

Before responding to the specific questions, I would like to share a few thoughts about this endorsement process.

I appreciate the opportunity to participate and to share my values, record, and priorities with Santa Monica's for Renters' Rights.

At the same time, I believe many of the questions ask candidates to commit in advance to future policy decisions or pledge support for actions before staff reports, legal analysis, fiscal impacts, public testimony, and the full facts surrounding a particular issue are available. As an elected Councilmember, I believe my obligation is to approach every agenda item with an open mind, carefully review the information before me, listen to all stakeholders, and make decisions based on the merits of each issue. While I am always willing to engage with SMRR, tenants, homeowners, workers, businesses, neighborhood groups, advocates, and residents throughout the city, I do not believe it would be appropriate to promise future votes or give any one organization greater influence than another. My responsibility is to represent the entire Santa Monica community.

I also want to respectfully express concern about the structure of this endorsement process. This questionnaire is extraordinarily comprehensive and was provided with approximately one week for completion. For candidates who work full time, own businesses, care for families, or have longstanding personal commitments, this format creates a significant barrier to participation. Public service should be accessible to people from all walks of life, not only those with the time and resources to complete what is effectively a lengthy policy dissertation within a very limited timeframe. I hope future endorsement processes can better reflect the values of accessibility and inclusion that our community strives to promote.

With that context, I have answered the questions below to the best of my ability while remaining committed to thoughtful, independent decision making on behalf of all Santa Monica's.

1. Why are you running for City Council?

I am running because I care deeply about Santa Monica and believe our city works best when we focus on solving problems instead of political divisions. I was born and raised here, have raised my family here, operate a small business here, and have spent years serving our community through nonprofit work, youth programs, and now on the City Council. I want Santa Monica to remain a place where people of different incomes and backgrounds can thrive, where residents feel safe, businesses succeed, renters and homeowners alike have opportunities to remain in the community, and government is transparent and accountable.

2. What skills, background, and experience prepare you for this office?

I bring the perspective of a lifelong resident, renter, small business owner, nonprofit founder, mother of two children in our public schools, and current City Councilmember. I have experience managing budgets, employing local residents, fundraising, collaborating across diverse groups, and making difficult policy decisions in public. My experience operating a family business and

founding Outreach Through the Arts has taught me to balance compassion with fiscal responsibility while always keeping people at the center of decision making.

3. What sets you apart from the others running for City Council?

I believe I bring an independent perspective. I do not approach issues based on ideology or political labels. I evaluate each item individually, listen carefully to residents with differing viewpoints, and vote based on what I believe is in the best interest of Santa Monica. I am willing to ask difficult questions, challenge assumptions, and work collaboratively even when opinions differ. My decisions are guided by facts, community input, and long-term outcomes rather than political pressure.

4. If elected, what would be your number one and number two goals over the next two to four years, and how might these goals be achieved?

My first priority is continuing to improve public safety while expanding compassionate, effective responses for individuals experiencing homelessness, mental illness, and substance use disorders. That includes supporting regional partnerships, treatment options, housing where appropriate, and ensuring residents and visitors feel safe throughout our city.

My second priority is strengthening Santa Monica's long-term economic health. We need thriving commercial districts, support for small businesses, responsible housing production that includes affordability, and a financially sustainable city that can continue investing in essential services, parks, libraries, public schools, and programs that support vulnerable residents.

Rather than commit to specific future policies in this questionnaire, I will continue evaluating proposals individually based on evidence, fiscal responsibility, community input, and their ability to advance these broader goals.

5. Organizations from which I have sought endorsements

Please see attached materials for endorsement questionnaires submitted to other organizations, where applicable.

6. Main funders, endorsers, supporters, and campaign progress

My campaign is supported by residents, small business owners, community members, educators, labor supporters, neighborhood leaders, and individuals who believe in practical, independent leadership. I am proud that my campaign is funded primarily through individual contributions rather than large institutional interests. Campaign finance reports provide complete disclosure consistent with California law.

7. Will you accept donations from developers and/or paid lobbyists?

I comply with all applicable campaign finance laws and disclosure requirements. Campaign contributions do not determine my votes. Every decision I make is based on the merits of the issue, applicable law, public input, and what I believe best serves Santa Monica.

8. Organizations of which I am a member

I have been actively involved in numerous civic, nonprofit, educational, business, and community organizations throughout my career. My leadership includes serving as Founder and Executive Director of Outreach Through the Arts, ownership and operation of Santa Monica Music Center, service on the Santa Monica City Council, and participation in numerous local educational, business, arts, and community organizations focused on improving Santa Monica.

SMRR

1. How long have you been a member of SMRR? Please outline the extent of your relationship and engagement with SMRR.

I have had the opportunity to engage with SMRR throughout my years in public service and as a candidate. I respect the organization's long history of advocacy on behalf of tenants and appreciate the role it has played in shaping conversations around housing, affordability, and renters' rights in Santa Monica. While we have not always agreed on every policy issue, I value hearing SMRR's perspective, just as I value hearing from neighborhood organizations, business groups, labor organizations, homeowners, tenants, service providers, and individual residents. I believe strong public policy benefits from listening to a wide range of voices.

2. Do you pledge, if elected, to attend SMRR's monthly Steering Committee meetings to provide the Council report (in rotation with other SMRR-supported Councilmembers)?

I am committed to maintaining open communication with community organizations throughout Santa Monica, including SMRR. To the extent scheduling permits, I would be happy to participate in meetings and discussions with SMRR, as I do with many organizations across our city. My goal is to remain accessible and available to residents and stakeholders from all parts of our community.

3. Do you pledge, if elected, to discuss major policy issues related to your office with SMRR leaders prior to making decisions?

I am committed to listening to SMRR, just as I am committed to listening to renters, homeowners, workers, neighborhood associations, businesses, advocacy organizations, subject matter experts, City staff, and members of the public.

However, I do not believe it would be appropriate to pledge to consult any single organization before making policy decisions or to provide one group with a unique role in my decision-making process. As an elected Councilmember, my responsibility is to independently evaluate each agenda item after reviewing staff reports, legal analysis, fiscal impacts, and public testimony.

Every resident and stakeholder deserves an equal opportunity to be heard, and I believe my obligation is to represent the interests of the entire Santa Monica community while exercising independent judgment on every issue.

Rent Control and Tenants' Rights

1. Do you support Santa Monica's rent control law? Why or why not?

Yes. I support Santa Monica's rent control law and recognize the critical role it has played in preserving housing stability, preventing displacement, and maintaining the economic diversity that makes Santa Monica a vibrant community. As a lifelong Santa Monica renter myself, I understand firsthand the importance of housing stability and the need to protect residents from being priced out of the community they call home.

2. What, if any, specific changes would you support making to our rent control law?

Any proposed changes should be evaluated through a transparent public process that includes the Rent Control Board, tenants, property owners, legal experts, City staff, and the broader community. I do not believe it is appropriate to commit to specific future amendments outside of that public process. My responsibility is to evaluate proposals based on the facts, legal analysis, fiscal impacts, and public input available at the time. My goal is to preserve the core protections of rent control while ensuring policies remain fair, effective, and legally sound.

3. Have you ever taken a proactive role to protect Santa Monica tenants? If so, please describe specifically what you did.

Yes. My record demonstrates a consistent commitment to protecting tenants and expanding affordable housing opportunities. I have supported renter assistance and homelessness prevention programs, rehabilitation of existing affordable housing, and preservation of deed-restricted affordable housing. I have consistently advocated for greater transparency and accountability regarding the Housing Trust Fund and have publicly pushed for repayment of funds that were diverted so those dollars can again be used for affordable housing and housing stability. I have also consistently supported on-site inclusionary affordable housing because I believe mixed-income communities are strengthened when affordable homes are integrated into new developments rather than relying primarily on off-site alternatives.

4. What can you point to that should give Santa Monica renters and their allies confidence that you are committed to renters' rights and Santa Monica's rent control law?

My record and my lived experience.

I am a lifelong Santa Monica renter, and I understand the challenges many residents face in remaining in this community. Throughout my time on the City Council I have consistently supported affordable housing investments, renter assistance programs, housing preservation

efforts, transparency regarding affordable housing funding, and policies that prioritize creating and preserving deed-restricted affordable housing.

That commitment is reflected not only in my votes, but also in my willingness to ask difficult questions, push for transparency, advocate for repayment of Housing Trust Fund dollars, and support policies that expand on-site affordable housing while preserving existing housing opportunities for Santa Monica residents.

Even when I ask difficult questions or seek greater accountability, it is because I want our housing investments to be effective, transparent, and deliver the greatest possible benefit to the people they are intended to serve.

5. What would you propose, if anything, to improve Santa Monica rent control and/or strengthen tenant protections (including code enforcement)?

I support continuing to strengthen proactive code enforcement so habitability issues are addressed quickly, improving education and outreach so tenants and property owners understand their rights and responsibilities, and ensuring our existing protections are implemented consistently and effectively.

I also support increasing transparency around affordable housing funding and regularly evaluating whether our housing programs are achieving their intended outcomes so we can make informed improvements when necessary.

6. Do you think it is appropriate for the City Council to propose changes to the Rent Control law without full involvement of the Rent Control Board and tenant advocates?

No. Significant changes to Santa Monica's rent control system should involve meaningful participation from the Rent Control Board, tenant advocates, property owners, legal experts, and the broader community. The strongest public policy is developed through an open, transparent process that considers multiple perspectives before decisions are made.

7. Which is more important to you: preserving controlled rental units and retaining existing renters, or allowing temporary or permanent displacement of tenants occupying aging controlled housing stock to replace old buildings with new ones? Please explain.

Whenever possible, I believe we should prioritize preserving existing renters and minimizing displacement while also recognizing that some aging buildings may require substantial rehabilitation or replacement to remain safe and habitable.

These situations should be evaluated individually rather than through blanket policy commitments. My priority is to preserve affordability, protect existing residents whenever feasible, and carefully balance housing preservation, public safety, and the long-term health of our housing stock through thoughtful, fact-based decision making.

Affordable Housing, Homelessness, General Affordability and Development

1. Do you support increasing the production of deed-restricted affordable housing in Santa Monica? If so, what specific strategies or policies would you pursue to achieve this?

Yes. I support increasing the production and preservation of deed-restricted affordable housing. My record reflects support for investing in affordable housing, preserving existing affordable units, and ensuring public dollars are used effectively. I support maximizing available state and federal funding, strategic use of local Housing Trust Fund resources, adaptive reuse where appropriate, and requiring meaningful on-site inclusionary affordable housing in market-rate developments. I also believe preserving existing affordable housing is often just as important as building new units.

2. Do you support a Great Park and below market-rate housing development on Santa Monica Airport land when the airport is closed? Why or why not?

I strongly support creating a Great Park on the airport property, consistent with what Santa Monica voters approved. I also support exploring opportunities for below-market-rate housing that are consistent with voter direction, environmental constraints, infrastructure capacity, and thoughtful planning. Any housing should complement, not diminish, the vision of creating an extraordinary regional park for future generations.

3. Do you pledge to use the public land identified in the current Housing Element to create the number of deed-restricted affordable housing units identified for each such site (whether or not on that particular site)?

I support using public land strategically to expand affordable housing opportunities. However, I do not believe it is appropriate to pledge support for specific future projects before reviewing the facts, environmental analysis, financial feasibility, community input, and staff recommendations associated with each site. My commitment is to thoughtfully evaluate each proposal while advancing affordable housing goals.

4. Do you support devoting any other public land to the creation of deed-restricted affordable housing? Which public land? How would you make it happen?

Potential public sites should continue to be evaluated through an open planning process. I am open to considering appropriate publicly owned properties where affordable housing can be developed without compromising essential public services, parks, or community assets. Each opportunity should be evaluated individually based on community needs, financial feasibility, environmental impacts, and overall public benefit.

5. What's your opinion of the value to our community of expanding the development of market-rate housing?

Market-rate housing plays an important role in meeting overall housing demand, but by itself it will not solve Santa Monica's affordability challenges. We need a balanced approach that includes deed-restricted affordable housing, preservation of existing rent-controlled housing, meaningful inclusionary requirements, and policies that protect existing residents while allowing thoughtful growth where appropriate.

6. Do you support further upzoning any portions of the City beyond any further upzoning mandated by the State?

I do not support blanket upzoning throughout Santa Monica. Decisions regarding additional density should be based on infrastructure capacity, neighborhood context, transportation, environmental considerations, affordability outcomes, and community input. I believe each proposal deserves careful evaluation on its own merits rather than predetermined commitments.

7. Do you support Santa Monica's inclusionary housing requirements for market-rate housing developments? If so, do you believe any changes are appropriate?

Yes. I support inclusionary housing requirements because they help ensure new development contributes to affordable housing opportunities. I have consistently supported strong on-site inclusionary housing because I believe mixed-income communities are healthier and more equitable than relying primarily on off-site alternatives. Any future adjustments should strengthen affordability outcomes while maintaining financial feasibility for projects.

8. Did you support the original version of SB 79? What is your opinion of the adopted version?

No. I did not support the original version of SB 79 because I believed it lacked adequate anti-displacement protections and did not sufficiently protect existing rent-controlled housing. I appreciated that the legislation improved during the process by adding stronger protections. My approach is to evaluate legislation based on its actual provisions, and I believe housing policy should increase housing opportunities while protecting existing residents and respecting local community needs.

9. Do you support city financing of emergency assistance to renters at risk of losing their homes?

Yes. Preventing homelessness is generally more humane and more cost-effective than responding after someone has lost housing. Emergency rental assistance can be an important tool when implemented with appropriate accountability and oversight.

10. Do you support city financing of free legal counsel to lower and moderate income renters facing eviction?

Yes. Access to legal representation helps ensure due process and can prevent unnecessary displacement. As with all publicly funded programs, I believe outcomes should be evaluated regularly to ensure resources are being used effectively.

11. Do you support increasing local funding for programs providing ongoing income support to severely rent-burdened renters?

I support evaluating opportunities to strengthen programs that help our most vulnerable residents remain housed, particularly seniors, people with disabilities, and others facing significant financial hardship. Funding decisions should be based on demonstrated need, measurable outcomes, and the City's long-term fiscal sustainability.

12. Housing Trust Fund repayment

I have consistently advocated for greater transparency regarding the Housing Trust Fund and have publicly supported repaying funds that were diverted so they can once again be used for affordable housing and housing stability. Future repayment schedules should be evaluated responsibly within the City's broader financial obligations, but I believe restoring those funds is an important goal.

13. Measure GS and AB 736

I do not support efforts that would substantially reduce locally approved funding intended for affordable housing, homelessness prevention, and related voter-approved purposes. Santa Monica voters approved these measures with specific expectations, and those local decisions should be respected. I remain open to identifying additional sustainable funding sources that advance affordable housing and homelessness prevention while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

14. What should give SMRR confidence that you are committed to affordable housing?

My record. I have supported affordable housing production, preservation of existing affordable housing, strong inclusionary housing requirements, renter assistance, greater transparency regarding affordable housing funding, and repayment of Housing Trust Fund dollars. I ask difficult questions because I want housing policies to produce measurable results and maximize the impact of public investment.

15. Homelessness

Homelessness is one of the most complex issues facing our city. I believe Santa Monica has made meaningful progress through programs like SaMo Bridge, coordinated outreach, prevention efforts, and regional partnerships. At the same time, we need significantly greater investment in mental health treatment, substance use treatment, medical care, and regional responsibility. Cities cannot solve this crisis alone. My priorities remain preventing homelessness whenever possible, expanding pathways into treatment and housing, improving accountability, and ensuring public spaces remain safe and welcoming for everyone.

16. Short-term rentals and Airbnb

Yes. I generally support Santa Monica's existing regulations because they help preserve long-term housing while allowing responsible home sharing consistent with City policy. Continued enforcement is essential, particularly as we prepare for the 2028 Olympics.

17. Commercial zoning

I support continuing to streamline permitting, encourage adaptive reuse, reduce unnecessary barriers for small businesses, and create flexibility that activates commercial corridors while maintaining neighborhood compatibility. I generally oppose changes that reduce community character without providing meaningful public benefit.

18. Commercial corridors

We need vibrant, walkable commercial districts with successful small businesses, housing where appropriate, clean and safe public spaces, outdoor dining, arts, cultural programming, and predictable permitting processes. Economic vitality and quality of life go hand in hand.

19. AB 1740

I did not support the original version because I believed it went beyond appropriate local land use authority. I appreciated improvements made to the final legislation and supported protecting local planning while complying with state law.

20. Beyond housing, how can Santa Monica become more affordable?

Affordability extends beyond housing. We should continue supporting quality public transportation, strong public schools, parks, libraries, childcare opportunities, workforce development, small business success, and efficient city services. A healthy local economy, good jobs, and responsible fiscal management all contribute to making Santa Monica a more affordable place to live over the long term.

Workers' Rights

1. What, if any, specific proactive steps have you taken in the past to protect workers, improve their working conditions, and/or advance workers' rights to unionize?

As a small business owner and employer, I understand the importance of treating employees fairly and creating workplaces where people are respected and valued. As a Councilmember, I have consistently supported policies that improve economic opportunity and protect workers while also recognizing the importance of maintaining a healthy local economy that sustains jobs. I have worked to support local businesses, expand economic opportunity, and ensure workers have access to stable employment in a thriving Santa Monica.

2. The City has adopted several worker justice policies. Do you support these programs and policies? Why or why not? What additional workers' rights policies would you propose?

I support the goal of ensuring workers are treated fairly, paid fairly, and provided safe working conditions. At the same time, I believe every policy should be evaluated to ensure it achieves its intended purpose without creating unintended consequences that reduce employment opportunities or harm the businesses that provide those jobs.

For example, during discussions regarding the Hotel Worker Minimum Wage Ordinance, I supported fair wages while also raising questions about implementation, long-term economic impacts, and ensuring policies are applied consistently. I believe thoughtful questions strengthen legislation and ultimately lead to better public policy.

Going forward, I support continued workforce development, job training, apprenticeship opportunities, and policies that help workers succeed while keeping Santa Monica economically competitive.

3. What can you point to that should give Santa Monica workers and their allies confidence that you are committed to workers' rights, a living wage, and the right to unionize?

My record reflects a balanced approach that values both workers and the employers who create jobs. I have consistently supported fair treatment, economic opportunity, and responsible wage policies while working to strengthen Santa Monica's economy. I believe workers deserve dignity, safe workplaces, and opportunities to succeed, and I also recognize that sustainable businesses are essential to providing those opportunities. My goal has always been to pursue policies that improve the lives of working families while supporting a healthy local economy that benefits our entire community.

Economic Development

1. What policies and strategies would you pursue and prioritize to ensure that Santa Monica grows as a productive, thriving, inclusive, sustainable, welcoming, healthy and economically vibrant city for current and future generations?

Santa Monica's long-term success depends on maintaining a balanced economy where residents, workers, businesses, visitors, and nonprofits can all thrive. I believe we must continue supporting small businesses, activating commercial districts, streamlining permitting, reducing unnecessary bureaucracy, investing in public safety, maintaining clean and welcoming public spaces, expanding affordable housing, protecting our environment, and creating opportunities for entrepreneurs while preserving the unique character that makes Santa Monica special.

Economic vitality is what allows us to fund affordable housing, parks, libraries, public safety, arts, transportation, and the social services our community depends upon.

2. What, if anything, is the Realignment Plan doing well, or doing poorly? What would you change?

I supported the Realignment Plan because I believe the City needed to modernize how it delivers services while addressing long-term financial challenges. I appreciate its focus on accountability, efficiency, and aligning resources with community priorities.

Like any major organizational change, it should continue to be evaluated. I support making adjustments where needed, improving communication with employees and the public, and ensuring service delivery remains responsive while maintaining transparency throughout implementation.

3. What needs to be done to restore the economic vitality of the Third Street Promenade?

There is no single solution. We need a comprehensive strategy that includes improving public safety, maintaining clean and attractive public spaces, reducing barriers for businesses, activating public spaces with arts and cultural programming, attracting a diverse mix of retailers and restaurants, supporting outdoor dining and events, addressing vacant storefronts, and continuing to invest in downtown as a destination for residents and visitors alike.

I have supported efforts to reduce permitting barriers, encourage retail-to-restaurant conversions, activate downtown through events, and make it easier for businesses to invest in Santa Monica.

4. City finances continue to be strained. What will you do as a Councilmember to improve the City's financial health while protecting commitments to schools, homelessness prevention, and affordable housing?

Strong fiscal stewardship requires setting clear priorities, carefully evaluating expenditures, pursuing outside grant funding whenever possible, supporting economic growth that expands the City's tax base, and ensuring public investments deliver measurable results.

I have consistently supported greater transparency regarding major expenditures, including affordable housing investments, and have advocated for restoring Housing Trust Fund dollars that were previously diverted. I believe responsible budgeting means balancing compassion with accountability while protecting essential services and honoring voter-approved priorities whenever possible.

Santa Monica cannot continue providing excellent services without a healthy economy. Supporting small businesses, attracting investment, and maintaining public confidence in City government are essential to our long-term financial stability.

City Governance and Budgeting

1. What specific measures would you pursue to ensure that staff reports are made available to both Councilmembers and the public with sufficient lead time to allow for thorough review, informed deliberation, and meaningful public participation?

Transparency and public participation are fundamental to good government. I have consistently advocated for earlier release of staff reports whenever possible so Councilmembers and the public have adequate time to review complex issues before decisions are made. I also support using executive summaries, clearer fiscal analyses, and improved public communication so residents can more easily understand the issues before the Council. Well-informed public participation leads to better policy decisions.

2. Please describe any budgeting experience you have and how that experience would help you ensure sound fiscal management, directing of resources, and priority setting.

As a small business owner for many years, I have managed budgets, payroll, forecasting, capital investments, and long-term financial planning. As Founder and Executive Director of a nonprofit organization, I have also been responsible for fundraising, grant management, and allocating limited resources effectively. On the City Council, I have reviewed and voted on multi-billion-dollar municipal budgets while consistently asking questions about long-term sustainability, measurable outcomes, transparency, and accountability. These experiences have reinforced the importance of balancing fiscal responsibility with community investment.

3. How would you build and maintain the trust of residents, and what specific steps would you take to ensure that your constituents always feel informed, engaged, and genuinely represented in the decisions that affect their lives?

I believe trust is earned through accessibility, honesty, transparency, and consistent communication. Throughout my time on the Council I have worked to be available to residents through community meetings, office hours, newsletters, social media, email, phone calls, and direct conversations throughout the city. I believe residents deserve clear explanations for decisions, even when we may disagree. My goal is always to listen respectfully, communicate openly, and ensure every resident feels heard.

4. How do you view the balance between exercising independent judgment as a Councilmember and representing the wishes and needs of your constituents?

Listening and independent judgment are not mutually exclusive. My responsibility is to carefully consider the perspectives of my constituents, City staff, subject matter experts, community organizations, and other stakeholders while ultimately exercising independent judgment based on the facts, applicable law, fiscal impacts, and what I believe is in the best long-term interest of Santa Monica. I believe elected officials should listen broadly but should not predetermine votes or delegate their decision-making responsibility to any one individual or organization.

5. Do City Councilmembers need to guard against disproportionate influence of wealthy stakeholders and powerful businesses on local government? What would you do to

ensure residents with fewer resources have an equally meaningful voice in shaping City policy?

Yes. Public trust depends on ensuring every resident has an opportunity to participate, regardless of financial means or organizational influence. I believe Councilmembers should actively engage with residents from every neighborhood and every background, not just those with the loudest voices or the greatest resources.

I support expanding opportunities for meaningful public participation through accessible meetings, improved communication, outreach to underrepresented communities, and greater transparency throughout the decision-making process. Every resident deserves to know their voice matters, whether they are a renter, homeowner, worker, student, senior, business owner, or someone simply attending a Council meeting for the first time.

Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

1. Do you support the City taking steps to address the ongoing impacts of past racism? If so, what steps do you support taking?

Yes. I believe we should acknowledge the impacts of discrimination and work to ensure every resident has equal access to opportunity. I support investing in education, youth programs, small business opportunities, workforce development, affordable housing, public safety, and equitable access to City services. My focus is on policies that produce measurable improvements and expand opportunity for all members of our community.

2. How would you use your position as a Councilmember to ensure the City actively listens to and invests in its Black community and commits to tangible improvements in opportunity, representation, and quality of life for Black community members?

Listening must be continuous, not limited to times of crisis. I would continue meeting with community members, neighborhood organizations, faith leaders, educators, nonprofit organizations, youth, and local businesses to better understand priorities and concerns. I support expanding opportunities in education, economic development, housing, public safety, and community programming while ensuring Black residents have meaningful representation in conversations that shape City policy.

3. How would you use your position as a Councilmember to ensure the City actively listens to and invests in its Latino community and commits to tangible improvements in opportunity, representation, and quality of life for Latino community members?

As the daughter of immigrant parents and someone who grew up in Santa Monica, I understand how important it is for people to feel seen, heard, and represented. I will continue engaging directly with Latino residents, families, workers, business owners, educators, and community organizations to understand their priorities and ensure City programs are accessible. I support

expanding economic opportunity, educational success, affordable housing, language access, and meaningful civic engagement for all residents.

4. How would you use your position as a Councilmember to ensure that Santa Monica remains a safe, welcoming, and affirming city for its LGBTQ+ residents and visitors, especially during a period of heightened vulnerability at the national level?

Every person deserves to feel safe, respected, and welcome in Santa Monica. I support enforcing anti-discrimination protections, maintaining inclusive City policies, supporting community organizations, and ensuring our public spaces remain safe for everyone. My commitment is that every resident and visitor should be treated with dignity and respect regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

5. How would you use your position as a Councilmember to ensure the City stands up for the dignity, safety, and rights of its immigrant residents, workers, and visitors when faced with federal immigration actions in our community?

I believe immigrants are an important part of Santa Monica's history, culture, and economy. My own family came to this country seeking opportunity, and I understand the contributions immigrant families make to our community every day. I support ensuring residents have access to City services without discrimination, providing clear and accurate public information, protecting constitutional rights, and working within the City's legal authority to promote safety, dignity, and trust between local government and the communities we serve. At the same time, I recognize that immigration policy is primarily a federal responsibility, and I believe the City's role is to treat every person with fairness, respect, and compassion while remaining focused on the services and responsibilities entrusted to local government.

Public Safety

1. In your assessment, how well is Santa Monica performing when it comes to public safety?

Santa Monica has made meaningful progress over the past year, particularly through increased coordination between the Police Department, Fire Department, outreach teams, the Real Time Crime Center, SaMo Bridge, and other community partners. Residents and businesses are beginning to see improvements in some areas.

However, there is still important work to do. Many residents continue to express concerns about crime, behavioral health crises, substance abuse, traffic safety, and their overall sense of security. Public safety requires constant attention, collaboration, and accountability, and I remain committed to continuing that work.

2. Are there any trends that you find troubling? If yes, which ones, and how would you address them?

Yes. The issues that concern me most are untreated mental illness, substance use disorders, repeat criminal behavior, retail theft, traffic safety, and the growing complexity of homelessness.

These challenges cannot be solved by law enforcement alone. We need stronger regional partnerships, expanded access to mental health care, detoxification and substance use treatment, homelessness prevention, and accountability for individuals who repeatedly commit crimes while also ensuring our Police Department has the resources necessary to respond effectively when public safety is threatened.

3. What, if any, specific changes do you support to the manner of policing in Santa Monica?

I support continuing to expand data-driven policing, community policing, technology that improves public safety and accountability, crisis intervention training, and partnerships between law enforcement and behavioral health professionals.

I also support continuing programs like SaMo Bridge and other coordinated efforts that connect people experiencing homelessness, mental illness, or addiction with services while allowing sworn officers to focus on criminal activity and emergency response when appropriate.

4. Are there specific changes to the use of funds currently allocated to the Police Department that you would advocate?

Rather than making across-the-board increases or reductions, I believe every budget decision should be based on measurable outcomes, operational needs, and community priorities.

I support continued investment in mental health response, homelessness outreach, technology that improves efficiency and accountability, officer training, and crime prevention. I also support evaluating programs regularly to ensure taxpayer dollars are producing meaningful results.

5. As a Councilmember, what steps would you take to maintain and improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety throughout the city?

I support continued investment in safe streets infrastructure, well-maintained sidewalks, crosswalk improvements, protected bicycle facilities where appropriate, better lighting, traffic calming, education, and enforcement of traffic laws.

Public safety includes everyone who uses our streets, whether they are walking, biking, using mobility devices, riding transit, or driving. My goal is to improve safety while maintaining accessibility and recognizing that successful transportation planning requires balancing the needs of all users.

Education

1. Do you support the 2026 Parcel Tax citizens' initiative to provide funding to our public schools and, if so, will you actively encourage your supporters to vote for that Parcel Tax? Why or why not?

Yes. I support the 2026 Parcel Tax because strong public schools are essential to the long-term health of our community. As a product of Santa Monica public schools, the mother of two SMMUSD students, a local business owner serving our schools for decades, and the founder of a nonprofit that provides free arts education to youth, I have seen firsthand how critical stable school funding is. I have publicly supported the Parcel Tax and will continue encouraging residents to support our public schools.

2. In the event the 2026 Parcel Tax fails, will you support continuation of the Master Use Facilities Agreement between the City and the School District after its current expiration date? Why or why not?

I support continued collaboration between the City and the School District. Any future agreement should be negotiated transparently and reflect the financial realities and needs of both agencies. I believe our students and families benefit when the City and School District work together to maximize public resources and shared facilities.

3. In the event the 2026 Parcel Tax passes, will you support any level of additional funding by the City to the School District after the expiration of the current Master Use Facilities Agreement?

I support continuing a strong partnership between the City and the School District. Any future funding decisions should be evaluated through the City's annual budget process, taking into account fiscal sustainability, community priorities, and the specific needs identified at that time. I do not believe it is appropriate to commit in advance to future appropriations outside of that public process.

4. Over the last couple of decades, the City and Santa Monica College have transitioned from an often hostile relationship to a partnership of shared goals. What will you do to maintain and expand the progress in college/city collaboration?

Santa Monica College is one of our community's greatest assets. I support continuing strong collaboration on workforce development, transportation, public safety, sustainability, affordable education, housing discussions, and economic development. Building partnerships between the City and SMC benefits students, residents, employers, and our local economy.

5. Do you pledge to ensure that the Big Blue Bus remains a ready partner to provide free "any line, any time" student transit pass service to SMC students?

I strongly support affordable and accessible transportation for students and recognize the importance of the existing partnership between Santa Monica College and the Big Blue Bus. As with any future budget or contract decision, I would evaluate the specific proposal based on

available funding, operational needs, and community benefit, but I believe student transit access remains an important priority.

6. Do you support additional bond funding for Santa Monica College when it is needed?

Santa Monica College has an outstanding reputation and plays a vital role in our community. Future bond measures should be evaluated individually based on demonstrated need, fiscal accountability, project scope, and community benefit. I have consistently supported investments in education, but I believe voters deserve clear information about how bond funds will be used before making that decision.

Environment, Sustainability, Mobility

1. What do you view as the City's most important current environmental and sustainability programs? What more do you want to see the City do? Explain.

Santa Monica has long been a leader in environmental sustainability, and I believe we should continue building on that legacy. I support our efforts to improve water conservation, renewable energy, urban forestry, waste reduction, sustainable building practices, and climate resilience.

As we move forward, I believe we should continue investing in projects that provide measurable environmental benefits while remaining fiscally responsible and mindful of impacts on residents and businesses. I also believe environmental goals should be balanced with affordability, economic vitality, and public safety. The most successful sustainability initiatives are those that improve quality of life while earning broad public support.

2. What do you view as the City's most important current mobility programs? What more do you want to see the City do? Explain.

Santa Monica should continue investing in a transportation system that is safe, reliable, and accessible for everyone, whether they walk, bike, use mobility devices, ride transit, or drive.

I support maintaining and improving our Big Blue Bus system, investing in pedestrian safety, improving intersections and crosswalks, expanding accessibility, and making thoughtful investments in bicycle infrastructure where appropriate.

At the same time, I believe mobility planning must recognize that residents, workers, families, seniors, people with disabilities, visitors, and local businesses all have different transportation needs. Successful mobility policy is not about prioritizing one mode of transportation over another. It is about creating a balanced transportation network that improves safety, reduces congestion where possible, supports our local economy, and allows people to move throughout Santa Monica in the way that best meets their needs.

The Arts in Santa Monica

1. What will you do as a Councilmember, if anything, to preserve and increase opportunities for artists and the arts in Santa Monica?

The arts have been central to my life for as long as I can remember. My family has owned and operated Santa Monica Music Center for more than five decades, providing instruments and music education to generations of local students. I also founded Outreach Through the Arts to provide free music education and creative opportunities for underserved youth because I believe every child deserves access to the arts regardless of their family's income.

As a Councilmember, I will continue supporting policies that strengthen Santa Monica's arts community by expanding opportunities for artists, supporting arts education, activating public spaces through arts and cultural programming, streamlining permitting for creative events, and recognizing that the arts are not only a cultural asset but also an important part of our local economy. A thriving arts community helps attract visitors, supports local businesses, enriches neighborhoods, and strengthens community connections.

2. Are you willing to increase the budget for the Arts in Santa Monica? If so, how?

I support continued investment in the arts because they provide educational, cultural, and economic benefits to our community. However, I do not believe it is responsible to commit to future budget increases outside of the public budget process.

Each budget should be evaluated based on the City's financial condition, competing priorities, available funding, and measurable community benefit. I will continue advocating for the arts while also fulfilling my responsibility to ensure thoughtful stewardship of public resources.

State Ballot Measures

1. Do you support the Howard Jarvis measure (or any substitute measure) to require a two-thirds vote on any and every form of new local tax? Why or why not? Will you actively encourage your supporters to vote the same way as you on this measure?

Because this is a future statewide ballot measure that may change before reaching voters, I do not believe it is appropriate to commit to a position without reviewing the final language. As a Councilmember, I believe it is my responsibility to evaluate each measure on its merits, consider its fiscal and legal impacts, and determine whether it serves the best interests of Santa Monica and California voters. If this measure qualifies for the ballot, I will carefully review it before taking a position and will communicate that position publicly.

2. Do you support the measure to require that any ballot measure imposing a new super-majority vote requirement must itself pass by that same super-majority in order to become effective? Why or why not? Will you actively encourage your supporters to vote the same way as you on this measure?

For the same reason, I do not believe it is appropriate to commit to supporting or opposing a future ballot measure before reviewing its final language. I believe voters deserve elected officials who thoughtfully evaluate each proposal rather than making commitments in advance. Should this measure appear on the ballot, I will review it carefully, consider its legal and practical implications, and share my position with the public.

3. Do you support the measure to condition the right to vote on new voter identification requirements? Why or why not? Will you actively encourage your supporters to vote the same way as you on this measure?

I have consistently stated that I believe election integrity and voter access should go hand in hand. I support voter identification only if it is implemented in a way that ensures every eligible voter can easily obtain identification at no cost and without creating barriers to voting. Any proposal should protect access for seniors, people with disabilities, low-income residents, and others who may face obstacles. As with any statewide ballot measure, I will evaluate the final language before determining my position and will communicate that decision publicly.