

# 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 for questionnaires is posted on the East Bay Stonewall website (<http://eastbaystonewalldemocrats.org/Elections>). Any candidate submitting a questionnaire that is received after the deadline will not appear on the endorsement ballot. To ensure a fair process, no grace period will be granted.

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 Joe Greaves, EBSDC PAC chair via email at [jsphgreaves@gmail.com](mailto:jsphgreaves@gmail.com).

Email \*

kate@kateharrisonconsulting.com

Name (First Last) \*

Kate Harrison

Are you a registered Democrat \*

Yes

No

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

City Council

Jurisdiction \*

City of Berkeley

District \*

District 4

Are you an East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club member in good standing? 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? \*

I joined the East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club in 2016. I have supported civil rights for the LGBTQ community and marriage equality efforts throughout the world through letter writing and lobbying. I am a lifelong member of the ACLU and I am a member of the steering committee for the Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club .....

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. \*

I grew up in a time where LGBTQ individuals and families around the world, as well as within our local community, had virtually no rights. I have been personally exposed to the social justice issues the LGBTQ community has been faced with which has shaped my ideals and strengthened my resolve to work in this area. My best friend is a gay man who has fought prejudice from his own family, attempts to deny his orientation, job discrimination, health challenges, and marriage inequality since our freshman year of college together. As an LGBTQ advocate and ally, I've fought to make sure we go forward, not back to those times. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, I fought in the face of prejudice to hire LGBTQ people in local and state government positions and fight for rights for those who were HIV positive, including many of my own employees in San Francisco. As a manager, I resisted efforts from upper management in the courts to not hire the most talented candidate because "judges wouldn't be comfortable with them." As a public sector consultant, I actively incorporate LGBTQ fairness and access to justice in justice sector projects throughout Europe as a necessary element of any reform project. As an activist and organizer I fought against Proposition 8.

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

I have endorsed U.S. Senator Barney Frank, State Senator Mark Leno, Tom Ammiano for Mayor of San Francisco, Jovanka Beckles for California Assembly, Joaquin Rivera for Alameda County Board of Education, Gabe Quinto for El Cerrito City Council, Ces Rosales for Alameda County Democratic Central Committee, Andy Katz for East Bay MUD Director, Rebecca Kaplan for Alameda County Board of Supervisors and Oakland City Council, and Rent Stabilization Board Commissioner James Chang. I have financially contributed to these campaigns.

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

I have received endorsements from Jovanka Beckles (AC Transit Director), James Chang (Rent Stabilization Board Commissioner), Joaquin Rivera (Alameda County Board of Education), Gabe Quinto (El Cerrito City Council), Andy Katz (East Bay MUD Director), Alfred Twu (Landmarks Preservation Commissioner), and Michael Colbruno (Oakland Port Commissioner). I am fortunate enough to have had supporters, colleagues, friends, and family members who are part of the LGBTQ community.

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

I recognize that oppression exists at intersections and that those who are most institutionally, historically, and structurally marginalized because of gender expression and sexuality also most likely are oppressed in other ways as well. We know that queer youth are more likely to commit suicide than their cis and straight counterparts and that trans people of color experience homelessness at disproportionately high rates. I see that queer advocacy operates in many different ways, which is why I wrote legislation that specifically funds mental healthcare at Berkeley High School. It is why I developed policy to address homelessness in Berkeley by creating a City sanctioned encampment with food, healthcare, and stable shelter and supporting funding for the Youth Spirit transitional housing for TAY, many of whom are queer. My time on the council has taught me to listen those most impacted by state violence and to write policy with that knowledge and those experiences in mind.

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

My extensive career has allowed me to engage in my community here in Berkeley and further my commitment for social justice, working to solve public sector problems in local, state, national, and international government systems, including 31

California counties, eight states and fourteen nations. I've fought for those in foster care, victims of domestic violence, and those who lacked access to justice, while also balancing budgets and improving government efficiency and ensuring services for the most vulnerable are maintained and employees are treated fairly. My work experience includes policy and executive positions in the San Francisco Mayor's Office under Art Agnos, and at the California Administrative Office of the Courts, where I helped develop the budget and policies for and enhance access to California's \$1.7 billion-a-year court system.

I have served on the Berkeley City Council for 5 years where I have lead the council on complex and progressive issues such as fair and impartial policing, establishing the Climate Action Fund, writing the nation's first ever gas ban, creating a city sanctioned encampment and safe parking lot, advocating for reimagining public safety, fighting for fair work week legislation, and writing and passing the vacancy tax, which is now on the November ballot. I am also willing to take the hard votes, and be in the minority if necessary.

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