



A California Non-Profit PAC

**PDA-CA CANDIDATE
QUESTIONNAIRE for the
SAN FRANCISCO NOV. 2020
SUPERVISORIAL RACE**

Date of the Election: November 3, 2020

NAME OF CANDIDATE: David Lee

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS: 4444 Geary Blvd, #300, San Francisco, CA

94118 _____ **PHONE CONTACT:** (415) 322-
9242

E-MAIL ADDRESS:
davidleesf20@gmail.com

CAMPAIGN MANAGER: Ying Yu

PHONE: (415) 322-9242 **FAX:** N/A

PDA-CA is a non-profit state political action committee formed in 2018 by grassroots progressives, active in Progressive Democrats of America (PDA) 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, State Assembly, State Senate, 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 the candidate in winning 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 format 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

The eviction moratorium is set to end August 31st. Landlords will be able to begin evictions on November 1st. What is your plan and how will it be implemented on keeping tenants from being evicted and potentially becoming homeless?

To prevent the COVID-19 crisis from getting worse, my priority is keeping vulnerable renters in their homes. I support Supervisor Dean Preston's legislation to ban COVID-19 evictions permanently. I support efforts to repeal the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act and efforts locally to work within existing regulations to produce additional rent-controlled units. I also support repealing the Ellis Act, and fully funding and expanding free legal services for tenants. As Supervisor, I would enact a Renter's Choice plan, requiring SF landlords to offer every renter the option of applying their cash security deposit directly towards next month's rent, unlocking millions of dollars in savings tied up in cash security deposits. In addition, landlords should be expected to give tenants back their deposits immediately, so that tenants can use that money for food and essentials. We should ban rent increases and force landlords to allow tenants the option to break their lease without penalty during COVID-19. We need to get rid of requirements for rent deposits and instead allow tenants to use a renters policy to move in. Finally, we need to implement a ten year repayment plan for rents that are behind.

HOMELESSNESS

1. What is your plan to stop homeless sweeps?

Homeless sweeps are costly and ineffective, and the destruction of property during a sweep due to insufficient notice infringes on the rights of the unhoused members of our community. City Hall must be held accountable for addressing the homeless crisis and must create policies that are humane and respectful. We must get the services and programs to the homeless people that need them. We need a bold plan for getting the homeless into housing and treatment. Our current model is not working. I would look at best practice models that other cities have used to address

homelessness. For example, in Austin, Texas, the Community First Village provided tiny homes to the chronically homeless.

2. What is your plan for working with homelessness organizations to make sure all are housed and isolated during the COVID-19 pandemic?

I believe we need to hold City Hall accountable for addressing the homeless crisis during the COVID-19 pandemic. Millions of dollars have been squandered on empty hotel rooms and mismanaged programs. I would ensure that the City continue working with our non-profits, who best understand the needs in the community, to provide housing for all during the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. What is your plan for gaining more permanent housing and how will it be implemented?

To gain more permanent housing, I would support the following:

- Select Planning and Permit Appeals Board Commissioners who are diverse, come from the community and who are accountable to the community.
- Diligently oversee the budget, processes and management of key departments charged with implementation including the Planning Department, Department of Public Works, the Recreation and Parks Department, Mayor's Office and other key departments.
- Hold Mayor and Department heads accountable. I support giving the Board of Supervisors subpoena power to compel officials to testify and to report on progress.

TRANSIT

Do you pledge to implement Free Muni? If so, how and when?

I pledge to implement Free Muni. By identifying areas of government waste and misspending in San Francisco, I believe that we can use those cost savings to secure the funds necessary to support Free Muni in the near term.

POLICE & SAFETY

Do you support the effort to defund police and recommit those resources to:

1. Uplifting underserved communities with job training
2. Providing security, health and wellness
3. After-school programs

...and how will you envision doing these?

Yes, I support the recent effort to redirect portions of the SFPD's budget and reallocate the funding to community-based organizations, especially those that are involved with uplifting underserved communities with job training, providing security, health and wellness, and after-school programs. Research has shown that investments in these types of community-based programs can lead to a decrease in crime and increase public safety. Our police officers should not be responding to non-violent calls like quality of life complaints or mental health concerns. We can recommit those resources from the SFPD's budget and appropriately reallocate them to community-based organizations that are trained to provide mental health, drug treatment, conflict de-escalation, mediation, public health, restorative justice, and other solutions.

Do you support firing police officers who beat and kill Black and Brown people?

If yes, describe the plan and implementation process.

Police officers must be held to a higher standard. We have a basic expectation that police officers will equally protect and serve all members of our community. As a society, we cannot tolerate nor accept the practice of racial profiling and targeting of any member of the community, especially black and brown people. Any police officer that is involved in the beating and killing of Black and Brown people must be placed on leave and the incident must be immediately and thoroughly investigated. The Department of Police Accountability must be involved in the investigation. Any police officer that is found to have unlawfully beaten and killed Black and Brown people should be fired and prosecuted.

Thank you for participating--Shirley Golub, PDA-CA Chair, SF Chapter