



South Bay Progressive Alliance Candidate Questionnaire For San Jose City Council 2018

Name: Shanta "Shay" Franco-Clausen

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Committee Name: Shay Franco-Clausen for San Jose City Council District 9

Line of Work: Director of Development and Government Affairs

District Description: Describe the geographic area and demographics of your district.

Your ballot statement: Please attach a file or copy paste in the body of an email to us.

SBPA CANDIDATE PLEDGE (Circle Y or N)

If you cannot not make the following 4 pledges, the SBPA cannot endorse you at this time.

CORPORATE-FREE. As a corporate-free candidate I commit to refuse donations from corporations, industry lobbyists, corporate representatives, political bundlers, and Political Action Committees (except for unions) and publicize that I am a corporate free candidate in my campaign literature. **YES!**

PLEDGE OF ACCOUNTABILITY. I commit to publicize and hold regular listening sessions with my constituents, to stay in touch with their needs and concerns. **YES!**

PROGRESSIVE POLICIES. I commit to author, co-author, support, promote and defend people-focused progressive policies and practices that incorporate SBPA core values to improve communities and the quality of life for my constituents. **YES!**

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION. I commit to help level the playing field for ALL people and prioritize the development of leadership among under-represented communities. **YES!**

CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONS

1. **Motivation: Why did you choose to run for this office?** I decided to run for office because the decisions that are being made in San Jose, I feel are not made with the entire community in mind. As I have been working in community service, tech, investment and local legislations, Commission Boards and offices, I



wanted to serve more by serving in public office. I hope to create policy and make voting decisions that would benefit communities of need. As I watch my children and friends struggle in the current economy, it has become abundantly clear that our City Council have played a role in the outcome. I want to be a part of those conversations.

2. Priorities: What do you believe are the major issues facing residents of your district? What are some specific tasks (e.g. specific legislation, policies, etc.) you intend to accomplish while in office?

I believe that the city of San Jose including my district have concerns regarding, public safety, affordable housing, homelessness, workforce opportunities, educational equity and environmental protections.

- I plan on addressing public safety by working in tandem with Chief Garcia and SJPd in creating a better relationship with the city and its police. I have already spoken with SJPd and leaders on creating a better line of communication and better bridge of services for the community.
- Housing- I believe that the difficult conversations need to be had. I think that the property developers and the city have to be held to a higher expectation. Creating opportunities for both our unions and our citizens to benefit from any new company that is interested in the city. Including housing complexes that are dense, affordable but don't compromise quality of life.
- Homelessness is a sign of hopelessness I hope to work with Community based organizations and city funds to create a better accountability system for current programs and enrich the opportunities for new program development to address the mental health and other problems. I really hope to drill in on the stem of homelessness by working with the county and addressing it directly.
- Workforce growth is the only way we can keep our residents here and our aging adults in our city. I think it is important that we work with our companies to a pipeline to their workforce.
- Educational equity might be slightly outside of the role of a city council member but I will be making decisions that will consider accessibility and access for our students.
- The Environment often takes a back seat to the pressing decisions made at the city council level. I am a strong advocate for our environment. The protection the upkeep and the utilization of open spaces bring fruitfulness to our communities that cannot be purchase or replaced.



3. **Qualifications: Please give a brief summary of your background and qualifications for being a City Councilmember, and include any community volunteering or activism.**

I have learned so much in this community, from a lifetime of public service. From coaching, volunteering community clean ups, mentoring, political campaigns.

The roles I have served in within the last year have included:

- **Santa Clara County Commission on Status of Women, Vice Chair**
- **San Jose Evergreen College Bond Oversight Committee, Member**
- **Santa Clara County Human Trafficking Commission, Commissioner**
- **Willow Glen School Site Committee**
- **NAACP- Member**
- **Building Peaceful Families Nonprofit, Director of Outreach**
- **Santa Clara County Central Committee- Executive board member**
- **Santa Clara County Intimate Partner Violence Task Force, Lived Experience**
- **San Jose Pride Board, Outreach Member**
- **Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee, AD28- Delegate**
- **Founder of PLAYNICE- Nonprofit**
- **Silicon Valley FACES- Government and Public Relations Director**
- **CSW Jail Monitoring Committee, Chair**
- **SJ Juvenile Hall, Justice Involved Youth Advocate/Mentor**
- **Organizer for SEIU USWW, External Organizer**
- **Galarza Elementary, English / PE Teacher**

4. **FOR INCUMBENTS ONLY: How would you assess your own job performance? Please give some specific example of accomplishments and setbacks.**

Self-reflection would be my first layer of assessment. Secondly I would go to my peers, then community leaders and my constituents. Having an clear and clean line of communication would be priority to my office. I want to know what people think and get feedback in order to be the best leader and example possible.

5. **Housing: If elected what policies and programs would you put in place to address affordable housing, market-rate housing, rent control, eviction relief, and homelessness?**

1. Working with the city and county planners to understand available spaces for housing complexes would be one of my first actions. I think if we can invite this many companies we should be prioritizing the housing crisis.

2. I would be working with the budget and allocate time to rezone and redistrict areas for affordable housing. Some examples that I would look at would be from surrounding cities that have been able to solve the problem.



3. Setbacks are inevitable, I am certain there are developers that have their eye on spaces. I will hold the developers to a new standard. The tough conversations will be had because our communities cannot suffer the consequences.

6. Public safety: How would you prioritize and address the most important public safety issues facing the residents of your district?

Consider community trust, racial tensions, police conduct, police militarization, etc. are the nature of the beast. I think that Public Safety and community trust in on the rise. I intend to continue that climb and have conversations with our disenfranchised communities to see how they need and want to be served. I think Strategy and tact are very important in getting results.

7. Diversity: What policies and practices would you implement for inclusiveness and diversity in city government, particularly for women, people of color, and the LGBTQ+ community?

Inclusion is all that really matters. I think that we need to include everyone in the conversation, consider everyone in making decisions. ALL my policies will reflect that.

8. Criminal justice: What can be done to improve our local criminal justice system?

I think it takes a balance of oversight and trust. I think that our local justice system will need a deep dive. Not to recreate the wheel but to see areas of opportunity.

9. Land use: How would you balance development vs. preserving and/or enhancing open spaces? What are the most important land use issues facing your district?

I will prioritize our open spaces over big developers ALWAYS. I will be looking at everything in a way that the most benefit. I have zero interest in what developers want or need.

10. Google: What are your thoughts about the proposal of Google to bring ~20,000 jobs to San Jose's Diridon Station area?



I think that Google should have been forced to meet the needs of San Jose not San Jose meet the needs of Google. I don't agree with Google coming in if it doesn't guarantee jobs and opportunity for our community.

11. Transit: What specific proposals do you have to alleviate traffic? What are your views and positions on public transit oriented development?

Mandatory mass transit agreements. I think that our roads cannot afford the people that will be migrating into our cities. I want to work with Google if allotted to create mandatory minimums for the employees of Google.

12. Environment: What local policies would you propose to locally address climate change and the environment? Do you think San Jose should be a zero-carbon city?

I think that the environmental impact should be greatly considered. What is the carbon footprint of each building or project. I think that if we looked at the green cities and the reduction of waste and carbon and found best practices we would be able to combat the population growth. For example having green roofs would be a great way to capitalize on underutilized space.

13. Budget: If you were on Council for the budget year 2019 what decisions would you make differently from the council members dealing with the budget in 2017? How much additional revenue should the city aim to take in, and how would you generate it?

The evaluation and examination of the budget will take time but I know that we do not spend enough on the people's needs. I am certain that we can pull down more funds from the state budget and find better ways to fund projects.

14. Business: Under what circumstances would you support corporate subsidies, tax breaks, and credits, to attract business to San Jose?

I think that the only business that would deserve any credit would be small and family owned businesses. Entrepreneurs from our city.

15. Youth: What are your priorities and policies for youth in San Jose and how would you implement and finance them?

Scholarship programs and incentives are important for anyone but especially our youth. I would have businesses help finance that pathways for our youth and showcase them so our communities can see the alternative paths.



16. Education: How could City of San Jose improve education opportunities for its young people? What is your position on charter schools?

Education is societies program that should be managed by the public and for the public benefit. Just like any other program it should be overseen by the community and by a body of government to have expectations and best practices that are developed.

17. Elections: Would San Jose benefit from electoral and campaign finance reform? If so, what kind? How would you propose to improve civic participation in San Jose?

If we took the money out campaigns we would remove the promises and the “sides” that people are committed to. I think that there shouldn't be any big money in campaigns.

18. Access: How do you propose to make yourself accessible and accountable to the residents of San Jose?

I am and have had a transparent and accessible policy. I have a personal connection to the community and will hold myself to the same standard. Community outreach to all of my community's corners will be key to include everyone in the conversation.

19. What is your position on payday lenders and marijuana dispensaries in San Jose?

Payday lender take advantage of people that are in need. I think that we should have conversations and solutions for people that utilized lenders so that they are able to create a healthier plan. Marijuana dispensaries will bring revenue but I dont think it will be the revenue or the people that we want in San Jose. Colorado though the revenue went up crime has increased by 300% what is San Jose going to to prevent rather than react to the repercussions of Marijuana in San Jose.

20. Endorsements: a. Who are you endorsing, from President all the way down ballot to local races?

We are not electing President and I am still deciding who to support in many races.

Everyone I will endorse will have similar priorities, which the only standard that I will stand by.

b. Are you endorsing anyone else in your own race? **No**

c. Who has endorsed you? **Extremely long list:**

**Congressman Ro Khanna, California's 17th Congressional District
Sally Lieber, Speaker Pro-Tem, California State Assembly, Ret.**



Davina Hurt, Vice Mayor, City of Belmont
Marnie Mendoza, Mayor Pro Temp, City of Colfax
Larry Moody, Mayor, City of East Palo Alto
Lisa Gauthier, Vice Mayor, City of East Palo Alto
Gabriel Quinto, Mayor, City of El Cerrito
Vinnie Bacon, Council Member, City of Fremont
Larry Forester, Council Member/Former Mayor, City of Signal Hill
Kirsten Keith, Mayor, City of Menlo Park
Rich Tran, Mayor, City of Milpitas
Lenny Siegel, Council Member, City of Mountain View
Jeremy Blake, Council Member, City of Newark
Teddy Grey King, Vice Mayor, City of Piedmont
Shelly Masuar, City Council, City of Redwood City
Sergio Jimenez, District 2 Council Member, City of San Jose
Nancy Smith, Council Member, City of Sunnyvale
Gustav Larsson, Council Member, City of Sunnyvale
Larry Klein, Council Member, City of Sunnyvale
Tara Martin-Milius, Former Sunnyvale City Council Member
Rishi Kumar, Council Member, City of Saratoga
Jimmy Dutra, Vice Mayor, City of Watsonville
Mitzi Johanknecht, Sheriff, King County Washington
Cari Templeton, ADEM 24, Chair, Progressive Caucus CDP
Cullen Tiernan, ADEM Chair, Veterans Caucus of CDP
Ken "Kacey" Carpenter, Author, ADEM 24, Community Organizer
Katherine Welch, Former Candidate for CA Senate
Vicki Veenker, Attorney, Former Candidate for CA State Assembly
Dr. Jennifer Briscoe, Chair, SCC Commission on the Status of Women*
Teresa Fiss, Commissioner, SCC Commission on the Status of Women*
Jenny Prisk, President, Association of California Commissions for Women*
Char Bland, Secretary, Association of California Commissions for Women*

Rosemary Kamei, President, Santa Clara County Board of Education
Dr. Michael Chang, Former President, Santa Clara County Board of Education
Claudia Rassi, Board Member, Santa Clara County Board of Education
Mayra Cruz, Trustee, San Jose Evergreen
Huong Nguyen, Trustee, San Jose Evergreen
Rosalie Ledesma, SJECCD Executive Director of Government & External Affairs*
Shanell Williams, Board Trustee, City College of San Francisco
Tom Temprano, Board Trustee, City College of San Francisco
Brian Wheatley, Community Education Activist
Brian Leboe, Public School Teacher and Education Activist
Lori Shortt, Vice President, Oak Grove Education Association

Brent Turner, Civil Rights Activist
Carl Schroeder, Community Advocate



Cosette Leary, Author and Motivational Speaker
Cong Do, MBA, Engineer, Human & Civil Rights Advocate
Danielle Johnson, Community Organizer
Demone Carter, Community Arts Activist
Ellie Plane, Public Teacher Education Advocate
Ellen Kamei, President, Silicon Valley Asian Pacific American Democratic Club
Erika Albury, Executive Director, STEM Saturdays*
Esther Peralez-Dieckmann, Executive Director at Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence*
Jane Duboi, Vietnamese Community Advocate
Judith M. Rickard, Civil and Immigration Rights Advocate & Activist
Luana Rivera Palacio, Kumu Hula of Hālau Nāpuaokamokihana
Mia Satya, Candidate San Francisco Board of Education 2018
Nicole Bozzo, Public Teacher Education Advocate
Suzanne Doty, Former Commissioner, Santa Clara County Commission on the Status of Women
Tuyen Fiack, Executive Director, Silicon Valley FACES*
Wendy Aragon, San Francisco Community Organizer

party leaders

Brandon Harami, DSCC Delegate and AD19 Delegate
Hilary Crosby, Former California Democratic Party Controller
Parker Mankey, Treasurer, Bayshore Progressive Democrats

d. Who do you expect to endorse you? Cindy Chavez, Dave Corteses, Ken Yager, Santa Clara Labor Council, League of Conservative voters, etc.

21. Campaign Finance: How much money do you currently have in this race? How much money do you plan to raise? Where has/will the money come from? I have raised \$32,519 in first reporting. I am hoping to raise about \$90,000 by June 5, 2018. I hope all my money comes from local people and organizations.

22. Anything Else? Is there anything else you would like us to know about you? I am a local mother, someone who has worked on the issues impacting our community for years. I am always a Progressive, the values you seek I have always had. As a mother raising my children in San Jose, I just want a just, fair and equitable city they can live in.

POSITIONS ON ISSUES Circle **Y** or **N** next to the statement. Add an explanation if you would like.

Do you support raising the minimum wage? **YES, to a living prevailing wage.**

Do you support a restorative justice program in lieu of prosecution? **YES**



Do you support ending bail bonds? **YES**

Do you support participatory budgeting (citizen involvement in city budgeting)? **YES**

Would you support an elected rent board? **YES**

Do you support the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act? **NO**

Do you support a civilian review board of the SJPD? **YES, along with law enforcement and community stakeholders at the table together.**

Will you support City of San Jose should divest from fossil fuels? **YES**

Do you support funding projects to reduce the number of cars on the road? **YES**

Do you support a woman's right to choose? **YES**

Do you support a reduction of the defense/war budget? **YES** By this % _____

Do you support Ranked Choice Voting? **Interested in hearing more.**

Do you support Proportional Representation? **YES**

Do you support "amending the Constitution to make clear that corporations and other artificial entities do not have Constitutional rights and that money is not speech and campaign spending should be limited through regulation"? Pledge from MTA

(<https://movetoamend.org/take-pledge-amend>) **YES**

Do you support single payer healthcare? **YES, I believe healthcare is a right!**

Do you support free public education from pre-school through graduate studies? **YES**

Do you support legalization with a path to citizenship for the 11 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S.? **YES**

Do you support marriage equality? **YES**

Do you support the use of city funds to develop worker-owned co-operatives? **YES, I think this would be great to create local community entrepreneurs and stimulating out local economy.**

Do you support an ordinance or charter amendment to create a Public Bank of San Jose? **YES**