

El Cerrito Democratic Club

AD15 Candidate Questionnaire

Thank you for being a part of the El Cerrito Democratic Club endorsement process. Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Your responses to the questionnaire will be shared with our general membership prior to the candidate forum at Harding Elementary School auditorium on February 27, 2018. Please complete this questionnaire electronically, print and sign the first page, scan and return signed page and a PDF by email to ECDC_Pres@gmail.com prior to 5PM on Friday February 2, 2018.

Candidate Information

Candidate Name: Cheryl Sudduth
 Occupation: Consultant
 Employer: M₂E₂ Inc.
 Campaign Address: 2201 Broadway-Ste , Oakland / P.O. Box 6050, Albany 94706
 Campaign Phone: 510.912.1353 (LeAnn)
 Campaign Email: csudduth7@yahoo.com
 Campaign Committee Name: Cheryl Sudduth for Assembly 2018
 Campaign Committee Number: 1399331
 Elected offices currently held: -
 Elected offices previously held: -
 Other campaigns for elected office: Congress CD11 2014
 Appointed offices currently or previously held: -
 When did you become a registered AD-15 Democrat: 1992
 Have you read the California Democratic Party Platform? Yes -

01 February 2018

Signature _____ Date _____

Yes and No Questions; If 'Yes', please name them:

Are you accepting campaign funds from any PACs or SuperPACs? Yes
 Are you accepting campaign funds from Unions? Yes
 Are you accepting campaign funds from large oil corporations? No
 Are you accepting campaign funds from large pharmaceutical corporations? No
 Are you accepting campaign funds from natural resource extraction companies? No
 Are you accepting campaign funds from charter school advocates? No
 Are you accepting campaign funds from construction companies? No

Policy Statements

| | Oppose | Neutral | Support | 15 word (or less) statement |
|---|---------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| Business and Economy | | | | |
| 1. The rights of all employees to organize and strike | | | ✓ | <i>Fundamental labor right; I come from a union family & am married to a longshoreman.</i> |
| 2. Privatizing essential governmental services and outsourcing public sector jobs | ✓ | | | <i>When public sector services are privatized, profits inevitably outweigh public interests/needs.</i> |
| 3. Implementation of tax policies that provide a higher degree of equity, including a fair-self-employment tax rate to support small businesses | | | ✓ | <i>Policies must clearly define 'small' business.</i> |
| 4. Financial institutions for recreational marijuana industry | | ✓ | | <i>As long as NO public funds are used since FDIC insurance prohibited. Other priorities.</i> |
| 5. Split property tax <u>rolls</u> for businesses | | | ✓ | <i>Supported only w/additional vetting of unintended consequences towards small businesses & consumers</i> |
| Children, Young Adults, and their Families | | | | |
| 6. Comprehensive immunization services | | | | <i>Ensure ready access through clinics/school</i> |

| | Oppose | Neutral | Support | 15 word (or less) statement |
|---|--------|---------|---------|--|
| | | | ✓ | + provide funding (no/low cost) to low income households |
| Civil Justice | | | | |
| 7. The right of people to join together in class action lawsuits | | | ✓ | |
| 8. Funding for the Courts | | | ✓ | More specifically, support funding for Publ Defenders' Office: Juvenile Justice, social services, restorative justice programs. |
| Communications and the Internet | | | | |
| 9. Build-out of high speed wired and wireless networks | | | ✓ | Wise investment for local free wi-fi |
| 10. Online access for everyone to all legal content and data services | | | ✓ | Best practices to advise/assure public all personal & 'confidential' protections in tac |
| Criminal Justice | | | | |
| 11. Drug addiction treatments located in the community | ✓ | | | More appropriate outside of residential areas & areas where individuals can concentrate on recovery; near childcare/schools; |
| 12. Capital Punishment | ✓ | | | Difficult to Kill a Person - or Keep them in Solitary Confinement for 30-40y - Humanely. |
| 13. Marijuana regulation and taxation with respect to California's health and safety | | | ✓ | Regulations: Access by & use near minors, secondhand vapors Taxation: use of money? |
| 14. Increasing pay and benefits for law enforcement officers | | | ✓ | If directly correlates to duties, recruitment of 'local' talent, reduces crime, stops killing Black/Brown bodies. |
| 15. Body worn cameras | | | ✓ | Stricter controls for use; public access to tapes/records; Officer misconduct/ corruption => strongest punishment |
| 16. Overcrowded prison populations | ✓ | | | Reduce prison population 50%; find alternatives for non-violent offenders; no minors in adult prisons |
| 17. Gun control legislation to keep guns out of the hands of the people with mental illness and of persons identified as dangerous to society | | | ✓ | Tighten current regulations; define 'dangerous'; outline specific ' illnesses; re-evaluate current policies |
| 18. Restorative Justice Programs | | | ✓ | As possible, the Harmed & the Harmer should resolve issues outside of system. |
| Death with Dignity | | | | |
| 19. Death with dignity | | | ✓ | Without committing outright murder, permit the family to follow patient's directive. |
| Education | | | | |
| 20. Access to free world-class K-12 Public Education | | | ✓ | Marginalized/impoverished communities should be prioritized; include Pre-K. |
| 21. Teacher retirement plans should be funded by all students | ✓ | | | |
| 22. Charter schools teaching more than 20% of a District's student body | ✓ | | | |
| 23. Free Community Colleges | ✓ | | | Students in marginalized/impoverished communities aren't benefitting from CC now + won't benefit based on current substandard education. |
| 24. Restorative policies and practices | | | ✓ | Students in marginalized/impoverished communities need practitioners w/ |

| | Oppose | Neutral | Support | 15 word (or less) statement |
|--|--------|---------|---------|---|
| | | | | <i>experience in wraparound psychosocial treatment of trauma-affected children.</i> |
| 25. Curricula development by teachers | | | ✓ | <i>Consensus-based & all programs within a given district must align with state requirements</i> |
| 26. Parents should be able to choose where their children are educated | | | ✓ | <i>A must, especially for children in marginalized/impoverished communities w/substandard schools & trauma-affected children</i> |
| Energy and Environment | | | | |
| 27. Fracking | ✓ | | | <i>No drilling, boring or other extreme extraction method either</i> |
| 28. Transportation of fracking oil, tar (oil) sand oils and other hazardous materials on the county's rail corridors | ✓ | | | |
| 29. Statewide plastic bag ban should include micro-beads and micro-fibers | | | ✓ | |
| 30. Fossil fuel extraction tax | | | ✓ | |
| 31. Utility pricing should change to promote resource conservation and public good | | | ✓ | <i>Incentives for compliance; requirements to aid marginalized/ impoverished communities have access to resources</i> |
| 32. Community Choice Aggregation | | | ✓ | |
| 33. Increased reliance on the electricity grid for industry, residential and transportation uses | ✓ | | | |
| 34. Twin Tunnels are good for the Bay-Delta ecosystem | ✓ | | | <i>Project will substantially interferes natural grounds y habitats leading to irreversible damage</i> |
| Equality of Opportunity | | | | |
| 35. Affirmative action | | | ✓ | <i>Marginalized communities require additional resources to ensure equal opportunity y chances to prosper</i> |
| 36. Full equality for LGBT individuals, including marriage | | | ✓ | <i>To define one's self is a basic right; Equity, Inclusion cannot be parceled</i> |
| 37. Pay inequities | ✓ | | | <i>Equal Pay for Equal Work; Black/Latinx Women still require salary adjustments;</i> |
| Health Care | | | | |
| 38. Universal comprehensive health care for all Californians | | ✓ | | <i>Requires bipartisan cooperation; Interimly, use federal model of employer paid benefits for all workers at predetermined rate. Non-workers, state provides paid Medicare/Medicaid benefits</i> |
| 39. Respite care and in-home support services and associated home care workers | | | ✓ | |
| 40. Holistic healing practices and alternative medicines | | | ✓ | <i>Include homeopathic care</i> |
| 41. California should lead the nation in funding opioid addiction treatment research | | | ✓ | <i>ONLY IF INCLUDES</i> cocaine/crack addiction which disproportionately affects Black/Brown communities yet never received attention ~ opioid addictions. <i>These families' lives matter too.</i> |
| Immigration | | | | |
| 42. Family reunification and naturalization | | | | <i>It's imperative we not permit 'good' v 'bad</i> |

| | Oppose | Neutral | Support | 15 word (or less) statement |
|---|--------|---------|---------|---|
| | | | ✓ | <i>immigrant speech or separate families; We demand Clean Reform.</i> |
| 43. Local law enforcement agencies acting as federal immigration law enforcement | ✓ | | | <i>ICE out of CALI. This deception hastens the need for their exit.</i> |
| 44. State and Local law enforcement cooperation with immigrant communities | | ✓ | | <i>This is strangely worded: What is the query? Cooperating with ICE or with the community?</i> |
| Labor, Economic Justice and Poverty Elimination | | | | |
| 45. Public assistance programs that allow individuals to support themselves and their families | | | ✓ | <i>This program usually includes participation deadlines so I'd include a transition work plans.</i> |
| 46. Tax reform which eliminates corporate welfare and achieves an equitable tax system for working families | | | ✓ | <i>However, tax plan should include Incentive to support Small Business & define income levels for 'working families'.</i> |
| 47. Preference for contractors who employ Californians during selection for publically funded construction work | | | ✓ | <i>Include mandates to hire local workers; provide incentives for hiring low income & public assistance individuals.</i> |
| 48. Project Labor Agreements for private and public-sector infrastructure projects that provide for local hire, returning veterans, and training programs for the community | | | ✓ | <i>Include re-entry individuals + youth learning job skills</i> |
| National Security | | | | |
| 49. Work with gun owners and sporting associations regarding responsible gun ownership, safety education and reasonable background checks | | | ✓ | <i>Implement stricter control of gun accessibility by minors including locks & cases</i> |
| 50. Infrastructure improvements that promote energy independence through renewable sources | | | ✓ | <i>Include public schools, state + county buildings & roadways</i> |
| Political Reform | | | | |
| 51. Supreme Court Decision <i>Citizens United vs Federal Elections Commission</i> | ✓ | | | |
| 52. Full disclosure of funding sources for political advertisements | | | ✓ | <i>Should include mandatory ID of PACs, influential groups, corporate monies masked as individual donors</i> |
| 53. Public financing of elections campaigns at the local, state and federal levels | | | ✓ | <i>Promotes more equity in representation; qualified candidates aren't barred by finances; reduces current classism</i> |
| Seniors | | | | |
| 54. Mandatory training for Public Employee to recognize and serve seniors suffering with dementia | | | ✓ | |
| Sustainable Communities | | | | |
| 55. Constrain urban and suburban sprawl | | | ✓ | <i>Enhance fair housing + anti-discrimination policies to stop displacement; convert existing housing -> permanent housing</i> |
| 56. Regional tax revenue sharing | | | ✓ | |
| 57. Limit eminent domain to reasonable uses | | | ✓ | <i>Redefine 'reasonable' as 'necessary under extreme measures' so citizens/businesses are not needlessly displaced</i> |
| Veterans and Military Families | | | | |
| 58. Leases and use of Veteran Administration property solely benefit veterans and/or their families | | | ✓ | <i>These VA facilities should be integrated into our communities rather than isolated or congregated only around military bases..</i> |
| 59. Provide our troops with the latest protective | | | | <i>Build in adequate reserves for maintenance</i> |

| | Oppose | Neutral | Support | 15 word (or less) statement |
|---|--------|---------|---------|--|
| equipment, weaponry and training prior to deployment | | | ✓ | <i>y replacement</i> |
| Women | | | | |
| 60. Age-appropriate sex education in California school curriculum | | | ✓ | <i>Parents retain options to waive training</i> |
| 61. Confidential, unrestricted access to health care services, including the full range of reproductive services, contraception and abortion, without requiring guardian, judicial, parental or spousal consent or notification | | | ✓ | <i>Age appropriate access for minors (under 15), due diligence y consideration when suspicion of sexual assault/statutory rape or inappropriate action suspected</i> |
| World Peace and International Relations | | | | |
| 62. International efforts to establish Arms Trade Treaty | | | ✓ | |
| 63. Follow the Geneva and Hague Conventions | | | ✓ | <i>Diplomacy is always best</i> |
| 64. Reduce trade deficits and restore America's global economic leadership by designing policies regarding globalization | | | ✓ | |

Other Questions

Each response box allows approximately 60 word response to show as 4 lines of text when in New Times Roman 10 point font. Please use the specified font and size.

- 1) Under what circumstances, if any, do you favor the death penalty? Please explain your position I do not favor the death penalty.
- 2) Under what circumstances should affordable housing be mandated in market-rate housing projects? Affordable housing must be adequately defined; projections indicate we need to build 200k units to accommodate the estimated 2-5% expected growth so the mandate needs to exist now to build, build, build. To avoid displacement, the mandate must include housing at all income levels, including low-moderate-market. I propose a 10-20-70 ratio with developer incentives and streamlined permit processes.
- 3) What hurdles prevent California converting to a no-fault compensation system that reduces business liability, costs and exposure while increasing health care outcomes? *The biggest hurdle is our society is so litigious so the compensation has to be high enough to warrant to be enticing; Tort reform is easy; insurance companies have to sign on. Medical Associations have to 'buy in'.*
- *4) What specific legislative changes would you introduce to restore full service health care hospital(s) to northern Assembly District 15? *Mandate County provide trauma-supported medical center within five miles of this marginalized community y build operational expenses into the county budget even if a private/public partnership & take steps to ensure legislative budget includes adequate funding for this impacted area to alleviate medical deserts in marginalized communities resulting in deaths of Black, Brown, & impoverished people at the expense of profit margins.*
- 5) Under what circumstances should a school district support charter schools? *Charter schools should be supported when they meet a specific gap that public schools are not fulfilling. The charter schools should still be held to a high level of educational standards. A prime example in West County is Middle College Prep at CCC.*
- 6) Should Proposition 13 be partially repealed (Split-roll) or fully repealed, and why? *Prop. 13 should be partially repealed based on commercial tax structures, exempting small businesses (those grossing <\$500k annually). However, we should carefully review the unintended consequences of such repeal on small businesses y consumers so as not to create further market imbalance or higher prices (raised rents, tenant fees, prices from large corporation passed through due to higher tax bills.)*
- *7) What types of renter protections should be mandated at the state level? *Enhance fair housing & anti-discrimination policies; mandate displacement: tenant protections + displacement disincentives, minimize harm to owners (esp. small property); help establish 'no-cost mediation'; offer homeowner incentives for permitting renters right of 1st refusal to purchase rentals up for sale, require homeowners to assist those*

displaced w/placement in current area. Ensure municipalities meet demand (per RINA) w/o displacing: 10-20-70 (low-moderate-market) housing.

*8) What are the two most serious issues facing AD 15 communities?

A. **Social Injustice**: Housing insecurity affecting every aspect of life: health, environment, education & may impact interaction with criminal justice system. A pay-for-liberty money bail system. Healthcare systems tying well-being to one's wealth. Police misconduct. Youth in adult prisons.

B. **Environmental Injustice in Marginalized Communities**: existing/growing food deserts, disproportionate exposure to hazardous conditions (*landfills, lead/other toxins in water, paint, toys, building materials*).