



## CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Name:** Angela Alioto

**Age:** 67

**Family:** Single mom, raised 4 children, raising 5 grandchildren

**Hometown:** San Francisco

**Lived in San Francisco since:** Birth

**Education:** Lone Mountain College for Women, USF Law School.

**Occupation:** I am a Civil Rights trial attorney who has fought for equality my entire life.

**Employer:** Self

**Political experience:**

I have a history of working for positive social change. I have proudly served the City in many roles: through Commission and Task Force appointments, by working with Department Directors and by representing communities on citywide bodies. I understand City government both as an insider and as an activist working to change City politics. Among the positions I've held in City government are President, Board of Supervisors, Vice-President, Building Inspection Commission; Vice-Chair, Mayor and Board of Supervisors' Joint Task Force on the HIV Epidemic; Co-Founder, People's Budget Collaborative; Co-Chair, Political Action Committee, and Co-Chair, HIV/Health Care Committee Chair of the Ten Year plan to abolish Chronic Homelessness.....an issue I still deal with daily.

**Notable affiliations:**

Democrat. Lifetime member: The Society for Professional Journalists, The Bar Association of San Francisco, USF School of Law's Labor & Employment Law Advisory Board and The American Trial Lawyers Association, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Dante Society of America, and

the San Francisco Mental Health Board. She is on the Board of Directors for The Dalai Lama Center for Ethics and Transformative Values at MIT. She also served as Chair of the Board of Directors for the National Shrine of St. Francis of Assisi, and is the international Director of the Knights of Saint Francis of Assisi, an Archconfraternity comprised of volunteers who are dedicated to the total management of the Porziuncola Nuova and to protect, secure and financially sustain the National Shrine of Saint Francis and the Porziuncola Nuova. Angela has supported such groups as the Equal Rights Advocates, Raoul Wallenberg Jewish Democratic Club, Bay Area Young Positives, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, the Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club, San Francisco Tomorrow, and many other Democratic clubs and neighborhood groups. She serves on the Gubbio Project and Interfaith Winter Shelter Program.

**1. What do you see as the greatest challenges when it comes to providing residents with a livable, affordable and safe community?**

Homelessness: While the city has been effective in the past few years in helping homeless people get off the streets, they have not done enough. Temporary housing and shelters create a revolving door. Navigation centers should be scaled to meet the need in each neighborhood, rather than a one size fits all strategy across the city. Homeless individuals are able to get off the streets briefly, but there is a failure to move them forward into permanent housing and employment opportunities. Without appropriate resources, they find themselves right back out on the streets.

We need to ensure:

- Funds dedicated to homelessness are being spent effectively.
- Build more permanent supportive housing.
- Provide long term employment and mental health services.

Housing: We can make significant strides in alleviating the affordability crisis by building more housing at all levels. As mayor, I will implement Mayor Lee's commitment to build 5,000 new units per year, but I will commit that that will be for housing for low and middle income residents. Providing more middle income housing will enable our teachers, families, and first responders to live in the city where they work and remove an enormous source of stress from their daily lives

We need to build housing and expand public transit with a coordinated and intelligent strategy. We must expand transit access when building new housing. We must be open to building new housing by prioritizing density over raising height limits on new construction. We certainly don't need the State to seize control of our local zoning planning.

- Keep Ed Lee's pledge to build 5,000 homes every year, which of course, I would continue, though I will redefine his pledge to 5000 units of middle-income and low-cost units per year.
- Build affordable housing for teachers, families, and workers.
- New transit lines and development go hand and hand.

Transit: San Francisco is a world class city and we need a world class public transportation system that is affordable, accessible, and reliable. Many of our residents do not own cars and rely exclusively on Muni or other forms of transit to get to work, school, the doctor, and to buy groceries. Every year we are seeing more and more cars on the road, due to increasing population and the proliferation of the rideshare economy. A strong transit system will go a long way to mitigating traffic congestion.

As mayor, I will work with MTA to identify the highest priority needs and focus on crafting and implementing smart policy to expand and improve service city-wide.

- Expand and reinstate service to underserved areas.
- Fast track Bus Rapid Transit projects to our most heavily traveled corridors.

- Explore ways to make transit more affordable for elderly and low-income residents.

Neighborhood Safety: Over the past few years, we have seen a significant uptick in car break-ins and property crime with no end in sight. The SFPD needs to put measures in place to reduce crime such as more security cameras (city owned and privately owned), adding more officers on foot patrol, bicycles, and more mounted police.

To protect our police officers and the public from gun-related incidents, I support equipping the police force with tasers - as long as there is mandatory, comprehensive training and education on proper use.

Criminals must be targeted and prosecuted by the District Attorney and the City Attorney needs to find ways to create civil penalties as well.

- Give SFPD the tools and training to safely do their jobs.
- Pressure the District Attorney to prosecute criminals.
- Use innovative technology to fight crime.
- Demand increased police presence.

**2. What is the biggest opportunity for your district or city during the next four years?**

Homelessness is the biggest concern in this upcoming Mayoral election, and it should be. I am the candidate with the most successful record on the issue. The homeless crisis affects our government and our residents. It diverts money and resources away from their primary purposes, while shifting spending and staffing priorities away from where they should be.

Police Officers spend their day acting as social workers, when they should be policing.

In one week, the Department of Public Works picked up 55 thousand pounds of debris from a homeless encampment, including 4000 needles, as well as commercial and household waste, discarded clothing, furniture, medical supplies, and human waste. The DPW spent 8.4 million for labor and supplies cleaning up after the estimated 8000 homeless in the annual 2014-15 budget. They have the resources and workforce to clean our streets, but they are diverted to monitoring homeless camps, which is not their job. Their primary focus should be cleaning and maintaining our streets

We have poor, mentally unstable, addicted human beings living on our streets, it's costing our city hundreds and hundreds of millions of a dollars a year, and we are still failing to fix the problem. All of us have had enough.

Resolving the homeless crisis would result in significant improvement to problems of crime and clean streets, which are the other two major concerns I'm hearing from people all around the City.

As Chair of the Ten Year Plan on Homelessness from 2003 - 2011, we housed over 11,000 individuals in permanent supportive housing with a 94% retention rate. That's what's missing from our current homeless solution - we cannot continue to invest in programs that take in our most vulnerable, help them get their situations resolved and then return them to the same toxic environment 120 days later. Navigation centers are a vital part of that mix but only when they lead to a sustainable exit plan, preferably into permanent, supportive housing.

My current plan, ALL IN FOR HOUSING, is the beginning phase of a fully comprehensive 5 Year Plan to fully address the housing crisis, that has plagued the City of San Francisco for decades. The R.A.P.I.D. Homeless Plan provides immediate housing to address the moral crisis taking place on the streets of San Francisco. But we also understand that long term low-income housing is needed immediately for the potential future homeless, to truly and finally address the housing crisis taking place in San Francisco.

We have tried for decades to deal with both problems separately. Business as usual is not working. The housing for low-income San Franciscans and the permanent supportive housing for the homeless, have often been piecemeal ideas, supported by piecemeal funding commitments, and all have basically failed. While we successfully housed 11,643 in permanent supportive housing, while working with then Mayor Gavin Newsom, through my 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness, unfortunately, the lack of commitment to the plan and cutting the funding precipitated an upsurge of the problem on our streets.

**3. Describe your commitment to your district or city leading up to your bid for office.**

I have shown experienced leadership with a track record of success - as a former President of the Board of Supervisors and local business owner, I am uniquely qualified to represent the diverse interests of all San Franciscans. My notable legislative successes include:

- Authored the original Sanctuary City law.
- Authored the first tobacco-free legislation in the nation to ban smoking in bars and restaurants, thereby reducing exposure of restaurant workers and patrons to dangerous carcinogens.
- Passed the first medicinal marijuana law.
- Created a Blue Ribbon Committee to keep the Giants in San Francisco.
- Created the San Francisco Film Commission and the San Francisco Youth Commission.
- Convened San Franciscans for Sunshine, which created and passed San Francisco's landmark Sunshine Ordinance.

A mayor must rise above the divisive politics that are holding our city back. I am not interested in petty politics - I have a strong record of bringing opposing

viewpoints together to find compromises that meet the needs of our constituents.

**4. Silicon Valley and the Bay Area are at the center of global, technological advancement. How do you see technology's role in changing the lives of both longtime residents and transplants?**

These behemoth companies are welcome to San Francisco, but they need to adapt to our San Francisco values. Privileged investors like Ron Conway and a few other tech company CEOs, Zynga's Marc Pincus and Salesforce's Marc Benioff as well as Twitter, Google, Oracle, Adobe and Dropbox need to be more aware of the needs of our current residents, and the need to protect their rights and interests. San Franciscans take their namesake St. Francis seriously.

Tech giants have the bully power to swamp our elections with dark money, (PACs) and we need a Mayor who will stand up to them and lead the way to protect our residents from displacement, especially when it comes to our vulnerable seniors, disabled and underemployed or unemployed—and yes, poor people are still welcome in San Francisco. As a civil rights lawyer, I will continue to be mindful of the rights of everyone.

The best thing about San Francisco is San Franciscans. We have been through so much together, AIDS, Loma Prieta, homelessness and a housing crisis that has affected every family and business. Yet City Hall seems hopelessly mired in corruption and waste. But San Franciscans know how to pull together — we know we have to. In 1906 we got back on our feet and helped the other guy get back up too. That's the San Francisco way and that's what a San Franciscan is.