

# Imperial Beach Democratic Club City Council 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 Imperial Beach. Please respond to the questions below and submit your completed form 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. The endorsement meeting will be held by ZOOM at 6 PM on August 4.

Email \*

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Name and address \*

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

FB: Jen Crumley Instagram: Jen.Crumley website: jencrumley.com

City Council District \*

District 1

Have you ever been registered as other than a Democrat? \*

No

How long have you been registered as a Democrat? \*

2008

How long have you resided in your council district and in IB? \*

2.5 years

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? \*

No

Are you involved with any community service or civic organizations? If so, which ones and what is your role in each? \*

Chamber of Commerce Member, Seacoasters Member, Mar Vista HS Sponsor, Mar Vista Academy Sponsor, Sun & Sea Festival Sponsor, Volunteer for clean-up efforts on Bikeway Village & Suncoasters Member

Why factors motivated you to run for this office? \*

IB is the city where I am raising my family, the city where I am growing my business, and the city that I love and want to see thrive. IB has given me so much, and I want to give back by being a voice for the people of District 1.

Why are you seeking the endorsement of the Imperial Beach Democratic Club? \*

This is the city I live in. It would be nice to have my community's support.

What other endorsements have you received for this race and what others are you seeking? \*

San Diego Democratic Party, AAPI Democrats, ACCE & Sherriff's Dept.

What experiences and qualifications do you have that will make you an effective Councilmember? \*

I am a servant at heart, being a mother to two daughters and to our teens at Cow-A-Bunga. I am the Owner of Cow-A-Bunga a woman owned minority business, a CEO for a Cybersecurity Consulting Company & Investor, College Advisory Board at CSUSM for Management Information Systems, Adjunct Professor for undergraduate Business courses & a Regional Sales Director for a Cybersecurity company. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in High Technology Management & an MBA. I'm an experienced business leader and an analytic thinker. I communicate effectively with transparency. I enjoy working in a high energy environment; this is what I consider a challenge and where I do my most effective work. I carry this entrepreneurial spirit under my belt and stay laser focused to exceed my goals.

What are your priorities for dealing with the impacts of climate change, such as sea level rise, storm surge, and erosion? \*

I will support any and all efforts to mitigate the impacts caused by sea level rise and nuisance flooding, including grants to plan for adaptation and study coastal impacts. For District 1, the key areas that will be impacted are areas adjacent to the bay. Public recreational infrastructure, private property, and our water resources and conveyance systems run the risk of being impacted. I will work with my council colleagues to ensure we are focusing on the best possible solutions, keeping vulnerable and low income families in mind.

What are your priorities for dealing with Cross Border Pollution? What do you believe should be the City's role in relation to other governmental agencies in addressing cross border pollution? \*

- 1) Protect federal funding to expand the International Treatment Plant
- 2) Advocate for additional federal and state funding for phase II
- 3) Continue testing and beach closures protocols to prioritize public health.
- 4) Fix Punta Bandera treatment plant.

Keeping neighborhoods safe and clean was identified as a priority in a recent community survey conducted by the City. What would you do on City Council to accomplish this? \*

We need to continue to work with our Sherriff's Dept to maintain public safety. In addition, making sure our communities are safe, that means more street lighting and making our neighborhoods and cross walks more pedestrian friendly.

What will you do as a City Councilmember to attract and retain business and jobs? \*

As a local business owner, we have the opportunity to tap into our community and enhance workforce development and training. In reference to my own work practices, we employ local high school students and see opportunities where they can advance into internships or lead roles. As a cybersecurity professional, I see the ongoing the demand for STEM.

We can building partnerships with local universities for workforce development or even a small business leadership training are just a few ideas.

What changes, if any, would you like to see in local police/sheriff and fire protection? Should more be done to ensure justice equity from law enforcement? How should mental health crises be handled by emergency responders? \*

We need to maintain public safety by continuing to work with our deputies. We just signed a contract with them and they are committed to work with us and their crisis stabilization unit (a county paid program). If they encounter someone mentally ill or homeless they can assist them and can help find housing and services for those that need it. Also we don't have many safety officers. We can increase the number of community officers as well. With regards to equity from law enforcement, this is a loaded question to answer. At the City level, we need our Sherriff's Dept to maintain public safety. At the Federal level, I acknowledge that racism exists and there is still a long road ahead to ensure justice equity from law enforcement. We have to pick our battles appropriately.

What should City Council do to meet SANDAG's requirements for affordable housing? \*

We need to incentivize developers to build more inclusionary housing, we need to educate the public regarding the new ordinance relating to Accessory Dwelling Units in Imperial Beach.

If elected to City Council, what would you do to maintain fiscal solvency? \*

The City Manager and City Council are being solvent keeping our budget balanced, staying transparent, paying our bills, and creating new ways to get funding through Measure I, TOT Tax and also through the through ARPA funding. The Business Task Force is bipartisan and we have to work together to ensure that we keep the funding we received from the EPA. We need to continue paying our bills as well as allocate the necessary funds to fix Punta Bandera treatment plant and work with the Mexican government. This is a collaborative effort that takes an experienced business leader, a great listener, problem solver that can execute while maintaining good relationships as well as fostering them.

What would you do as a Councilmember to balance economic growth with retaining our classic beach town atmosphere? \*

I think it's important to maintain our classic, family friendly beach town atmosphere. That's why it's important to encourage projects that reflect this- and doing so, by creating incentives for developers to invest in mixed use projects that bring more housing, hire locally, and complement sustainable elements for our city, such as trees, biofilters, landscaping, and pedestrian lighting.

Thinking about YOUR COUNCIL DISTRICT, what do you believe are its highest priorities and what would you do as a Councilmember to address them? \*

- 1) Creating more parks & open spaces: By creating more community programs through Parks and Recreation, our kids can have a safe place to play in IB.
- 2) Public Safety: Making sure our communities are safe, that means more street lighting and making our neighborhoods pedestrian friendly.
- 3) Housing Affordability: So that the people of IB are not burdened with high rents and house prices. We need to present solutions at the city level, to help IB residents live in IB, and prevent displacement.
- 4) Supporting IB Businesses: Supporting IB business owners to make sure our economy thrives. We need to work with the local government to reach out to minority business owners and be a resource for them and help them navigate through ARPA funding.

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

I need help with volunteers walking, getting my name out and posting my signs. IB is my community, my family. I will always need your support. It all has to do with where you fit in your community. The more you understand the people, the more you become the voice for them. The members on the City Council have the power to influence. It's not only about passing good policies. It's a moral office. I love my community. I want to be the voice for it.

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