

# Questionnaire for Candidates for Berkeley City Council

## BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot: Jacquelyn McCormick
2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number)  
Berkeley - Councilmember, District 8
3. What is your current occupation or elected office?  
Business Owner
4. Are you the incumbent? No
5. How long have you resided in this district and city?  
14 years

## CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name:	McCormick2010 City Council
Address:	305 The Uplands
City, State, Zip:	Berkeley, CA 94705
Name of staff contact:	Anna Sorenson
Campaign Phone:	510-843-0318
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FPPC#	1329972

## OUR ISSUES (18-35 year olds)

1. Public transit is very important to students and our members. Recently, the City of Berkeley has faced numerous debates over expanding BRT. Did you support Measure KK in 2008, and did you support AC Transit's efforts to expand BRT to Berkeley? If you support BRT, what would you do to ensure BRT moves forward in Berkeley in the future? If you don't support BRT, please explain why not.

*AC Transit needs to focus and follow through on providing more frequent, reliable local bus service—this is important to not only members of your demographic but also as a means of dealing with general traffic strain in Berkeley. AC Transit has implemented drastic service cuts over the last year due to its fiscal crisis which has negatively impacted frequent bus riders. We need a city plan that will not only provide but encourage public transportation to our shopping districts and to and around the university to remove the current heavy reliance on automobile transportation and more parking.*

*I did not support Measure KK in 2008 because I felt that as it was proposed, it would have a significant negative impact on the business districts along Telegraph Avenue. In addition, I am very wary of AC Transit's current ability to implement and maintain the plan based on their fiscally irresponsible track record in recent years. Nevertheless, my*

*position remains that we need a master transportation plan for the City of Berkeley, linking services that will better connect our neighborhoods and business districts with Bay Area Transit alternatives. AC Transit should be a part of a bigger-picture traffic plan.*

2. What is your position on the downtown plan (Measure R) on the November ballot?  
*Berkeley should be the leader in green, sustainable redevelopment options that will not only save our environment but also provide for long term revenue growth both for the businesses and for our city.  
Our downtown area, including Telegraph Avenue, needs to be revived. I see Measure R as a vision statement, not a viable plan for appropriate and sustainable development.*

*There are other plans, ready to be implemented, that were built on consensus. These plans have actual mandates for green development and for community benefits. Measure R provides for an entirely new plan, to be developed by staff and City Council and applied in an arbitrary manner. Most problematic, there is no real traffic plan to support the additional rise in downtown population for businesses or residential buildings.*

3. What are your positions on cannabis tax (Measure S) and cannabis collectives (Measure T) on the November ballot?  
*I support Measure S.*

*Measure T allows for the cultivation and sale in our neighborhoods and for large areas of cultivation in our manufacturing districts. Passing this measure would put a spotlight on Berkeley as a relatively lenient environment for cannabis cultivation which could have a magnet effect on growers in surrounding cities. It is my concern that this measure, as it singles Berkeley out, would bring the potential for increased crime and unregulated business activities in our neighborhoods. The measure indicates that large areas of cultivation do not have any restrictions as to proximity to schools or other areas where minors are present. In fact, Measure T reduces the allowed proximity of marijuana sale from schools from 1000 feet to 600 feet. I do not support Measure T.*

4. What are your top three priorities if you are elected to the City Council?
  - a. *Clear and open government - without guidelines being set, benefits granted or decisions made at will behind closed doors.*
  - b. *Fiscally responsible budgets that will not further burden homeowners or small businesses and creating a plan for sustainable guaranteed revenues to the city.*
  - c. *Organizing and mobilizing the neighborhoods and small business districts to get more involved so they have a seat at the table as together we plan for the future of Berkeley. This does not mean that the neighborhoods become insular but that they support each other - throughout the city - so we can all participate in a mutually beneficial outcome.*
5. Young adults and students are facing a terrible job market. What would you do as a city councilmember to fight for sustainable and well-paying jobs for all of Berkeley's residents, but especially young people?

*We must develop a financial sustainability plan for the entire city of Berkeley. This must include opportunities to attract new businesses and grow those that are currently here.*

*We must provide transportation alternatives to the ones being currently offered: the commute is putting a strain on young adults, increasing traffic and decreasing profitability. Increased affordable means of mobility throughout the city can only improve young adults' chance in the job market by distributing the competition throughout the city (many students may be competing for the same jobs nearer to the University: we need to help them expand their job-search radius). Providing a path toward home ownership for first time buyers is a huge concern for me because this allows locals to commit to a good job when they find one in Berkeley. Finally, we must support and grow our city's cultural activities and attract and retain artisans. Our city must be a magnet for great restaurants*

*and entertainment so our young adults have a vital city where they can live, work (and earn sufficient/competitive salaries) and play.*

6. Have you collaborated with young adults in your community work in the past (list specific examples)? How are young adults involved in your campaign? How will you continue to involve young activists in your work after you are elected? Please be specific.  
*Endorsed by Jesse Arreguin, youngest current councilmember*

*I have collaborated and been supported by young adults active in local politics, both those on city council currently and candidates for this election. On my campaign staff I have three twenty-something Berkeley natives, and I am looking for ways to reach out to more volunteers who want to campaigning experience/to provide a link between to the younger demographic of Berkeley. This will be something that continues once I am elected. Our young adults need to be part of my leadership team and I would not have a team without them.*

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR YOUNG ADULTS**

Please describe in detail at least three of your accomplishments that have improved the lives of young adults. These examples should illustrate skills and capabilities that apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

*Member, Board of Directors of Aviva Center- Residential Center and Accredited High School for Abused Adolescent Girls*

*Treasurer, Family Support Services of the Bay Area – Respite and Kinship Service provider as well as tutoring and mentoring services.*

*In all my past work experience, I have trained young adults and mentored them providing resources and roadmap to success.*

## **EXPERIENCE**

Please list or describe your current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life. Please explain how your experience would make you an effective advocate for young adults as an office holder. You may attach a resume and/or a list of endorsers here.

*Member – Claremont Elmwood Neighborhood Association Board*

*Member – Coalition for a Responsible Station*

*Family Support Services of the Bay Area - Treasurer*

*United Way Metropolitan Region – Vice Chair*

*Aviva Center Board Member and Dinner Chair*

*Ketchum YMCA – Fundraising Committee*

*Understanding large budgets and capital expenditure plans is one of my strongest attributes. I have worked for over 25 years as a small business owner, commercial portfolio manager – overseeing over 2000 properties totaling 10 million square feet and managing an annual operating budgets of over \$180 million and capital expenditure plans of over \$200 million. My other experience includes strategic initiative planning and national project implementation, and the development of design and delivery standards for retail banking facilities. Additionally, I have represented tenants and landlords from small businesses to major corporations in transactions totaling over 6 million square feet.*