

# 2020 East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club Endorsement Questionnaire

Thank you for your interest in obtaining an endorsement from the East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club.

Per the Club's bylaws, to be eligible for endorsement, a candidate must be a registered Democrat. All candidates must also complete this candidate questionnaire to be considered for an endorsement. Endorsements are decided by the general membership, and candidates must receive at least 60% of votes cast to be endorsed.

The deadline to complete your questionnaire via Google forms is Friday, August 21, 2020 at 11:59pm for the August 26, 2020 East Bay Stonewall endorsement meeting for the November 2020 presidential election. Any candidate submitting a questionnaire that is received after the deadline will not appear on the endorsement ballot.

Please return your completed questionnaire via Google forms by clicking submit at the bottom of this form. All form submissions are final. If you have questions, please contact Amy Fitzgerald, EBSDC PAC chair via email at [afitzlap@gmail.com](mailto:afitzlap@gmail.com).

Email address \*

terryataplin@gmail.com

Name (First, Last) \*

Terry Taplin

Are you a registered Democrat? \*

Yes

No

Office you are seeking? (e.g. City Council, School Board, Supervisor, etc) \*

City Council

Jurisdiction? \*

Berkeley

District? \*

District 2

Are you an East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club member in good standing as of August 19, 2020? If you are unsure, email [eastbaystonewalldems@gmail.com](mailto:eastbaystonewalldems@gmail.com). \*

Yes

No

I self-identify as: (check all boxes that apply; note these identifiers will be used publicly during our endorsement process.) \*

- Gay
- Lesbian
- Transgender
- Gender non-conforming
- Bisexual
- Queer
- Straight
- Other: .....

How have you participated in East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club activities, and/or supported the Club other ways? What other LGBTQ+ organizations are you affiliated with and in what capacity? What other Democratic clubs are you affiliated with? \*

As a member of East Bay Stonewall, I have participated in several of the Club's activities and fundraising drives over the past year. Stonewall is my primary LGBTQ organization. I am a member of East Bay Young Dems, Wellstone Renewal Democratic Club, John George Democratic Club, and the Berkeley Democratic Club.

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Using specific examples, please identify the causes you have advocated for and the ways you have helped advance LGBTQ+ rights or otherwise helped foster a community of inclusivity for LGBTQ+ individuals and families. \*

As an intern in the office of Councilmember Kriss Worthington, I worked to advance legislation to redress the City of Berkeley's misgendering of Kayla Moore, a Black Trans woman who lost her life in police custody. As a Civic Arts Commissioner, I worked to ensure that the city's Arts and Culture Plan Update reflect a commitment to uplift the voices of LGBTQ artists and cultural workers. During the pandemic, my campaign has been helping to raise funds for nonprofits providing relief to marginalized communities including Lavender Seniors of the East Bay.

Have you previously supported LGBTQ+ candidates for office? If yes, did that include financial support? \*

Yes. The majority of my financial support for LGBTQ candidates has occurred this election cycle.

Which LGBTQ+ organizations and elected officials have formally endorsed you for this race? \*

I am proud to have the endorsements of Alameda County Democratic Central Committee AD 15 Vice-Chair George Perezvalez; BART Director Rebecca Saltzman; Berkeley School Board President Judy Appel; Berkeley Rent Board Commissioner James Chang; Berkeley City Councilmember Lori Droste; former Berkeley City Councilmember Darryl Moore; El Cerrito City Councilmember Gabriel Quinto; Emeryville City Councilmember John Bauters; San Leandro City Councilmember Victor Aguilar Jr; and Dublin City Councilmember Shawn Kumagai.

What other LGBTQ+ community members and/or organizations support your candidacy? \*

I am grateful to also have the support of Brendalynn Goodall; Rev. Mark Wilson; Berkeley Landmarks Preservation Commissioner Stephanie Anne Johnson; Berkeley Community Environmental Advisory Chair Ben Gould; Berkeley Cannabis Commissioner Matt Lardner; Berkeley Public Works Commission Chair Shane Krpata; Berkeley High teachers Alan Miller and Hasmig Minassian; and my neighbor Ilana Barakat.

Please describe a policy/goal that is part of your formal platform that benefits the LGBTQ+ community? \*

I support missing middle housing and housing cooperatives to make more housing available to LGBTQ families and allow for the creation of queer communities through chosen family, respectively. Many LGBTQ people rely on bicycles and transit; I support Vision Zero and other bicycle, pedestrian, and transit infrastructure, which will benefit LGBTQ commuters. I also support redistribution of police resources and community reinvestment in affordable housing, social, medical services, and mental health programs, which will benefit LGBTQ people disproportionately impacted by police violence and who face structural barriers to accessing city and county resources.

What makes you uniquely qualified for the office and how are you different or unique from the other candidates in your race? \*

As an openly Gay working-class Black man born and raised in West Berkeley, I am deeply sensitive to the needs of a diverse, intersectional community. I have grown up in a community that values social justice and centers public service. I understand the power of empathizing with those who are different, and the importance of leading through service. I am capable of combining bold, progressive vision with a laser-sharp focus on local issues, an unwavering commitment to constituent service, and the ability to collaborate with a board, an intersectional coalition of community stakeholders, City Council colleagues, and regional partners to tackle the housing and homelessness crisis, the climate crisis, and COVID-19.

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Google Forms