

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.

Email *

liz4bart@gmail.com

Name (First Last) *

Lia Ames

Are you a registered Democrat *

Yes

No

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

BART Director

Jurisdiction *

Fremont, Newark, Union City, South Hayward and Castro Valley, Sunol and parts of Southern Alameda County

District *

District 6

Are you an East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club member in good standing? If you are unsure, email 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 am a registered Democrat and support the club in ways through environmental organizations. I am a member of the Sierra Club, Bay Area Ridge Trail and Alameda Creek Alliance. I am also the Vice Chairperson of Tri-City Ecology and Chair of Save Union City Hills advocating for climate change adaption and ecological solutions.

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 supported California's historical efforts and legislation by canvassing in favor of the freedom to marry in California. I have LGBTQ friends and family members and believe inclusivity starts with education and equity.

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

Yes, I endorsed Rebecca Saltzman and supported Pamela Price and Jennifer Esteen.

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

I have been endorsed by California State Senator, Steve Glazer, Fremont City Council Member Jenny Kassan, and Bike East Bay Policy Advocate Dave Campbell. Please see my website for list of endorsements at www.ames4change.com.

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

We must focus on public safety as the number one priority. If people feel safe, they will ride BART. Second, I have publicly condemned incidents of hate, violence, harassment, discrimination, shunning and bullying against our passengers and employees. Most recently, the acts against LGBTQ, Asians, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders will not be tolerated in or around BART. BART is an essential public transportation system that I intend to make a welcoming place for all.

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

I am a proven leader that served on the Planning Commission to initiate smart growth initiatives for a downtown Union City BART station. As a leader serving as BART Director, I spearheaded systemwide replacement of fare gates to reduce fare evasion. I have consistently advocated for cleaner trains and stations. I advocated for BART to take their underutilized parking lots and create employment centers. I pushed for cities to be held accountable for creating housing near job centers to reduce commute time and improve ridership. I am the only licensed civil engineer on the BART board and have extensive experience in planning, design and construction, uniquely qualified to assess BART's \$1 billion annual budget infrastructure program.

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