

# Democratic Party of Contra Costa County Candidate Questionnaire

Thank you for seeking the endorsement of the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County (DPCCC).

Please submit your completed questionnaire and remit the endorsement application fee of \$30 no later than , August 12, 2024. Interviews will not be scheduled without both a completed questionnaire and received payment.

- Pay Endorsement Application Fee:

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/2024campaignunityfund>.

1. Click on "Donate"
  2. The page will say "2024 Campaign Unity Funds" - Just fill in \$30 as the amount to pay.
- Complete Candidate Questionnaire.

### \*\*\*IMPORTANT INFO\*\*\*

- Your application fee must be paid before questionnaires will be processed.
- Interviews will not be scheduled without both a completed payment and completed questionnaire.
- You must have submitted your questionnaire and payment **before August 12, 2024 before 11:59pm PST.**
- Your completed questionnaire will be added to the DPCCC website after all interviews are conducted.
- The DPCCC membership will vote on endorsements at a **Special Meeting on August 29, 2024.** You will be sent an invitation to the meeting which you are welcome to attend.

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The DPCCC aspires to be an organization where members are empowered and feel safe to be who they are, regardless of ethnic, cultural, or social demographics. We are committed to fostering equity and social justice through our policies and actions.

We hold ourselves accountable for unwanted behavior and we expect decision-making to be based on justice principles. We actively oppose **racism, sexism, classism, ageism, ableism, homophobia, and all other forms of prejudice wherever we see it**, and we take action individually and collectively to right past wrongs in our communities.

Section 1: Candidate Information

Name (First, Last): \*

ARTURO CRUZ  
.....

Preferred Name (if different than campaign name):  
.....

Age \*

- Under 18
- 18 to 24
- 25-44
- 45-65
- Over 65
- Prefer not to disclose

Pronouns: \*

- She/Her/Hers
- He/Him/His
- They/Them/Theirs
- Ze/Zie/Hir/Hirs
- Prefer not to disclose
- Other: .....

Gender Identity (*check all that apply.*): \*

- Gender non-conforming
- Genderqueer
- Genderfluid
- Non-binary
- Woman
- Man
- Transgender
- Prefer not to disclose
- Other: .....

Sexual Identity (*check all that apply.*): \*

- Bisexual
- Queer
- Gay
- Heterosexual or straight
- Lesbian
- Asexual
- Pansexual
- Prefer not to disclose
- Other: .....

With which racial or ethnic group(s) do you identify? (*Mark all that apply.*): \*

Native American or Indigenous

Black, African-American

Eastern European

Latino/a/x/e

Pacific Islander

Asian

East Asian

South Asian

Southeast Asian

Middle Eastern, Northern African

Native Hawaiian

East African

West African

South African

Central African

White

Multiracial/Mixed Race

Prefer not to disclose

Other: .....

Which office are you seeking? \*

City of San pablo .....

CA FPPC ID # \*

#1416954

Campaign Website \*

Www.arturocruz.org

Campaign Consultant/Manager \*

Emma Cruz

.....

**Social Media Handles \***

Facebook and Instagram  
.....

**1.1 - Why are you running for this office? Give no more than your top 3 reasons. \***

To continue improving the quality of life for all of San Pablo. I have over 14 years experience on San Pablo City Council and my platform issues are Public Safety, Economic Development, Youth Development, Senior Services and Affordable Housing.  
.....

**1.2 - What are the responsibilities that come with the office you are running for? \***

To make sure public safety is a priority, build affordable housing , provide programs and services and balance our budget.  
.....

**1.3 - What are your personal or professional qualifications that you believe make you the best candidate? \***

I grew up in San Pablo and was elected TO SAN Pablo City Council in 2008 and have over 14 years experience.  
.....

**1.4 - What are your top goals for this office? How do you plan on achieving them? \***

I plan to continue supporting programs and policies that are in the best interest for everyone in San Pablo while balancing our budget and making sure staff does their part to follow the direction of our City Council under the direction of our City Manager.  
.....

1.5 - How do you plan on engaging your constituents in dialogue after you are elected? \*

I am always available to listen to issues and/or concerns that my constituents may have directly through my cell phone, City email or my personal website.

1.6 - This is a 3-Part Question: Why are you seeking the endorsement of the DPCCC? How will you use our endorsement? How will you support other endorsed candidates and issues? \*

I have been a Democrat since I could vote, and I support our values of diversity, public education, affordable housing, affordable Healthcare, infrastructure development and clean energy and need your help to reach every elected Democrat in San Pablo to get re elected and continue being the voice of the working class on San Pablo City Council

1.7 - Please feel free to include any additional information you would like us to consider in evaluating your candidacy. \*

I have been on San Pablo City Council for over 14 years and my Leadership skills have a successful track record by investing into Technology to make my city safer, creating hundreds of jobs through capital projects and supporting policies and programs to help improve the quality of life for all of San Pablo and our community as a whole!

Section 2: Democratic History

2.1 - List your previous and current party affiliations. When did you first register as a Democrat and why? \*

I first registered to vote when I turned 18 in 1992 and I agree with the democratic platform and vision for California and the United States of America



2.2 - I have read and acknowledge the California Democratic Party's current platform (value statement) and will adhere to these values in the performance of my elected position. \*

To learn about the CADEM Platform, please click [here](#).

Yes

No

2.3 - In your opinion, which elements of the CADEM Platform are most relevant to the position you are seeking? If elected, how do you plan to advance them? \*

We envision a California that leads the world as a model of economic prosperity rooted in economic justice, in both rural and urban communities and we believe in Equality, Liberty and Justice for all. This platform defends and promotes these values. I will do my part to improve the quality of life for San Pablo and our community!

2.4 - Have you actively supported policies and initiatives that prioritize and protect reproductive healthcare and freedom, and can you affirm your commitment to continuing this support if elected? \*

Yes

No

2.5 - If elected, what would you do to advance equity, anti-racism, justice, and belonging? \*

I will continue supporting programs and policies for all of San Pablo and our beautiful diverse city!

2.6 - Have you actively opposed LGBTQIA+ issues, which may involve voting against solidarity, supporting harmful or exclusionary policies, or publicly expressing opposition through statements or comments? (i.e. voting against or making disparaging remarks about the display of pride flags, marriage equality, trans-inclusive policies, or queer-inclusive curricula). \*

Yes

No

2.7 - Have you previously sought the endorsement of the DPCCC? If yes, for what elected office? Were you endorsed? \*

I sought endorsement in 2008, I received it and sought endorsement from the west County democratic club in 2020 and didn't receive it at that time.

2.8 - Please list any elected offices, positions and date(s), which you hold/held or campaigned for as a candidate. \*

I have been on San Pablo City Council for over 14 years and am currently on the board of AFSCME retirees local 142 and am a member of the West County democratic club.

2.9 - In what ways have you supported and actively participated in the Democratic Party at the local, state, and national levels? \*

I am a current member of the West County democratic club.

2.10 - Please list any clubs, boards, commissions, and /or organizations with which you are an active member, including the length of your affiliation and any leadership position you hold/held. \*

SAN PABLO CITY COUNCIL FOR OVER 14 YEARS, AFSCME RETIREES LOCAL 142 BOARD MEMBER AND MEMBER OF THE WEST COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CLUB.

2.11 - Have you ever endorsed non-Democrats? \*

Yes

No

2.11a - If so, what were the circumstances?

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Section 3: References & Club Endorsements

3.1 - Please list any other endorsements you have received for this campaign. \*

I have been endorsed by OE3, AFSCME COUNCIL 57 RETIREES LOCAL 142, IBEW 302 and Contra Costa BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL.

3.2 - What other endorsements are you seeking? \*

I am currently seeking the endorsement of the Central labor council of Contra costa County, all it's affiliates and the United Teachers of Richmond

Some of the Democratic Clubs use this questionnaire in their endorsement process. If you would like to be considered for Democratic club endorsement(s), please contact the club(s) directly by going to our DPCCC website club's page:

<https://contracostadems.com/clubs/>

Part 2: DPCCC Values Section

Please proceed to fill out the 2nd section of the Candidate Questionnaire on the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County's Values.

## DPCCC Value: Criminal Justice &amp; Conflict Resolution

- *Opposes criminalization of low level offenses, advocates for Community Support Services, funding for prompt rape kit processing, gun violence prevention measures; Opposes scapegoating, racial profiling, religious profiling, bigotry, vigilantism, exploitation, and any xenophobic conduct that polarize communities and denounce actions by the government or individuals that keep undocumented immigrants in the shadows of our society; Supports Law Enforcement Training, Civilian Oversight Committees, independent investigators for cases involving the use of deadly force or in-custody deaths, restorative justice;*
- *Supports a properly funded and staffed the U.S. foreign service that promotes democracy and human rights around the world; Supports candidates who work to de-escalate tension especially in areas of conflict like Israel/Gaza, Sudan, Haiti, and other parts of the world through good faith negotiations and work for world peace; Endorse candidates who support the Democratic Party as it works to counter aggression by countries that violate the sovereignty of other countries and that fund and implement physical, cyber, and financial attacks on democracies and developing countries.*

Please expand on your stance and describe the potential impacts on the community that you seek to represent. \*

I believe and support humanity, freedom of speech and the non violent movement!

## DPCCC Value: Criminal Justice &amp; Conflict Resolution

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Please expand on your stance and describe the potential impacts on the community that you seek to represent. \*

I support humanity freedom of speech and the non violent movement!

DPCCC Value: Education & Child Support Services

- *Advocates for high-quality, affordable child care; support programs for low income families including access to parks and job retraining; ensures educational materials (textbooks, library books) are inclusive, historically accurate, and reflect scientific consensus including age-appropriate, medically accurate sex/gender education; replacing sworn peace officers in schools with trained non-police personnel; Supports policies that respect students' civil rights related to gender expression and addresses issues like gender-based violence and harassment.*

Please expand on your stance and describe the potential impacts on the community that you seek to represent. \*

I believe parents should have access to affordable childcare that provides a safe and caring place for children to learn and thrive.

## DPCCC Value: Seniors & Veteran Support Services

- *Supports the California Master Plan for Aging including dignified living at home housing options that are age, disability, and dementia-friendly; prioritize public housing initiatives over privatization for seniors and adults with disabilities; support retraining for those aged 55-65, and extend unemployment; oppose mandatory retirement; call for stronger oversight of reverse mortgage programs, rigorous prosecution of financial crimes against seniors; support comprehensive single-payer healthcare, with interim Medicare Part D reforms; support HICAP services, affordable mental healthcare including issues around isolation, quality caregiving, and increased funding for In-Home Supportive Services. Preserve programs like Adult Protective Services and home-delivered meals; advocate for the removal of the FICA income limit to strengthen Social Security and preserve pensions.*
- *Champions the needs of veterans and military families by promoting equitable treatment and benefits, access to education including tuition waivers and retraining, adequate healthcare funding including government assistance for those exposed to toxins; elimination of veteran homelessness, establishment of Veterans' Courts and justice programs and support independent investigations of claims of hazing, rape, sexual assault and harassment and that the military remove the chain of command from all investigations and prosecutions; support a path to citizenship for military service members, and protections against discrimination based on ethnicity, disability, gender identity, political affiliation, race, religion, or sexual orientation; oppose deportation of military personnel and limitations on citizenship for children of veterans who are born abroad.*

Please expand on your stance and describe the potential impacts on the community that you seek to represent. \*

Unfortunately some of our seniors can't afford to live on social security alone and sometimes have to supplement their incomes by working to make ends meet. We should be able to provide our seniors with resources for them to be able to live in a safe environment with resources available for them to feel safe and loved.

## DPCCC Value: Affordable Housing & Environmental Protections

- *Supports eviction protections, rent control/stabilization, anti-harassment ordinances, and habitability protections; Supports zoning and housing policies that ensure sustainability and affordability, including infill and mixed-use developments that balance job opportunities with housing availability; Promotes the integration of green spaces and community gardens in all communities; Supports local authority in phasing out fossil fuel extraction and preventing the zoning of new extraction sites; Advocates for strong regulatory measures for setting science-based health and safety setbacks from residential areas for industrial sites, including oil and gas wells and toxic dump sites.*

Please expand on your stance and describe the potential impacts on the community that you seek to represent. \*

I believe in providing affordable housing for everyone and also resources for first time buyers programs.

#### DPCCC Value: Equality & Human Rights

- *Actively advocates for a just and inclusive society, speaking out against all forms of racism, discrimination, harassment, hatred, and violence; Supports movements and initiatives that address discrimination; Enforces policies that ensure equal opportunities and equal pay for equal work across genders, races, and abilities; Upholds the rights of transgender and gender non-conforming individuals for acknowledgment of their stated name, gender, and pronoun; Supports the use of gender-neutral language to foster an inclusive environment; Promotes the participation of women, LGBTQIA+, people with disabilities, and people of color in elected office and ensures access to facilities consistent with individuals' gender identity and disability access; Supports the right to free speech, ensuring it does not extend to discriminatory practices against any group based on race, religion, gender identity, or sexual orientation.*

Please expand on your stance and describe the potential impacts on the community that you seek to represent. \*

People have the right to freedom of speech and I believe that people can assemble peacefully to express themselves through the non violent movement!

#### DPCCC Value: Healthcare & Reproductive Rights

- *Advocates for the preservation of rights under Roe v. Wade, guaranteeing confidential and unrestricted access to reproductive services without the need for consent or judicial intervention, ensuring continued coverage of all healthcare options; Works toward implementing a universal, single-payer healthcare system, while in the interim, seeking reforms to make Medicare Part D more affordable and accessible, including the ability for Medicare to negotiate drug prices.*

Please expand on your stance and describe the potential impacts on the community that you seek to represent. \*

Woman should have the right to how they care for themselves and their families.

### DPCCC Value: Economic Justice & Business Development

- *Support for Small Businesses and Entrepreneurship focusing on women, people of color, and those with limited entrepreneurship opportunities including veterans; Support the rights of employees to organize and Project Labor Agreements; Ensures a safe working environment free from harassment, intimidation, and retaliation; Advocates for the establishment of local banks and credit unions, limiting regressive financial operations like check cashing businesses and pawnshops; Promotes Project Labor Agreements to protect workers; Supports initiatives to counteract "food deserts" by developing local grocery stores and community gardens in underrepresented areas.*

Please expand on your stance and describe the potential impacts on the community that you seek to represent. \*

SMALL BUSINESSES ARE THE BACKBONE TO OUR ECONOMY AND SHOULD BE SUPPORTED WITH GRANTS TO HELP KEEP THEIR BUSINESSES THRIVING THROUGH THE CURRENT POST PANDEMIC CIRCUMSTANCES AND INFLATION COSTS!

### Reminders:

\* After submitting this questionnaire, please go and pay your endorsement application fee at:

<https://contracostadems.com/donate>

\* Please direct questions to the Endorsements Committee Chair Tamela Hawley or Vice Chair Cameron Sasai at [endorsements@contracostadems.com](mailto:endorsements@contracostadems.com)

\* The DPCCC Code of Conduct: <https://contracostadems.com/about/code-of-conduct/>

\* The CADEM Party Platform: <https://cadem.org/our-platform/>



If you like, you may submit a biography and/or resume in the section below. Not required.

 Add file

### Submit Questionnaire

By submitting this questionnaire, I attest that the foregoing is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and to uphold the Code Of Conduct. <https://contracostadems.com/about/code-of-conduct/>

Thank you and good luck with your campaign! We will be in touch with you to schedule your interview time.

Interviews will be scheduled by District Directors.

**By submitting this questionnaire, I agree to accepting the endorsement of the DPCCC if offered.** \*

Yes

No

I have paid my endorsement application fee: <https://contracostadems.com/donate/> \*

Yes

No

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