which potential projects do you support? Which regions of the City would you like to see serviced?

Yes. I would like to see the Purple line extend down Wilshire Blvd. from the VA Campus with a terminus near the Promenade. I would support opportunities for greater connectivity between westside communities and LAX.

4. Should shared mobility devices and apps (eg, scooters, e-bikes) be encouraged or discouraged in Santa Monica?

Encouraged. I was disappointed and frustrated when the incumbents did not support a contract model where we could have imposed greater limitations and accountability on our mobility providers. Instead, we entered a second pilot with companies that didn't deliver and we had no mechanism to hold them accountable.

5. Should the overall amount of street parking in Santa Monica be reduced in order to encourage other modes of transportation?

I believe in prioritizing infrastructure projects like protected bike lanes and will support removal of parking spots to provide this (especially where spots are underutilized or the need for cyclist protection is greater such as on routes to schools). Street parking is generally fine on the whole and is a key component of a robust pedestrian safety plan for sidewalks and can drive city revenue (especially if we switched to dynamic pricing and stopped subsidizing parking with artificially low prices in our downtown and commercial boulevards).

Ballot Measures

Do you support the Justice For Renters Act? Yes, but we must couple any reimplemention of vacancy control with opportunities for new housing. This is why I support a rolling rent control concept.

Do you support the repeal of Article 34? Yes.

Do you support the initiative to require new local taxes to pass by a two-thirds vote? No.

Do you support the potential measure to amend Prop 47? No, I believe Assemblymember Zbur's package of retail theft bills appropriately addresses gaps in public safety without the need to roll back criminal justice reform implemented under Prop 47.

Do you support the proposed amendments to Measure GS to exempt multifamily housing? I oppose this effort. It is unreasonable to believe that the real estate market can adjust within one year of Measure GS's implementation.

Additional Questions

- 1. Do you support Medicare For All single-payer healthcare?** Yes, but have had specific issues with proposals in the past including access protections for LGBTQ+ Californians.
- 2. Why should union workers in Santa Monica, especially those in the hospitality industry, trust that you will fight for their jobs?** Hospitality union workers should trust me because I have stood with them at the picket lines outside of the Fairmont, Le Merigot, the Viceroy, Hampton Inn, and Courtyard over the course of the past year and have fought against the Mayor's attempts to silence workers at the picket line through unneeded changes to our noise ordinance.
- 3. What do you envision for the future of the Santa Monica Airport?**
The voters have spoken through Measure LC, which I respect and support. The land should be used for "the development of parks, public open spaces, and public recreational facilities; and the maintenance and replacement of existing cultural, arts and education uses." Land that is not covered by LC, such as the underutilized business park parking lots should be looked at for opportunities for housing.
- 4. What role do you believe the Santa Monica Democratic Club should have in our City?** The Santa Monica Democratic Club should play a leading role in local politics, in selecting candidates, in influencing policies and leaders, and in building community.
- 5. If elected, how would you attempt to interact with the Santa Monica Democratic Club and other political organizations to ensure community buy-in on new proposals?** SMDC is my homebase organization. I will continue to attend SMDC meetings, and will consult with its members and leadership while building consensus and coalitions for policies I want to pursue.

6. What is the most important topic that was left off of this questionnaire?

“Why should we trust you to do as you say?”

Santa Monica Democrats can trust me to be a leader because I dedicated my entire twenties to serving a cause greater than myself. I turned down multiple top tier universities to attend West Point because I felt I had a duty to give back to my country. I served in Iraq, Kuwait, and South Korea where I made life or death choices with every mission I led. After business school, I could have pursued a lucrative career in finance or consulting, instead I chose to work in the field of diversity, equity, and inclusion in an attempt to make my corner of the world a better place. I spent two and half years going back to school again to prepare myself for local government service. I do politics not for myself, but for my community.

I would be honored to earn the support of the Santa Monica Democratic Club. Thank you for your consideration.