

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 Ryan LaLonde, Interim EBSDC PAC chair via email at [REDACTED]

Email *

[REDACTED]

Email *

[REDACTED]

Name (First Last) *

Rubén Hernández Story

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 *

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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? *

In my time with the East Bay Young Democrats, the Latine Young Democrats of the East Bay, and Berkeley Councilmember Terry Taplin, I have participated in various East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club activities such as co-hosting social hours, attending the annual Transgender Awareness Month fundraisers, and sharing club statements on club and personal socials. In addition to EBYD, LYDEB, and EBSDC, I am also a member of the Sierra 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 EBYD board member and club president, I helped mobilize support for the Port Bar to combat discriminatory treatment at the hands of the building owner. In Councilmember Taplin's office, we supported the Port Bar after its windows were shot and during National Coming Out Day, all of which I helped communication in office and club communications to spread the word. I also helped author and pass the City of Berkeley's Transgender Remembrance Resolution and organized the first raising of the Trans flag in the city's history. I worked alongside a coalition that includes OPEN, PLAC, and the office of Councilmember Ramachandran to introduce the first family and relationship structure non-discrimination ordinances on the West Coast in Berkeley and Oakland. In former Richmond Mayor Tom Butt's office, I helped organize the annual Transgender and Pride flag raising ceremonies and author the accompanying resolutions.

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

Yes and yes! Terry Taplin for Berkeley City Council; James Chang for Berkeley City Council; Warren Logan for Oakland City Council; Janani Ramachandran for Oakland City Council; Celina Reynes for San Leandro City Council; Alfred Twu for AC Transit; Joshua Rudy Ochoa for SF Central Committee; and more

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

Berkeley Councilmember Terry Taplin, Berkeley Rent Board Commissioner Andy Kelley, former Berkeley Rent Board Commissioner James Chang, El Cerrito Councilmember Gabriel Quinto, El Cerrito Councilmember Carolyn Wysinger, Richmond Councilmember Cesar Zepeda, former San Leandro Councilmember Celina Reynes

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

Members of the LGBTQ+ community, especially QTPOC, face disproportionate levels of housing insecurity and homelessness, housing and workplace discrimination, and wealth inequality and are more vulnerable to police and state violence.

I will support Berkeley's Police Accountability Board, promote the use of the city's Transparency Hub, and help community members access the city's civilian oversight and police accountability resources. I will maximize and leverage the resources of the city and region to deepen Berkeley's investment in affordable housing and homelessness response and move forward key innovative housing justice solutions. I will invest in mobility-inclusive and transit-friendly infrastructure to ensure safe, reliable, and accessible commutes for LGBTQ cyclists, pedestrians, and transit riders, especially low-income community members of color.

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

As a Mexican immigrant, first-generation college graduate, renter, and transit rider, I have lived experience of both the successes and failures of public policy. I have spent the entirety of my working life fighting for marginalized communities as well as the ideals of this club and our democratic community. I have built coalitions and led community processes involving diverse stakeholders with varying viewpoints to pass major public policies with unanimous support. Through depth of experience, intimate knowledge of Central Berkeley and Downtown's challenges, and my strong ties to their constituencies, I am uniquely positioned to bring the leadership and representation that District 4 and the City of Berkeley deserve.

This form was created inside of Shay Franco-Clausen.

Google Forms