

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 *

stefan@stefan.vote

Name (First Last) *

Stefan Elstrand

Are you a registered Democrat *

Yes

No

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

Rent Stabilization Board

Jurisdiction *

City of Berkeley

District *

N/A

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 lifelong Democrat that has previously served on the board of Cal Berkeley Democrats and East Bay Young Dems (EBYD). I am currently a member of EBYD, Berkeley Democratic Club, Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club, and East Bay Stonewall 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. *

Having worked in Berkeley City Hall for nearly a decade, I have worked on a variety of LGBTQ+ issues. One of the first projects I worked on as an intern for former Councilmember Kriss Worthington was an item in support of AB 1266, the School Success and Opportunity Act, which provides protections for transgender and gender non-conforming students. One of the most recent projects I have worked on as a Senior Legislative Aide to Mayor Jesse Arreguin is an item to provide financial support for the Pacific Center for Human Growth, the oldest LGBTQ+ center in the Bay Area that celebrates its 50th anniversary next year. I have also worked on policies that indirectly support the LGBTQ+ community, such as support for Transitional Age Youth, who disproportionately identify as LGBTQ+, and have been active in outreach/education regarding MPX/Monkeypox, helping communities most impacted by it.

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

I am fortunate to live in a diverse city with strong LGBTQ+ representation. I started off as an intern for former Councilmember Kriss Worthington, the first openly LGBTQ+ Councilmember in Berkeley. I have supported multiple LGBTQ+ candidates, including financially, such as Councilmember Terry Taplin and Rent Board Commissioner James Chang.

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

I have received the endorsements of Councilmembers Terry Taplin and Lori Droste, and EBMUD Director Andy Katz. Current list of endorsements: <https://www.stefan.vote/endorsements>

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

One of my key platforms is preventing displacement and evictions. According to a 2019 survey of the unhoused population, 14% of unhoused individuals in Berkeley identify as LGBTQ+. Homelessness tends to disproportionately impact the LGBTQ+ community, especially among youth. Providing access to safe and secure housing and providing tenants rental support is essential to keeping people in their homes, which helps create stable communities.

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

I am the only candidate for Rent Board endorsed by a supermajority of the City Council. I have a decade of experience in local tenant and housing issues, having worked on virtually every major tenant policy Berkeley has passed over the last decade. I have also built a reputation of being a unifier, working with all sides to build a consensus without compromising my progressive values.

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