

First Council District Candidate Questionnaire

Please return by June 1. No limit on the length of responses.
If helpful, feel free to include links for further information.

Zoning

What is your position on the proposed SoHo/NoHo rezoning, which the Mayor and leading Mayoral candidates have said they would seek to replicate in other historic neighborhoods with median incomes above the city average, such as those throughout the First Council District? Do you support the approach in the plan or any elements of it? If so, which? What is your position on the SoHo/NoHo community alternative plan? Do you believe that upzonings increase pressure for demolition of existing rent regulated housing and create a huge amount of new very expensive market rate housing, which has the opposite effect of the purported increase in affordability and diversity?

Do you support the City's current mandatory inclusionary housing program, and if not, why? (And be specific: Do you oppose all mandates for affordable housing? The fact that it requires a very large upzoning? The breadth or depth of affordable housing it requires?)

What sort of changes to zoning in Council District 1 would you support or advocate for? Would you support upzoning (i.e., increasing the allowable density of development as compared to current rules), and if so, where and/or under what circumstances? Would you support contextual rezonings (i.e., limiting the height of new development and limiting the transfer of air rights) or downzonings (i.e., reducing the allowable density of new development as compared to current rules), and if so where and/or under what circumstances?

Zoning (continued)

Would you seek zoning changes that would require new affordable housing in parts of the First Council District, and if so where and under what conditions (upzoning? subsidies?)?

In general, are there changes to our zoning and planning system you would seek to implement or support, and if so, what are they? What is your position on the City Council's proposed "Planning Together" framework?

Small Businesses

The City has implemented a plan to make permanent the outdoor dining allowed during the pandemic. Do you agree with this move? If not, how would you seek to change it, and what system and allowances for outdoor dining would you support?

What sort of measures would you support or propose to help small businesses? Do you support the implementation of zoning restrictions on chain stores in certain locations, and if so where? Do you support the Small Business Jobs Survival Act? Any other measures?

Landmarks

Name a historic preservation battle with which you've been involved — what was your role, why were you involved?

Would you like to see more buildings or areas landmarked in City Council District 1, less, or would you keep it as is? If you would like to see more or less, where would you expand or decrease landmark designations?

How would you evaluate the job the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) has done in regulating District 1? Have they done a good job with approving or not approving changes to existing buildings? With approving or not approving proposed demolitions and new construction? In considering and approving new landmark designations?

If there are changes you would like to see with the LPC, how as a City Councilmember would you help effectuate that?

What would you tell a property owner who was opposed to their property being landmarked, given that you as City Councilmember must ultimately uphold the landmark designation when it comes before the City Council?

Name _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Thank You for Your Answers