

## **Democratic Party of Sacramento County - Central Committee: Candidate Questionnaire**

Note: The answers to the questionnaire will be shared with the members of the Democratic Party of Sacramento County and local Democratic clubs and may become public.

The DPSC Candidate Questionnaire contains questions from many subject areas that you may feel are not pertinent to the office you seek. We ask these questions because: candidates may go on to other offices, we use one questionnaire for all candidates, and we share the questionnaire with our many clubs which have broad interests. Please answer to the best of your ability. Thank you!

### **Section 1**

*Email address \**

patrick@patrick-kennedy.com

*Full Name \**

Patrick D. Kennedy

*Office Sought \**

Sacramento County Board of Supervisors

*FPPC ID (enter N/A if you do not yet have one) \**

ID# 1369509

*Occupation \**

Sacramento County Supervisor

*Employer \**

Sacramento County

*Campaign Phone \**

916-261-1942

*Campaign Website \**

www.patrick-kennedy.com

*Campaign Manager \**

None at this time

*Campaign Consultants (list all) \**

Andrew Acosta / Amber Moran Wannell (Fundraiser)

*What is your anticipated budget and how much have you raised to date? \**

Raised: \$25K / Goal: \$75K

*What are your primary sources for fundraising? Please list your top three campaign contributors. \**

Friends and associates. With a contribution limit of \$250, it is difficult to list the top three contributors as many have maxed out.

*Will all your campaign materials be printed by a union printer? \**

Yes

*Do you voluntarily decline contributions from any particular contributor or class of contributors (e.g., Big Oil, Walmart, developers, lobbyists, charter schools, etc.)? If so, list who they are and why. \**

Big Oil, Tobacco, and Pharmaceutical companies. I have serious philosophical differences with their practices. Regarding the pharmaceutical companies in particular, on the Board of Supervisors, I am leading the effort to enter into litigation against opioid distributors for their fraudulent practices that led to 65,000 deaths in the United States last year.

*Please list your top five elected or appointed offices currently/previoursly held and any key affiliations, clubs, or community organizations. Please include your role and a contact name and phone number for reference. \**

1. Sacramento County Supervisor (2015 - Present)
2. Governor's Appt. to the No Place Like Home Steering Committee (2017 - Present)
3. Delegate to the California State Democratic Party (2015 - Present)
4. SCUSD Board of Education (2008-2014)
5. Sacramento City Planning Commission (1993 - 2004)
6. Oak Park Project Area Committee (1989-1992)
7. Past President of the Oak Park Neighborhood Association and Founding President of the Hollywood Park Neighborhood Association
8. Member of the Board of Directors: The Health Project, Sacramento Self Help Housing, Sacramento History Foundation, Historic Governor's Mansion Foundation, Harry S Truman Democratic Club

*Please attach your biography, a list of current endorsements, and any campaign literature or social media information as a single file.*

Please see attachment 1

*Have you ever been registered to vote as a member of a political party other than the Democratic Party, or No Party Preference? If so, please state when, why, and for how long. \**

No

*Have you ever endorsed, contributed to, campaigned for, or otherwise supported a candidate for election or appointment to a partisan or nonpartisan office that was not a member of the Democratic Party? If so, who, for which office, and why? Please be specific. \**

Anne Marie Schubert for DA (2018). I work closely with the DA in my District on nonpartisan issues. She does not have aspirations for higher office. It is in the best interest of the residents I represent to have a good working relationship with the DA.

*Are you a dues-paying member of the Democratic Party of Sacramento County? \**

No

*Do you plan to purchase a ballot statement? \**

Yes

*What will your ballot designation be? \**

Sacramento County Supervisor

*Have you read the Platform of the California Democratic Party? It can be downloaded at <https://www.cadem.org/our-california/platform> \**

Yes

*Have you read, and will you adhere to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices distributed by the Sacramento County Elections Department? It can be downloaded at <http://www.elections.saccounty.net> \**

Yes

*Have you ever been the subject of sexual harassment/abuse/assault allegations investigated by law enforcement, governmental institutions, businesses or any other organizations? What was the result of any such investigation? \**

No

*Is there anything in your history on the subject of sexual harassment/abuse/assault which, if revealed, would bring you, your proposed office, or the Democratic Party into disrepute? \**

No

*How long have you lived in the district you seek to represent? \**

39 Years

*Out of the last five elections, how many have you voted in? \**

5

*Why did you decide to run for your position and what do you hope to accomplish during your tenure? List your top three issues. \**

1. Improved and expanded homeless programs
2. Led the effort for improved and expanded mental health and substance abuse programs
3. Increased economic opportunities in South Sacramento

*If you are an incumbent, what have you accomplished during your tenure? \**

1. Led the effort to redesign and expand of mental health and substance abuse programs
2. Redesigned and expanded homeless services, including coordination with the City of Sacramento's Whole Person Care Program
3. Attracted businesses and jobs to Sacramento County and District 2
4. Grew programs for seniors (Meals on wheels, Visions Unlimited, etc.)
5. Brought the first full service grocery store to the Avenues Neighborhood, a low income food desert
6. Authored and implemented the County's urban agriculture ordinance
7. Established the La Familia Community Center at a previously closed elementary school providing mental health services for children, before and after school programs, citizenship classes, youth theater, summer meal programs, and a variety of other resources to the surrounding neighborhoods.
8. Sponsored a Safe Routes to Schools program to redesign the walking routes for children an schools serving thousands of students
9. Adopted a program affording healthcare for undocumented county residents

10. Approved Caesar Chavez Day of service for Sacramento County (prior to my serving, it had been denied three times)
11. Expanded resources for the Black Child Legacy Campaign
12. Attracted thousands of jobs to the County, particularly in low income area of South Sacramento
13. Chaired the effort to enhance flood protection for the county through the adoption of a flood assessment district
14. Lowered the fares on Regional Transit for K-12 students
15. Led, with my colleague Phil Serna, the effort to prepare families of undocumented people, working with every school district and faith based groups, to ensure that should deportation occur, the rights of children affected are protected.
16. Presided over the turnaround of the Sacramento Transportation Authority from an agency in disarray with a significant deficit to one of stability and with a budget surplus
17. Increased security on school campuses
18. Secured state and federal funding for street lights and sidewalks in the Florin area, where crime and pedestrian / vehicular accidents are among the highest in the county
19. Led the effort to curb violent crimes targeting the Asian communities in South Sacramento and provide educational workshops to those communities (particularly non English speakers) on how to avoid victimization

## **Section 2 - District & Governance**

*Are you familiar with the budget(s) for which you will be responsible, if elected? If so, state how large it is, what its principal revenue sources are, and what its largest expenditure categories are.*

Yes. Approximately \$4.2 Billion with \$2.4 Billion in general fund. Principle revenue sources include Federal and State funding, property taxes and enterprise funds.

*Will you support moving to by-district elections (rather than at-large) where they are not held now? Please explain.*

Yes. District elections lead to greater representation, particularly in low income and minority communities.

*What sets you apart from other candidates for this office?*

To my knowledge, there are no other candidates, but should there be, my experience and record of accomplishments stand for themselves.

*How will you work with community advocates? What will you do to be accessible to community members and other stakeholders?*

I began my public service as a neighborhood activist. I learned then the value of activism and the need for elected officials to be accessible to the community. I always meet with interested parties on any side of an issue, whether I agree with their position or not (much to the chagrin of my scheduling secretary).

*What will you do to promote transparency and ethics?*

I believe the Brown Act is a floor and not a ceiling. Transparency is paramount, even when not easy. For example, when I began as Chair of the Sacramento Transportation Authority, I discovered a number of irregularities in the finances. Instead of attacking the problems quietly at the staff level, I held public hearings and fixed the problems in public. The public deserves to know exactly how their government is being managed.

*What whistle-blower protections should there be for public employees who expose corruption, sexual harassment, or other illegal/unethical activity?*

Whistle blowers are protected by over 40 different federal and state laws. But those laws are only as good as their enforcement. Workers should feel empowered to speak up. If a person in a position of authority is found to be retaliating against a whistle blower, they should be appropriately dealt with, including civil and criminal penalties.

*Do you believe that current campaign finance rules should be changed? If so, how would you change them?*

Yes. First, we need to overturn Citizens United, whether through litigation or legislation. Next, we need to develop a system of public financing of campaigns that levels the playing field for all qualified candidates. Finally, we need to strengthen the separation between candidates and Super PACs.

### **Section 3 – Civil Rights**

*What will you do to advance LGBTQ rights?*

I have fought for LGBTQ rights since I campaigned against Amendment 2 in Colorado in 1992 as a member of the (then) River City Democratic Club. We have come a long way since then. Unfortunately, bigotry no more ended with the demise of Prop 8 and the Obergefell v. Hodges decision than did racism following Loving v. Virginia. We have to remain vigilant. I will continue to meet with the LGBTQ County Employee Caucus and I am proud to have had the support of the Stonewall Democratic Club in every election in which I have run.

*Discuss your feelings about the bullying and harassment of LGBTQ students because of their real or perceived sexual orientation and/or gender identity. How will you help promote a safer environment in schools for all students?*

As a member of the SCUSD School Board I am proud to have adopted the most comprehensive anti-bullying policy in the nation. It included provisions to protect LGBTQ students, faculty and staff. In fact, during its development I was the first to insist that LGBTQ representation be at the table. As Board President, I approved a groundbreaking policy protecting the rights of transgendered students.

*What will you do to end discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in education, employment, and housing?*

Again, the laws are on the books in many cases. But the laws are only as good as their enforcement. Where we need new laws, I will work with the community to develop such. But when it is a question of laws not being adequately addressed, I will root it out and crush it.

*What is your position on a woman's right to comprehensive healthcare, including the right to choose and access contraception, and the right to obtain a medically safe, legal abortion?*

Support

*If elected, what will you do to close the gender pay gap?*

I have asked the County CEO for a pay equity study. Once that is delivered, I will identify where there is inequity and work with the administration to develop a strategy to close any gap.

*What is your position on immigration? Do you support an amnesty program for those immigrants already living in the United States? Do you support a clean DREAM Act, without any enforcement funding attached to it? Should undocumented immigrants have a path towards citizenship? Why?*

I do support amnesty, protections for our dreamers, and a path toward citizenship. This is a nation of immigrants. We need to build bridges of dignity and love and not walls divisiveness and hate.

*What will you do to protect immigrant communities?*

It is not what *will* I do but what I *am* doing. Working with groups like the Latino / Jewish Coalition, I developed an educational program for school districts and faith based groups to inform the community of the rights of immigrants, particularly children should their parents be suddenly detained or deported. I also adopted a program to afford health care for undocumented residents. Further, a contract between the Sheriff's department and ICE will soon be up for renewal. I will not support any extension that allows ICE enforcement in any County building, including the jail and RCCC.

*Should there be limits on free speech or assembly in public places, such as protesting or picketing? Please explain.*

Only those clearly prescribed by well tested case law. Time, means and manner where appropriate, but never content.

*Do you support background checks for all gun and ammunition sales? What other restrictions on firearms do you think are appropriate?*

Yes. I am not Sheriff Jones's favorite person. I have worked with my colleague on the Board, Phil Serna, to severely limit the number of concealed weapons permits and with Assembly Member Kevin McCarty on legislation to do so as well. While we have thus far been unsuccessful, I will not give up.

*Do you feel the criminal justice system is just and fair to everyone? If not, what reforms would you like to see?*

No. I have called for reforms to the Sheriff's Outreach Committee, attempting to give it more of an independent oversight role. While I was able to attain modest reforms, including the participation of an independent Inspector General who answers directly to the Board of Supervisors and a decrease in the Sheriff's ability to appoint members, it still lacks the teeth I believe it needs, such as absolute independence from the Sheriff's Department.

*Do you support capital punishment? If so, please explain when you think it's appropriate.*

No

*Please share your views on the Black Lives Matter movement.*

It is an important movement that is addressing a clear and present problem in our society.

*How will you work toward greater police accountability? What role would the community play in that?*

Please see my answer above referencing oversight of the Sheriff's Department.

*Do you support the universal use of police body cameras? When is it appropriate to release police body camera footage?*

Yes. Footage should be released immediately upon the accusation of any force.

*What will you do to make your community more accessible to people with disabilities?*

One of my earliest supporters and heroes was Frances Gracechild, a true Sacramento hero who we lost last year. I worked side by side with Frances to eliminate barriers for those with disabilities. In fact, we worked together in 1992 to ensure that those with disabilities no longer had to enter City Hall through a rear door. I will continue to do so in her memory. The Board of Supervisors recently revised the zoning code for the first time in decades with considerable input from organizations representing those with disabilities. It is a living document that will continue to evolve and improve. If there are areas that need addressing, I will gladly lead that effort. As Chair of the RT Board, I intend to meet regularly with DOGFITE Transportation Committee and the Mobility Advisory Council to address these issues.

*What will you do to ensure that non-English speakers can fully participate in public meetings and access public services?*

When first elected to the Board, I was shocked to find that much of the literature printed by the county was only printed in English. I initiated a campaign to remedy that in all 40 county departments and that



effort continues. Further I worked to ensure that callers with county issues have access to interpreters and that interpreters are available at all meetings where possible.

#### **Section 4 – Healthcare**

*Do you believe that healthcare is a human right? If so, what do you believe is the most effective way to provide quality healthcare for all?*

Yes. ACA was a great step. In fact two of my four daughters were practically uninsurable prior to ACA due to pre-existing conditions (or, at least, it was prohibitively expensive). Under ACA, they are covered. We have to fight the efforts to repeal. Eventually, we need to get to a single payer system. Unfortunately, I don't see that happening in the next three years.

*What is your position on parental notification prior to a minor terminating a pregnancy? Please explain.*

As the father of four daughters, this is difficult issue for me. If my minor daughter was having a medical procedure of any kind I want to know about it and even be there to support her. However I understand the reality is that not all families would be supportive, so I have been on record as not supporting the requirement of parental notification.

*What measures would you support to ensure adequate mental health services for all?*

On the Board of Supervisors and serving on the Mental Health Board, this has been my number one priority. I will continue to lead in this area. When I was 11 years old, my mother died of an alcohol and drug overdose. She suffered from undiagnosed depression and was self-medicating. We need to fight the stigma related to mental illness, particularly in those communities where the stigma is culturally entrenched, and ensure that everyone has access to mental health services. As a County, we need to maximize our efforts to gain access to MHSA dollars and ensure that those dollars are responsibly spent where needed, and create innovative programs to leverage additional funding. Finally, I am working with local school districts and the First 5 Commission, on which I sit, to develop school based programs to address mental health issues as early as possible, including pre-k children.

*What will you do to help address high child mortality rates in the black community in Sacramento County?*

I am doing so, working closely with, and providing funding for, the Black Child Legacy Campaign, the community-driven movement established to reduce deaths of African American children by 10% to 20% by 2020 in Sacramento County. The appalling truth is that, in Sacramento County, African American children die at twice the rate of any other ethnicity. The four leading causes of death are perinatal conditions, infant sleep-related deaths, child abuse and neglect and third party homicides. I will continue to work with the Black Child Legacy Campaign, the First 5 Commission, Birth and Beyond, and numerous county departments to achieve, and hopefully surpass, this tragedy.

#### **Section 5 – Good Jobs for All**

*Describe your relationship with organized labor.*

I have a very close relationship with organized labor. In fact, prior to serving on the Board of Supervisors, I represented numerous labor organizations professionally for 12 years.

*Do you support the right of workers to unionize by card check?*

Yes

*Have you attended the Sacramento Central Labor Council Candidate Academy?*

On numerous occasions. In fact, I have lectured at it on the subject of Project Labor Agreements.

*Do you support project labor agreements?*

Yes, and I have negotiated many of them on behalf of building trades.

*Which labor unions will you be interacting with in your role? What is your plan for building collaborative relationships with union and nonunion employees?*

The role of a County Supervisor is extremely and comprehensively diverse. We work with just about every labor organization. I will continue to provide **accessibility** and collaboration with my union partners as well as nonunion employees and be a voice for them in management.

*What is the role of the office that you seek in promoting good jobs for our region?*

I will continue to seek out responsible employers and attract them to the County, and particularly District 2. I have done so successfully at Southgate Plaza, a dying mall when I took office and now thriving, Capital Commerce Center (formerly Campbell's Soup) with the addition of Macy's / Bloomingdales, and Amazon at Metro Air Park. I will continue to push for the development of incentives to lure mid-sized and large companies to the County. At the same time, I continue to advocate for and provide support for the commercial corridors in District 2 (Franklin Boulevard, Stockton Boulevard, Florin Road, and Mack Road).

*What solutions would you propose to solve budget shortfalls and how would you prioritize the needs of your constituents?*

We have to build our reserves now before the next economic downturn to minimize cuts when that time comes. In times of economic hardship, we have to look at the core functions of the county, protecting the most vulnerable, and wall off those services as much as possible (meaning health care, behavioral healthcare, and homeless programs).

*Do you believe income inequality is an issue in your community? If so, what steps would you take to address it?*

I believe it is a problem everywhere, which is why I have been a supporter of Unionized labor – the foundation of America's middle class.

## **Section 6 - Local Economy & Public Resources**

*Under what circumstances would you support raising revenues by means of taxes or fees to support public services and why?*

I have chaired two school bond campaigns that raised \$410 Million for school facilities, both passed with over 70% of the vote, and an assessment campaign that raised \$3 Billion for flood protection, which passed with 76% of the vote. I am currently leading an effort to garner support for a potential sales tax enhancement for transportation in 2020. Nobody likes higher taxes. Such taxes and fees are necessary to promote health and safety and economic vitality. While nobody enjoys paying more taxes or fees, the public is generally supportive IF they are brought into the process and given the genuine opportunity to provide input into the development of the measures. Any such campaign should be from the bottom up; not the top down.

*Under what conditions would you support the privatization of public or natural resources (i.e. water, publicly-owned buildings, schools, park lands, parking facilities)?*

Typically, I do not.

*What is your position on "public/private partnerships"?*

When appropriate, and in the best interest of the "public", they can be a valuable tool to maximize resources.

*When is it appropriate to use public money or tax incentives to subsidize private business?*

When it pencils out to benefit the public.

*What is your plan to support and encourage local small business development?*

Again, small business is the core of South Sacramento's economy. I will continue to provide leadership for and advocate on behalf of the Property Business Improvement Districts in the district (Florin, Mack, Franklin, and Stockton). I am proud to have delivered them resources to ensure their success over the past three years and I will continue to do so. Additionally, I was proud to play a significant role in seeing the Florin, Mack and Franklin PBIDS renewed for an additional ten years.

## **Section 7 – Environment**

*Do you support the construction of the Delta tunnels and the Southeast Connector? Please explain.*

I do support the Southeast Connector. I believe it is not only good for our local economy, but will significantly reduce congestion, which will have positive impacts on air quality. I am adamantly opposed to the Delta Tunnels. I am one of two County Board Members who serve on the Delta Counties Coalition, an alliance made up of the California Counties of Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo. We work collaboratively to give one voice on behalf of the Sacramento-San Joaquin

River Delta and its 4 million area-wide residents. The DCC advocates to achieve three goals: improve the Delta ecosystem, provide a more reliable water supply for the State, and protect and enhance Delta communities. We work with federal agencies, congressional members, and others to develop and implement solutions to Delta issues in a comprehensive, sustainable manner, advocating for a statewide water solution that includes water system operation improvements/conveyance, regional self-reliance, levee improvements, storage and restoration to the Delta.

*When is it appropriate to expand the urban growth boundary?*

In limited circumstances and only when proven not to increase sprawl or impact air quality in an avoidable way. Our emphasis needs to be on infill first.

*Please describe your position on regional habitat and working lands conservation.*

It is essential and something that I hope to leave as a legacy to future generations. I am proud of my record in this area. In fact, prior to my serving on the Board, the South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan (SSHCP) was stalled for decades. It is now well under way. Within the SSHCP plan area, 36,282 acres would become part of an interconnected preserve system, including approximately 1,000 acres of vernal pool habitat. Twenty-eight plant and wildlife species, and their natural habitats, will be conserved under the plan. Also, early in my tenure, the Board scrapped a proposed development on County owned property at Mather Airforce Base. Instead we designed and approved a plan that would preserve sensitive vernal pools and wetlands while allowing for a more modest and appropriate development.

*What will you do to address climate change in your role? Please be specific.*

Land use decisions have to take climate change into account, through the CEQA process and other means. As a member of the SACOG Board of Directors, I will ensure that development projects adhere to the principles of the Blueprint and direct SACOG staff to analyze large projects to evaluate their conformity. Also, as a member of the Sacramento Air Quality Management District, I will continue to push for innovative ways to address air quality issues, through testing, introduction of new and clean technologies and regulations, particularly in low income areas.

*Please describe your education and/or experience with land use planning.*

Prior to serving on the Board of supervisors, I served on the Sacramento City Planning Commission for eleven years.

*Have you read the General Plan and do you agree with its vision of future development? If not, what changes would you propose?*

Yes. The latest plan, adopted in 2011, is an improvement to the prior plan in that it includes a stronger focus on addressing existing communities and revitalizing aging commercial corridors, a new Economic Development Element, and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions consistent with state law. My focus is less on changing the existing plan at this point than it is on seeing that it is adhered to,

particularly in the area of transportation related impacts on air quality, which are sometimes overlooked. Again, a plan is only as good as its implementation.

## **Section 8 – Education**

Do you support Restorative Justice and funding such programs?

Yes. In fact, I approved a Restorative Justice policy when serving on the Board of Supervisors. It was a far reaching policy developed with significant community input. Unfortunately, at the time I complained that without adequately funding for training and implementation, it would not fulfill its potential and to a degree that is what transpired. While still a step forward, additional funding could make it even better.

*What role do you believe charter schools should play in public education?*

Overall, I believe that public education dollars should be controlled by the public through locally elected Boards of Education. That is not to say, however, that I am categorically opposed to all charter schools. For example, the SCUSD board recently approved an adult charter school in the District I represent, and I supported that decision. It will target low income students in need of job training in South Sacramento while reusing a facility that has been shuttered for a decade in a key location on Florin Road.

*Do you support reforming teacher tenure, due process protections, or teacher salary and benefits? Please explain.*

Qualified teachers deserve tenure and due process. Teachers should be paid at a level that reflects the important role they play in our communities.

*What will you do to minimize bullying and promote tolerance in school?*

As a school Board Member, I approved one of the most comprehensive anti-bullying policies in the nation. As a member of the Board of Supervisors I annually sponsor and participate in an anti-bullying rally for from SCUSD and EGUSD.

Is there an achievement gap in your school district? If so, what will you do to close that gap?

There are two school districts in District 2 (SCUSD and EGUSD). Both have an achievement gap. As a supervisor much of what I do will affect that gap beyond what happens in the classroom (behavioral health, the Black Child Legacy Campaign, adequate funding for healthcare - particularly targeting minority communities, supporting anti-bullying campaigns, promoting practices of equality in the criminal justice system, etc.). While not serving on the school board anymore, the youth of this community is of paramount importance to me and a focus of much of my work.

For school board candidates: Please explain LCFF and LCAP in three sentences or fewer.

*Do you believe that public adult education, colleges, and universities should be tuition free?*

Ideally, yes, but I do not see that happening any time soon. In the meantime, we need to target programs that provide financial assistance, and in many cases provide a free education, for those students who would otherwise not be able to attain a higher education due to financial constraints.

## **Section 9 - Housing**

*What is your plan to address homelessness in your community?*

I am proud of the work Sacramento County has undertaken in the past year to increase efforts to address what I see as the greatest challenge of this generation, homelessness (please see Attachment 2). Further, as Governor Brown's Large County Representative on the No Place Like Home Steering Committee, I hope to craft initiatives that will deliver more housing resources to Sacramento County in the coming years.

*What is your plan to relieve the rental housing crisis?*

This is more of a State issue than a County Issue. I am hoping a statewide housing bond will help deliver funds that will address this. At the same time, I am working to develop policies at SHRA that will encourage the development of more affordable housing units.

*Do you support rent control and just cause eviction?*

I do not think rent control will achieve the goal of more affordable housing. Studies have shown that it will only decrease investments in additional affordable housing. I do support Just Cause Eviction.

*Do you support the adoption of inclusionary housing ordinances?*

I do. In fact, while on the Sacramento City Planning Commission, I co-authored the City's ordinance.

*What is your plan for funding affordable housing construction?*

I support Mayor Steinberg's plan to release an RFI or RFQ to garner creative solutions from the private sector. Also, as mentioned above, we need to revise SHRA's practices which currently discourage the private sector from developing affordable housing and drive up costs.

*Would you support a local ordinance to end Housing Choice Voucher discrimination (Section 8)? Please explain.*

Yes, but I look forward to further explanation of the question.

*What is your plan to ensure that working class people have opportunities for home ownership?*

## **Section 10 – Transportation and Public Transit**

*Would you support a local sales tax measure to fund transportation and public transit? Please explain.*

Yes. In fact, I am leading the effort. Unlike the last measure in 2016 (Measure B), it needs to be organic and developed with considerable community input. And, I support including as much transit projects as are feasible to pass a county-wide initiative.

*If you are seated on the board of SACOG, STA, or Regional Transit, how would you use your role and what would you prioritize?*

I sit on all three boards, and I am Chair of RT.

1. There needs to be better coordination between STA and SACOG. It does not make sense to have the County's transportation agency siloed from the region's leading transportation planning agency as it is now. SACOG has a wealth of talent and knowledge that would serve STA's small stall well as an invaluable resource. I will also work with SACOG to identify new funding for projects in Sacramento County.

2. While serving as Chair of STA last year I replaced the Executive Director and uncovered areas of financial mismanagement (again in the full view of the public). Working with new staff, we put policies and procedures in place that put the agency on a better footing and we went from an agency with a budget shortfall to one with a surplus. This is essential if we are to gain the trust of the public and earn the confidence necessary to put forth a future tax measure. This task is ongoing. I will also develop new fiscal policies, providing greater guidelines to staff and greater transparency.

3. As incoming Chair of RT, I will aggressively lead the effort to:

- Complete the Route Optimization study with maximum community input
- Complete the Watt / I 80 light rail station study and implement improvements (whether temporary or permanent) to improve the atmosphere and safety of the station and increase accessibility
- Work toward replacement of Light Rail cars to more modern and accessible cars
- Make the pilot program reducing fares for K-12 students permanent

*What is your plan to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled in the region?*

Better planning and adherence to the SACOG Blueprint.

*What is your plan to improve local and regional public transit? Please describe a priority project.*

Please see above