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Current occupation: Writer

Note: You may respond to any question with a link to your website or other posted positions. For the yes/no questions, please answer "yes" or "no" and if you wish to add to your answer, feel free to do so.

1. Motivation -- Why did you choose to run for City office? If you are running against an incumbent, what are your main dissatisfactions and differences with him or her?

I see running for office as the logical extension of my activism. My dissatisfaction with the current mayor is they are the local icon of free-market fundamentalism, new-liberalism, and all the other failed economic experiments, which attempt to hide their true nature, as social Darwinism.

2. Program and Priorities -- Elected office provides the opportunity to lead by placing new ideas on the agenda for consideration and development. What are some specific ideas you intend to pursue if elected? What do you believe are the main priorities for the City?

<https://oaksmith2018.com/the-smith-plan/>

3. Qualifications -- Please give a brief summary of your background and qualifications for the office of City. If you are a current City Government elected official, what issues can you point to in your time as an elected official that have had a positive impact?

No one person is qualified to lead the city of Oakland. If elected, I will donate the mayor's salary to hiring staff with relevant expertise.

4. Local groups -- Are you affiliated with any of the active Oakland groups? Such as TOLA, Make Oakland Better Now, Oakland Justice Coalition, Block by Block, Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club, GO Public Schools, OCO, or any other. Describe your involvement and why you feel this group is worthy of your support.

I've been affiliated with various groups, including OJC, Community Democracy Project, the Greens, and Occupy Oakland. My involvement with different groups depends on my estimation of their integrity, that they really are what they say they are, if I can use them as a vehicle to promote my agenda, or if their agenda is worth volunteering to support.

5. Local activities -- Other than local politics, are you involved in any other Oakland based community activities that you would like to share with us? This can range from volunteering in your school to being in your church baseball league.

I volunteer for homeless outreach when I can, providing food, medicine, and other needed materials. I've been a regular part of the #oakmtg community, which is basically citizen journalism covering city hall meetings and political events.

6. Budget -- If you were on the Council for the next budget in 2018, how would you act differently from the council members dealing with the budget in 2016? How much additional revenue should the City aim to take in, and how would you generate it?

Defund OPD.

Tax the port.

Build a "wall" around Piedmont, or rather a series of toll booths. If they want to drive on our streets, they have to pay.

7. Youth -- What would your priorities for youth be for Oakland government and how would they be implemented and paid for?

Empower the youth and provide for their needs. As a former gang member, I understand what it takes to divert that noble energy, into a more prosperous and productive direction.. It's not just my own assessment from experience, Ceasefire data shows the bulk of youth violence arises from petty drama. This only exists because of massive neglect. I also believe quite strongly in Richmond's ONS program (a more successful analog of Ceasefire), especially its use of stipends to divert the violent potentials of disenfranchised youth.

8. Police -- Describe the current relationship between Oakland residents and the OPD? Do you suggest any changes? Do you support diverting people from prosecution if they participate in a restorative justice program? Do you support a change in the use of force policy of the Oakland Police Department? Do you support Assembly Bill 931 that would require that police use deadly force only when there are no alternatives?

(See https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB931)

Do you support Senate Bill 1421 that would honor the public's right to know about confirmed officer misconduct and serious uses of

force?(See https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1421)

Does the current police commission have the right to fire a police officer for misconduct? What are your thoughts about police misconduct and how do you feel Oakland should deal with it?

OPD is filled with rapists, drug dealers, and demented murderers. For many residents, OPD's very presence cause blood pressure and cortisol levels to rise. We. Need them off our streets immediately, and replaced with a new public safety apparatus, one which is forged in a new philosophy and entirely new aesthetic.

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I support Restorative Justice, not just for our citizens, but for OPD.

OPD's current structure and tangle of procedural policies, have emerged over time, often as patchwork for various scandals. There is nothing to salvage. It can't be fixed, just replaced. Reviewing OPD's ever changing policy on use of force, and how force is measured (pointing a gun is considered the lowest level of force, on a five point scale), it just needs to be remade with consultation from the public and relevant experts.

Strongly support AB 931.

Strongly support SB 1421, and abolishing LEOBR.

The police commission has the right to punish officers in any way they see fit, but is currently fighting to secure their autonomy to do so.

Police deserve no special rights. They must be prosecuted for their crimes. All police known to be involved in the rape and trafficking of Celeste Guap, must be prosecuted and registered as sex criminals.

9. Development Projects - Financial and real estate interests currently play a controlling role in shaping Oakland development projects. What are your thoughts and views about holding the developers accountable to the city's zoning, code, and permit regulations?

Oakland is one of the most beautiful climates in the world, rich in resources material and cultural. We don't need to incentivize development, and must switch to a stronger stance in negotiating projects, so that these companies serve Oakland for the privilege of being here.

10. Housing & Gentrification -- Increasing rents, dislocation, and gentrification have been in the news. What policies do you advocate to assure that Oakland tenants are protected and that Oakland remains an economically and racially diverse city? Do you support State Proposition #10 that would repeal the Costa-Hawkins Act, a 1990s law that barred rent control expansion?

I support Prop 10, and anything that circumvents Prop 13.

I do not support trickle-down economics, ie YIMBYism.

I support Kaplan's tax on unused rentals, and would like to see a stronger set of laws to create a use-it-or-lose-it standard for real estate, residential, commercial, and industrial.

11. Environment -- What do you think the Oakland City government should be doing about the environment?

We need to control the pollution that comes in through the port, ie toxic ballast water. We need to protect ourselves from potential pollutants such as coal being shipped through the port. We have many environmental problems, even a shorter lifespan for residents of West Oakland. There's a lot of lead in our soil. These are issues that we know well, but must defer to experts on. I can say, the port is a huge issue, and we must get that under control.

12. Public Banking - Inspired by the Bank of North Dakota (BND) <https://bnd.nd.gov/>, a feasibility statement to create a Public Bank of Oakland is currently before the Oakland City Council. The Public Bank of Oakland would hold the city's deposits -- in contrast to having them held by Wall Street Banks as currently done. It would make fiscally responsible loans in the best interest of the residents of Oakland -- in contrast to Wall Street banks' record of risk and ruin. Profits made by the Public Bank of Oakland would be returned to the General Fund of the City of Oakland, or used to further buttress the loan capabilities of the bank, much as the BND does (the BND has returned over \$400M to the General Fund of the State of North Dakota over the last 21 years <https://ilsr.org/rule/bank-of-north-dakota-2/>, while substantially increasing its capitalization and its loan outreach.)

Are you in favor of making Oakland one of the first cities in the nation to create a municipal bank?

Very much in favor.

13. Local Payday Lenders -- Oakland is awash with for-profit Check Cashing and PayDay Loan emporiums (a simple Google query on "Oakland Payday lenders" shows 20). These outfits provide emergency cash and other financial products to those who cannot obtain it otherwise - at outrageously high interest rates and/or extremely high fees. Professor Mehrsa Baradaran, in her book *How the Other Half Banks*, quotes the astounding statistic that unbanked families who must use these services spend on average over \$2000 per household per year -- more than it spends on food. NALC.org: "Author makes the case for postal banking" <http://tinyurl.com/h9e6a2p>.

It is not widely known but Oakland is home to the only non-profit check cashing and payday lending storefront in the country - Community Check Cashing <http://communitycheckcashing.org/> in Fruitvale Plaza. It provides the same services for-profit operators do at 33% - 50% of the cost, while paying its employees a living wage.

Will you support build-out and capitalization loans by the City of Oakland to expand non-profit check cashing to other storefronts around Oakland -- much as the City Council gave a 50-year, \$3,300,000 interest-free loan to the East 12th Street developers (see Oakland City Council agenda, June 15th, 2016 <http://tinyurl.com/jzy398p>)?

I am very much in support. Predatory loans and check cashing 'services' are a tax on the poor.

14. Satisfaction of Residents -- How do you think the average resident feels about city government? How would you rate the satisfaction level?

I don't know how the average person feels about our government. My community of wonks and activists all feel very strongly that our government is corrupt. I take from the 83% landslide victory for Measure LL (establishing the police commission), voters overwhelmingly want civilian control over police, and do not trust the government to fix the problem. Most people are not voters though, and thus most people are neglected in electoral politics.

15. Accountability -- How do you propose making yourself accountable and accessible to the citizens of Oakland?

I'll attend every city meeting, just like the council. I'll spend most of my week in the mayor's office with an open door.. The "strong mayor" as created by Measure X, reduces the mayor to a ceremonial figurehead and ambassador, freeing their schedule to do whatever they want. Our current mayor travels the world making deals. Our last mayor spent her time beating the pavement to offer summer jobs to youth. Personally, I would use the freedom to spend my time as I please, being the mayor, not a case worker or real-estate developer in chief.

I'm sure it's a lovely office. It's a shame it isn't occupied more.

16. Governance -- What kind of relationship could you have with other office holders? Who do you see as a working majority on council and who can you work with?

I can work with anyone who is willing to tolerate my level of transparency to the public. If Desley Brooks bit me, I wouldn't even snitch to the cops.

17. Endorsements -- Who has endorsed you so far? Who do you expect to endorse you? Who are you endorsing, from statewide races all the way down ballot to local races? Include your #2 and 3 choices (if applicable) for your own race and note that this year the City races are Council seats, School Board seats and City Attorney.

I'll be engaging in the endorsement process to help the process. I hope to get favorable mention from groups that focus on police corruption.

As a minor candidate who focuses on police corruption, I will give #2 endorsement to the candidate that best addresses the issue, to help inform the public about who is right on my single issue. My platform as a candidate can only reach as far as Oakland. I am waiting for the candidates to articulate their stance on police.

18. Campaign Funding -- How much money do you currently have for this race? How much money do you plan to raise? Where will the money come from? Describe sources of financial contributions for your campaign that you would refuse to accept (if any).

I've recieved \$30 so far. I will not raise more than \$2000. I don't care where the money comes from, only how it is spent. I'll gladly take nazi gold if I can spend it feeding the homeless and

supporting local activists and artists, as campaign events. I will not be producing any flyers, for environmental reasons.

19. Checks and balances -- How do you view current the relationship between the Council and Mayor? Any comments on the same question for the Auditor and City Attorney? Are there any changes they would propose to the city charter?

I would like to restore the city charter to the pre Measure X (Jerry Brown) state. The City Attorney has demonstrated the office to be a proxy for the mayor's agenda. If that is ever appropriate, it certainly isn't under the "strong mayor."

20. Money in elections. -- Does Oakland need campaign finance reform? If so, what kind? Do you support amending the Constitution to end corporate Constitutional rights and getting money out of politics? Have you Taken the Pledge to Amend (<https://movetoamend.org/take-pledge-amend>)?

Campaign finance reform is a great idea, but its implementation has been used to exclude candidates and rig the game further. Oakland's Public Ethics Commission has many great attributes, but the city council often uses it to punish enemies.

I support stripping non-human entities of Constitutional protections as persons, in campaign finance and every matter.

I haven't taken the pledge, but will consider it.

21. Anything Else? -- Is there anything else you would like us to know about you?

About me? Absolutely not.

22. Please answer "Yes" or "No" to these questions, and follow with an explanation if you want to add one:

a. Do you support raising the minimum wage to a living wage?

Yes.

b. Do you support the California Peace Officers Bill of Rights?

Hell no.

c. Would you vote for using eminent domain to abate foreclosure crisis?

Yes.

d. Do you support Ranked Choice Voting?

Yes.

e. Would you support Proportional Representation?

No.

f. Do you support Community Choice Aggregation?

Yes.

g. Would you vote to allow more grey water systems?

I don't know.