

Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club

ADEMs 2025 Endorsements Questionnaire (January)

Instructions: Please return completed questionnaire to pac@milkclub.org.

- If you are completing this questionnaire on behalf of a slate, please answer only Part 1 questions 1 - 6 and Part 2
- If you are a candidate, on a slate, **and** your slate submits a questionnaire, please answer only Part 1 (please leave questions 2 - 6 blank if same as slate), Part 3, and Part 4. If you would like to answer any Part 2 questions differently than your slate, please do so
- Otherwise, please complete the entire questionnaire

PART 1: Required Information

1. Full name (include slate name if applicable) or Slate name (if completing on behalf of a slate): Nicholas Parker

2. Campaign consultant / primary point of contact: N/A

3. Campaign address: 1275 2nd Ave. 5, San Francisco, CA 94122

4. Campaign phone number: 415-235-4303

5. Campaign email address: mercurycoffee@gmail.com

6. Campaign website: N/A

7. Political party: Democrat

8. Are or were you a member of the Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club? If so, please provide time frame. No

9. Do you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and / or queer (LGBTQ)? No

PART 2: Short-Answer Questions

(Please limit responses to 150 words or less.)

1. Describe your qualifications for the office you are seeking. Feel free to add anything that you would like for our members to know about you and your candidacy.

I'm a small business owner and a board member of Small Business Forward, a progressive business association. I have owned my business for 15 years and seen much of what current city policies have done in terms of running a small business, cost of living issues, employment, and most alarmingly homelessness. I am of course not a politician and while I can respect policy professionals, it's not my intention to become one.

2. What are the most important short- and long-term solutions to your district's homelessness?

Short term would include city-wide access to supportive housing, and I don't mean shelters. Long term certainly would be to acquire or build housing for working and poor people. The need is great and should be obvious.

3. What work have you done to address economic inequality and housing unaffordability in your district?

As a small business owner, I support organizations that work directly with homelessness. I also offer what little I can to those experiencing homelessness when they visit the cafe.

4. Describe your work addressing racial injustice, economic inequity, and police brutality in your district.

I do what I can to combat racial injustice. That means we don't tolerate it at my business, of course. Economic inequality is best fought on the policy level. It's a large issue that involves income distribution and access to economic opportunities, drivers of inequality as things stand now. As for police brutality, we have a standing policy of not involving police with and problems at my place of business, unless there is a very serious threat of violence, which hasn't as yet happened.

5. How have you supported LGBTQ residents of your district?

You are describing people, humans, all of whom have every right to be who they are. The cafe welcomes all, of course. The cafe also hosts events focused on these groups for political causes. It's a funny thing but I believe that people are people and should be treated with respect and understanding. That is how I support this community.

6. Describe your work addressing the climate crisis.

As with most of the issues brought up in this questionnaire, I haven't worked directly with the climate crisis. I run a small business. To that end, I simply try to be understanding of where and with whom I do business, buy locally, use products that have a lower impact on the environment. I ride a bike when I can.

7. Describe a time when you worked against an established power structure or entrenched authority to achieve a change. How was this change accomplished?

I worked for a nonprofit called Food First in Oakland. We worked with the Immokalee Workers who were tomato pickers subcontracted out to farms that provided tomatoes for YUM Brands. While the Immokalee Workers organized their fight for a boycott against Taco Bell, we helped publicize their fight here on the West Coast, culminating in a rally in front of

YUM Brands in Orange County. This, along with other efforts, led to YUM Brands acknowledging their responsibility to the workers and providing them with the raise the workers demanded.

8. There are approximately 16,000 people living with HIV in San Francisco. 74% are over the age of 50. 1 in 6 are unstably housed, at risk of losing their housing, or homeless. In addition, the #1 cause of death among those with HIV in the city is overdose. The Republicans in Congress are looking to cut Ryan White funding by more than half. Given that San Francisco has a world-renowned reputation for providing the best HIV care in the country, how will you identify candidates who would address potential funding cuts, and will you support them?

9. In the Presidential election, the Democratic Party lost votes in nearly every county in the nation compared to 2020 results, which played a role in former President Donald Trump's victory. Please elaborate on your analysis on why this happened, and what can be done about it.

The democratic party, and I've voted democratic all my life, abandoned the working class, never followed through with their campaign promises (see Roe vs Wade, Card Check, living wage, healthcare for all, etc.) and have rested their hopes with the billionaire class and Wall Street. In my opinion, and I think this is borne out with Bernie Sander's two campaigns, stop catering to the wealthy and Wall Street, stop accepting buyouts from billionaires and corporations. I'm really not sure how to elaborate on this as it all seems pretty obvious.

10. What is your position on the relationship between the State of Israel and the Palestinian people? What do you see as the role of the U.S. in Israel / Palestine? How should local jurisdictions like San Francisco relate to what is happening in Israel / Palestine? Did you support the 2024 San Francisco Board of Supervisors resolution calling for a sustained ceasefire in Gaza? Please explain.

I do not support genocide. I do not support an apartheid state. My position is the United States is somehow beholden to Israel unlike any other country in the world. Ninety percent of congress is beholden to Israel, arguably more so than they are their own constituents. The U.S. does have the power to enforce the UN agreements for a two-state solution and to enforce the 1967 borders. It's disgraceful that this country spends so much money on another country half a world away while the people of this country suffer so much. So, yes, I support the BoS resolution of 2024 and I think that was the very least San Francisco could do.

11. How would you fight to safeguard California and San Francisco's public education system if the Trump Administration dismantled the US Department of Education? If you could wave your wand and permanently fix the US Public Education System before Trump could dismantle it, what would you create?

I am not sure how I would, or could, fight to safeguard the public education system both in the city and state-wide as we don't actually know if it's possible for Trump to dismantle it without congressional approval. And I really don't know much about how that process might work. However, the threatened loss of public education in the United States would profoundly change the structure and nature of this country and would require every tool possible to defeat.

Ideally I'd make public education from preschool to post-doctorate a constitutional right for every citizen, free and funded by appropriate taxation. Look, if this country can spend a trillion dollars on militarily dominating the world, why not cut that by nine-tenths and fund the necessities here in this country; education, healthcare, housing, infrastructure.

12. How long have you lived in your jurisdiction? Explain any effects of redistricting.

I've lived in what used to be District 5 for 25 years. It's now District 7. That is the effect of redistricting.

13. See the Club's platform at milkclub.org/platform. Any disagreements?

No, I have no disagreements.

PART 3: Yes or No Questions

(Please "X" Yes or No for each question.)

GENERAL	YES	NO
Have you ever sought elected office before?		x
Have you previously sought a Milk Club endorsement?		x

LGBTQ ISSUES & SEXUAL LIBERATION	YES	NO
Do you support codifying various relationship structures as a protected class; e.g., a law that would prohibit discrimination against people in consensual non-monogamous relationships in employment, housing, education, and healthcare?	x	
Do you support public funding for workforce programs, specifically for transgender job-seekers?	x	
Do you support public funding to expand access to PrEP?	x	
Do you support decriminalizing sex work?	xx	

TENANTS, HOUSING, AND HOMELESSNESS	YES	NO
Do you support independent oversight of agencies responsible for services to the homeless?	x	
Do you support the split-role repeal of Proposition 13?		
Do you support the repeal of the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act?	x	
Do you support the repeal of the Ellis Act?	x	
Have you ever evicted a tenant?		x
Do you support requiring the consent of homeless encampment residents prior to their displacement by the city government?	xx	
Do you support the public acquisition of hotel rooms for permanent shelter and / or supportive housing for the homeless?	xx	
Did you support Measure D, the vacant property tax, in 2020 (or would you have, had you been a San Francisco voter)?	xx	
Would you support a licensing system for landlords?	xx	
Do you support the creation of a public municipal bank?	xx	
Did you support the proposed real estate transfer tax in 2020 for properties valued at or over \$10 million (or would you have, had you been a San Francisco voter)?	xx	

IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES	YES	NO
Should the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement be abolished?		
Do you support sanctuary cities?	x	
Do you support due process protections for immigrant youth accused of crimes?	x	
Do you support allowing the undocumented to serve on city / state boards and commissions?	x	
Do you support increased funds for immigrant defense services?	x	

RACIAL & SOCIAL JUSTICE	YES	NO
Do you support the death penalty?		xxx
Do you support the use of tasers by law enforcement?		x
Do you support requiring an independent investigation of all police officer-related shootings?	x	
Does your campaign accept contributions from law enforcement associations, unions, or organizations?		x
Should the local Police Officers Association be disbanded / have its political influence severely curtailed?	x	
Do you support qualified immunity for police officers?		x
Do you support reparations for Black people?	x	
Do you support the implementation of overdose prevention sites?	x	
Do you support extending voting rights in local / state elections to currently and formerly incarcerated people?	x	
Have you ever crossed a union picket line or ignored a union boycott?		x
Do you support the right for public sector employees to go on strike?	x	
Do you support repealing California Proposition 209?	x	
Did you support California Proposition 22 (App-Based Drivers Regulations Initiative; or would you have, had you been a California voter)?		x

ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES	YES	NO
Do you support dissolving Pacific, Gas, & Electric and replacing it with a publicly-owned utility agency?	xx	
Do you support the expansion of local clean power programs partnered with local utility providers?	x	

Would you support a plan to provide free public transportation?	x	
Would you support a national ban on fossil fuel extraction?	x	

PUBLIC CORRUPTION & POLITICAL TRANSPARENCY	YES	NO
Did you support the Sunlight on Dark Money measure (Proposition F) on the November 2019 ballot (or would you have, had you been a San Francisco voter)?	x	
Do you support expanding public financing to all elected offices?	x	

PART 4: Support of Other Candidates / Propositions

(San Francisco races unless otherwise noted. As applicable, please fill in who you supported, or yes / no for the indicated proposition. If you made a ranked endorsement or voted for more than one candidate using IRV, please indicate the rankings.)

	2024
	November Election
Assembly, District 19	
Board of Education (up to 3 names)	
Community College Board (up to 4 names)	
BART Board, District 9	
Mayor	
District 1 Supervisor	
District 3 Supervisor	
District 5 Supervisor	
District 7 Supervisor	
District 9 Supervisor	
District 11 Supervisor	
District Attorney	
California Propositions	
33 - Prohibit state limitations on local rent control	
34 - Restrict spending by certain health care providers	
36 - Allow felony charges & increase sentences for certain crimes	
San Francisco Propositions	
C - Inspector General	
D - City commissions & mayoral authority	
E - Create task force for changing city commissions	
F - Police staffing & deferred retirement	

K - Convert portion of Great Highway into promenade	
L - Community Transit Act	
M - Changes to Business Taxes	
	March Election
U.S. Senate	
Assembly, District 19	
Superior Court Judge, Seat 1	
Superior Court Judge, Seat 13	
Democratic County Central Committee (can indicate slate name if applicable)	
California Propositions	
1 - Behavioral health services	
San Francisco Propositions	
A - Affordable housing bond	
B - Police officer staffing levels	
C - Transfer tax exemption	
D - Changes to local ethics laws	
E - Police Department procedures	
F - Substance dependence screening	
G - 8th grade algebra	
	2022
Assembly, District 17	
District 2 Supervisor	
District 4 Supervisor	
District 6 Supervisor	
District 8 Supervisor	
District 10 Supervisor	
Board of Education (up to 3 names)	
Community College Board (up to 4 names)	

District Attorney	
Public Defender	
San Francisco Propositions	
H (June) - Chesa Boudin recall	
D (Nov.) - Affordable Homes Now	
E (Nov.) - Affordable Housing Production Act	
I (Nov.) - Access for All	
J (Nov.) - Safe Parks for All	
M (Nov.) - Vacant residential unit tax	
O (Nov.) - City College funding	
	2020
Democratic Presidential Primary	
State Senate, District 11	
District 1 Supervisor	
District 3 Supervisor	
District 5 Supervisor	
District 7 Supervisor	
District 11 Supervisor	
	2019
District 5 Supervisor	
District Attorney	
	2018
Mayor	
District 4 Supervisor	
District 6 Supervisor	
District 8 Supervisor	
District 10 Supervisor	