

Imperial Beach Democratic Club AD 80 Candidate Questionnaire

Thank you for seeking the endorsement of the Imperial Beach Democratic Club.

We would like to know a little more about you and your positions on some of the important issues facing our District and Imperial Beach. Please respond and submit your completed by 12 NOON on WEDNESDAY AUGUST 3, 2022. You will receive a confirmation that your email has been submitted. If you do not receive it, please make sure that you have answered every question and hit the submit button.

Email *

teamgg@georgettegomez.org

Name and address *

First and last name

Georgette Gomez

Social media - Facebook, Twitter, Website, etc. *

www.georgettegomez.org <https://twitter.com/GomezForAD80>

<https://www.facebook.com/GeorgetteForAssembly>

Have you ever been registered other than a Democrat? *

Yes, Green Party

How long have you been registered as a Democrat? *

Since 2010

How long have you resided in this area? *

I have been a lifelong resident of the 80th assembly district.

Have you ever run for or been elected to public office before? If yes, when, and what office(s) did you run for or previously hold ? *

2016-2020 San Diego City Councilmember D9,
2018-2020 San Diego City Council President,
2020 CA Congressional District 53
2022 CA Assembly District 80 Special Election

Why are you running for this office? *

I am running to represent the 80th Assembly District to continue this fight in the State Assembly for every family who is struggling and every neighborhood that's been left behind. We're facing incredible challenges and it's more important than ever to elect leaders we can count on to put working people first.

Why are you seeking the endorsement of the Imperial Beach Democratic Club? What other endorsements have you received and are you seeking? *

It would be an honor to receive the endorsement of the Imperial Beach Democratic Club now that the city is a part of the new district boundaries. I have the honor to be endorsed by city councilwoman, Paloma Aguirre and city councilman Matthew Leyva Gonzalez, Sierra Club and the California Democratic Party to name a few.

What qualities, skills and experience do you have that will make you an effective State Legislator? *

As a life-long community organizer and the first Queer Latina City Council President, I have spent my life fighting for working families and underserved communities. I've taken on corporate polluters, expanded affordable housing, been a leader on protecting the environment, stood up for victims of domestic violence, and been a policy maker for preogressive change.

What will you do and what have you already done to prepare our area from the threats we face from Climate change, such as sea level rise, high-tide flooding, coastal erosion, and higher storm surge? *

I have been a longtime environmental activist but really began to engage in my advocacy with the Environmental Health Coalition as a community organizer in 2004 when I educated and empowered residents of Western Chula Vista around the impacts of the South Bay Power PLant and the Bayfront Master Plan Development as part of EHC's Clean Bay Campaign.

What do you believe should be the State's role in relation to other governmental agencies in addressing cross border pollution? *

With the federal government taking a more proactive approach to address the cross border pollution, I believe the State should contribute to the funding the region is receiving. I would also like to support the smaller community organizations that are doing the work on the ground to clean the TJ River Valley and make sure they have the funding and resources they need to continue that necessary work.

What will you do and what have you done to address homelessness? *

The solution to the homelessness crisis is as complex and multifaceted as the crisis itself, but providing permanent supportive housing is the most important tool towards alleviating, reducing, and ultimately ending homelessness.

What will you do and what have you done to provide affordable housing? *

Creating more affordable housing is one of my top priorities, and I will continue being a champion on this issue at the State by ensuring that affordable housing projects have better access to financing and easier paths to development. Affordable housing beyond its technical definition means providing a home for families at an affordable rate that does not burden people from fulfilling their California dreams.

What will you do and what have you done to reduce crime? *

To effectively reduce crime, we need to properly invest in our communities and our youth, not add more police to our streets. I want to see the creation of more after school and vocational programs for youth, college readiness programs and create spaces where youth can have a creative outlet. The healthiest and safest communities have the most resources, not the most police.

What will you do and what have you done to provide economic relief from inflation and high gasoline prices? *

I am extremely supportive of the governor's tax rebate for families, but we must do more. It is time we go after the oil companies' price gouging at the expense of working families. It is unfair that while families struggle at the pump, the oil companies have nearly doubled their profits.

Do you believe that there is discrimination in policing and the justice system and if so, what will you do to ensure equal protection under the law ? *

Our justice system definitely targets and discriminates against black, indigenous and communities of color. This is why I worked in partnership with Councilmember Monica Montgomery Steppe to put before San Diego's voters Measure B, which created the Independent Commission on Police Practices and provided them with subpoena power, when I was Council President. I feel very strongly about reforming our law enforcement processes and will not solicit political support from law enforcement organizations because of that strong belief. Law enforcement is a public service that is supposed to instill safety in our communities and too often I see the status quo having the opposite effect.

What will you do and what have you done to help residents with mental illness? *

As Council President I championed a pilot program that allocated \$1.5 Million dollars to start an alternative way in which the City responded to those that are un-housed. I have been supportive of the County of San Diego's Psychiatric Emergency Response Team pilot program and hope programs like it will be available in every community in the state.

What are your priorities for the regional transportation network; i.e, roads and highways, public transit, airport, bicycling and pedestrian accommodations? *

We need to expand opportunities to change fossil-fuel consumption and the culture that has reinforced repeated fossil-fuel consumption. We can do this by better funding accessible mass transit options as well as safe active transportation options like protected bike lanes and walking promenades that reduce the public's reliance on single-passenger vehicles.

If elected, how will you interact with the residents and elected officials in Imperial Beach to ensure that our needs are being addressed? *

Constituent services are the foundation of any elected office, and I commit to creating a responsive, multi-lingual, and culturally diverse team to ensure every resident in AD-80 is able to access their State government.

If elected, what will you do to maintain fiscal solvency? *

As City Council President, I worked alongside the Mayor and my peers to create a city budget that reflected the needs of the community during the pandemic. At the state, I will use the skills I gained from my years at the city council to advocate for a budget that will bring funds to our region and use our tax dollars to improve our communities.

What do you believe should be done with the State's budget surplus? *

I believe we should use that money to fund programs to expand reproductive healthcare, provide free to low cost childcare to working families and rebates to help families struggling to keep up with the increase in cost of living.

How can the Imperial Beach Democratic Club be of assistance during your campaign and after you are elected? *

I would love for the club to be a part of our GOTV efforts and adopt a weekend to help get our neighbors in IB to the polls. We would also like to display the club's logo on our website and share a meme on social media.

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