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Current occupation: retired - civil engineer/ water system superintendent

1. Motivation

Why did you choose to run for this office?

As we embrace change and development we need to ensure that we maintain the culturally, racially, and economically diverse city with committed, compassionate residents that makes us a Berkeley we all want to live in. We need to develop affordable housing. We need to respond to emergency shelter needs. We also need to focus on the infrastructure that knits us together as a city, not only common spaces and physical networks, but our city services.

The City Council's job is to bring the community together and address challenges like climate change, fiscal management, and housing insecurity. I would like to ensure that in addition to facing housing and homelessness, policing and staffing, we address the infrastructure and climate challenges and opportunities facing our community.

2. Priorities

What do you believe are the major issues facing your district? The City?

Housing availability, affordability, and stability. We have many projects under development to provide market rate housing in corporate rental units. While these projects will increase the available rental housing with this as our central strategy we risk further loss of the diversity we cherish. We need to address housing for people who work in Berkeley, particularly our teachers and civil servants. We need to address housing for families and seniors. In addition to a focus on transit centered housing, we need to focus on developing local jobs and business so that transit needs are reduced.

Berkeley has the highest per capita homeless population in the area. District 1 is home to the highest concentration of homeless people in Berkeley. We need to address emergency shelter needs while we build regional solutions for this regional crisis. While shelter is the first concern to address the needs of homeless residents, we must also develop services and work opportunities.

What allows us to live together in our dense city is our civic infrastructure services - public safety, public health, and public works services – as well as our physical public assets. Our city staff and particularly our police department suffer from staffing shortages. We need to support recruitment and retention efforts to address staffing shortfalls. Berkeley suffers the same low marks for our physical infrastructure as plagues the rest of the nation. Our core infrastructure which allows us to live in dense cities – our sewer, storm, water, power, communication, and transportation systems are aging. Climate change and population density are placing new demands on our systems from flooding, fire, and drought risks, the need to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, and address new demands for transportation and communication systems.

What are some specific tasks (e.g. specific legislation, policies, et.) you intend to accomplish while in office?

Over 20% of the land mass of Berkeley is our streets and sidewalks – our commons. As we develop our private property for housing and business, we need to address the reconstruction of our physical

infrastructure to support our development for the next century. As a leader of the Mayor's Vision 2050 Infrastructure Task Force, we are developing recommendations for our 21st century infrastructure. As a member of the City Council I will develop policies to fund and implement those recommendations.

I will develop policies to implement our Climate Action Plan and Resilience Strategies focused on the City owned assets. I will work to develop workforce housing opportunities. I will work to develop regional solutions for housing and providing services and job opportunities for our homeless residents. I will address the public safety, health and garbage impacts of homeless occupancy in our commons. I will work to strengthen the bonds between the City, BUSD, our Community College, and UCB on school sustainability initiatives and workforce development and training.

3. Qualifications

Please give a brief summary of your background and qualifications for being a City Council member.

I started my working life as a weldor in the shipyards turning engineers' plans into physical structures. I became an engineer who understands what it takes to build. As a civil servant I worked to transform policies developed by civic leaders into real infrastructure. As a resident I have served on commissions for 15 years and worked with the schools and community. I am ready to put my experience to work developing policies that can be implemented.

What I will bring to the council that is unique is technical expertise and experience working with our infrastructure and working with many parties to build equitable solutions to technical problems that identify and address potential consequences and nuances.

4. Land Use

What do you think are the most important land use issues facing the city today?

Density and building envelop concerns within neighborhoods, transit corridor housing development, development of local employment opportunities, incorporation of climate impacts and resource management in development and reconstruction of the infrastructure.

The City and the University have different missions: what conflicts/challenges do you foresee on land use policy, and how would you address these?

The University has expanded adding 7,500 undergrads in the last decade without expanding campus housing. The housing needs of University students and staff need to be managed collaboratively with the City. University development of on and near campus housing will impact transportation needs in the community. The campus provides ecosystem services in the Strawberry Creek watershed. The sustainability efforts of both the City and the University can be enhanced by joint action such on infrastructure and watershed management.

What is your position on the building of housing on The People's Park?

I support housing development on The People's Park.

5. Automobiles

What policies should the city take to reduce automobile use and make the city friendlier to pedestrians and other non-automobile transportation?

Develop local business and employment opportunities as well as housing, transit centered housing development, implement the complete streets policies and bike and pedestrian plans.

Should the city promote electric car use, and what policy and infrastructure changes would you support, if any?

The city should promote electric vehicle use including public transit, increase charging opportunities in city garages and street parking areas, enhance charging requirements in large developments and pursue integrated grid strategies to make use of vehicle battery storage to augment the electric grid.

6. Safety and Infrastructure

What are the most important public safety issues facing the residents of Berkeley?

Traffic speed and accidents, particularly with pedestrians and bicyclists, theft and robbery, trash and contamination on the streets, violent encounters and intermittent large polarized free speech events.

What kinds of programs are useful for creating a safe environment for all people?

Traffic easing, slowing, and complete street design. Shelter and housing homeless residents, mental health support services, community policing, efforts to increase communication between police and the community.

What infrastructure should be a high priority for city management?

Integrated asset management of streets, sewers, storm systems with out of city providers of water, energy, and communication systems that address climate and resilience strategies. Solid waste management is facing urgent changes with shifting national decisions. Priorities to address systems impacted by high risk events – fire, earthquake, flood and drought - should developed. Public safety, health, and works services should be ranked for investment prioritization.

7. Affordable housing

What is your position on building market-rate housing versus affordable housing?

We are close to meeting our regional market-rate housing goals and should focus on affordable housing. We need to address home ownership as well as rental housing.

Does building mostly market-rate help or hinder affordability in Berkeley?

Market rate housing construction has not yet led to greater affordability in Berkeley.

What affirmative steps would you take to increase the availability of new or refurbished affordable housing in Berkeley?

Are there any particular demographics that you would target for this housing?

Are there any particular neighborhoods that you would target for this housing?

Do you think Berkeley can/should tackle gentrification? If so, how?

Do you support land value capture and should the City ask for a share in the increase in land value that results from upzoning?

Do you support SB 827? no

SB 827 gives commercial property owners and developers a windfall increase in density without requiring any community benefit in return and without adequate protections against demolition of existing housing. SB 827 would allow construction of 7 story buildings (55' plus a 35% density bonus) on residential streets in much of South, Central and West Berkeley, with even

greater height allowed on commercial corridors (85' plus a 35% density bonus). It would have little impact on the hills.

8. Rent Control

How important is it to keep Berkeley's form of strong rent control and eviction protections?
Critical to maintain protections in corporate rentals. We need to address the nuances of small landlords and owner shared properties to incorporate differing property owner needs. There is significant potential available housing available in homes and ADUs.

How important is keeping an elected rent board?

Do you support any candidates for the Berkeley Rent Stabilization Board? no
If so, which one(s) and why?

What is your position on the effects of Costa-Hawkins on the affordability of Berkeley units? Rents on large commercial developments are the ones most in need of control, containment.

Do you support Proposition 10, the repeal of Costa-Hawkins? Yes

9. Homelessness

What do you think can and should be done about "Homelessness" here in Berkeley?
Addressing homelessness through local programs is critical to ensure quality of life and economic viability for all Californians. Berkeley needs to work regionally with other cities at the forefront addressing the crisis of homelessness. Berkeley needs State resources to provide local services and programs targeting homelessness.

What is your position on the Police raids on homeless encampments?
Police raids in response to safety concerns are appropriate. BPD focuses well on addressing mental health needs and issues in encounters throughout the community and within the encampments.

What is your position on the evictions of houseless RV dwellers in the Berkeley marina?
The Marina does not have services needed to house RV dwellers.

Do you think the Pathways Project is a good use of city funds?
Excellent and should become a model for additional projects in other neighborhoods.

Have you made an effort to talk to the homeless and listen to their priorities?
Yes.

What essential services should be a high priority for the homeless?
Shelter, sanitation, work opportunities, health services, mental health services, communication access.

What long term city priorities can be made to meet their needs that are independent of regional, state or federal funding?
The City cannot meet the needs of the large number of homeless residents here, a higher per capita percentage than other cities, without regional, state, or federal funding. Emergency shelters for a proportional share of the population, development of permanent public subsidized housing, job creation programs, mental and physical health services, and living assistance are all needed and high priority.

10. Food Policy

What policies would you support to re-localize our food system?

Continued support and growth of farmers markets, support local sales and barter systems, school and community outreach programs.

Do you support labeling of GMO foods, similar to Vermont's law? yes

11. National Policy Statements

Should the Berkeley City Council take positions on national and international issues?

The priority of the Council should be developing policies and implementable plans to address local services and needs. There will be national and international issues that our community will insist we take positions on and Council Members should weigh in on those issues as individual members. Council discussion of national and international issues should be prioritized after our local challenges have been met.

12. Police

The trend in recent years has been for state and local law-enforcement agencies to procure military-grade weapons as well as high-tech surveillance equipment (drones, among others), and to adopt military-style tactics and training. This is generally but not exclusively under the aegis of Urban Shield, UASI, and NCRIC.

Do you agree with the recent Berkeley City Council vote to allow Police to participate in Urban Shield for 2018? Yes, I think this was a full and deep discussion resulting in a solid approach to this year's participation.

Do you think participation in this training competition should be determined by the City Council, the City Manager, or the Berkeley Police Department?

In keeping with our city's organization chart, the BPD should identify its needs, participate with City Manager authorization, and if the city as a whole objects and so directs council, the City Manager should redirect the BPD. I do not think we as residents have reached consensus sufficient to clearly redirect the CM thru Council.

Do you think the Berkeley City Council should sign MOUs (memorandums of understanding) with NCRIC (Northern California Regional Intelligence Center), with ICE (Immigration and Customs) and with UASI (Urban Area Security Initiative)? Yes, they should be developed jointly such that the MOUs reflect our commitments, including sanctuary status.

How should Berkeley balance the right to privacy against police interest in surveillance equipment?

What is your position on the Police Review Commission (PRC) Charter Amendment (item 70 on the July 24 agenda) that the Council is considering for the 2018 ballot?

Do you favor creating a PRC that is independent of City Manager control?

No

13. Race

Do you support The Movement for Black Lives Platform? Yes

Is there anything that you have personally done to help your understanding of problems with racism and white supremacy in our society?

14. Climate Change

What specifically will do you think Berkeley needs to do locally to fight climate change?

Utilize our commons to address storm water management through the development of green infrastructure, develop a local electric grid capable of maximising available battery storage, develop our urban forest, reduce auto use, support family planning.

To make Berkeley a zero carbon city?

15. Berkeley Ballot Measures

What are your positions on the Berkeley Ballot Measures?

\$135M Affordable Housing Bond? yes

Police Commission Charter Amendment? No

Amending the Rent Control Ordinance to Cover Newer Buildings? yes

16. State Propositions

What are your positions on State Propositions?

Prop 1 Housing bonds? yes

Prop 2 Bonds for homeless prevention housing? yes

Prop 3 Water/Environmental bonds? no

Prop 4 Bonds for children's hospitals? no

Prop 5 Homebuyers transfer tax assessment? no

Prop 6 Repeal of fuel tax and vehicle fee increases? no

Prop 7 Permanent Daylight Savings? yes

Prop 8 Dialysis Clinic Refunds?

Prop 10 Repeal of Costa Hawkins? yes

Prop 11 Ambulance workers on call? no

Prop 12 Bans sale of meat from confined animals? no

17. Endorsements

a. Whom do you support for State Assembly District 15? Beckles

b. Are you endorsing anyone else in your own race, considering that we have instant runoff voting? Who has endorsed you?

Linda Maio, Loni Hancock, Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Mary Breland, and community members in D1

18. Campaign Financing

Will you obtain public financing for your campaign? Yes

19. Health Care

Do you oppose Sutter Health's plans to close Alta Bates? yes

If so, do you have any ideas on how to motivate them to keep it open?

Do you support single-payer healthcare in California? yes

20. Anything Else?

Is there anything else you would like us to know about you?

21. Have you signed either of the following pledges?

A. For democracy: <https://movetoamend.org/candidate-questionnaire>

B. For peace: <http://www.peacelegislators.org/pledge-form/>

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this questionnaire as best you can.

Sincerely,

Greg Jan
Green Party of Alameda County

(Please RSVP now, and respond to GPAC-VoterGuide@yahoogroups.com by Thursday, August 23).