

OREB Endorsement 2024-7

This is part of the OREB endorsement process. Please complete this form. Questions 7 through 40 require a **SHORT** (no more than 800 characters) explanation as part of your answer. Click the button below to start. There are 13 sections. After launching, please click the "NEXT" button at lower left to go to the next section. If you have concerns, please contact Carol Coyote or Michael Cheng.

Email *

Lyndad4parks@gmail.com

I. Campaign information

1. Name

Lynda Deschambault

2. Preferred Pronouns

she/her/hers

3. Position Running For

East Bay Regional Parks District Ward 2

4. Email Address

Lyndad4parks@gmail.com

5. Phone number

925.268.0883

6. Campaign website

www.LyndaD4parks.com

II. Campaign finances and support

7. Who has contributed to your campaign?

My endorsements are grassroots Individuals and advocates/ individuals. Please see my public filed 460's for a complete list. I made a commitment to not accepting campaign contributions from CEOs, lobbyists, and PACs that represent the fossil fuel industry!

8. Other than individual donations, who do and will you receive donations from? List all groups, unions, businesses (especially those doing business with the entity in which you seek to hold office).

To date, the only group donation I have received is from our local San Ramon Valley Democratic Club, I would accept donations from similar clubs. I am also a 20 year union worker, and I am seeking the Labor Endorsement of the AFSCME 4828 and I would accept their report. I am not away of any other anticipated donations.

9. Please list persons and organizations who have endorsed you.

Please list any endorsements including titles. 1. CA Democratic Party 2. Stewart Chen, Elected President, Oakland Chinatown Improvement Council 3. Colin Coffee, Elected Director East Bay Parks 4. Jerry Kent, Retired Operations Manager East Bay Parks 5. Wei Tai, Elected Vice Mayor Lafayette CA Many more including Cedric Cheng, Marsha and Eric Golangco, can be found: <https://lyndad4parks.com/endorsements/>

10. Please list PACs, Super PACs, and independent expenditure committees supporting you.

none

11. List any/all industries, organizations and people that you will decline donations and endorsements from, please be inclusive.

I made a commitment to not accepting campaign contributions from CEOs, lobbyists, and PACs that represent the fossil fuel industry!

III. Crime and law enforcement

12. What do you think about the use of force by police? What and when is appropriate and what is not?

People who oppose the police force (use of force) are described as anti-police, and this could not be further from the truth. I support police. But I do not support use of force that exceeds what is necessary to diffuse a situation, make an arrest, or apprehend a suspect

13. Do you support banning private prisons? Please explain.

Yes. Biden's effort to end federal criminal system's use of for-profit prisons was an important step toward stemming the flow of federal money to corporations that lock people up for profit. ACLU states "Private prisons profiteer off federal prisoners and are proven to be, or found to be by the Department of Justice inspector general, less safe for correctional officers and prisoners." However, loopholes show there are still many facilities. Without going in to a lot of detail: I support a reform of our criminal justice system.

14. Do you support abolishing cash bail? Please explain.

Time in Jail should not be based on one's wealth. I do believe in "innocent until proven guilty." Except perhaps in the case of safety or harm. But keeping people in jail solely because of their poverty level before they have had a trial or been found guilty allows people with financial means to purchase their freedom, while those without cash remain in jail.

15. Do you support decriminalizing (and/or legalizing) all drugs? Please explain.

Mostly. Not for repeat offenses or trafficking. But yes. Gng to jail for use of drugs, is a public health issue. People with substance use disorders need treatment. Not jail time. I believe in eliminating penalties for drug possession and replacing them with a new approach centered in a national health plan for all

16. Do you oppose the use of capital punishment? Please explain.

Yes. 'We cannot teach that killing is wrong by killing.'

17. Should convicted felons and prison inmates be granted the right to vote? Please explain your view.

I believe that people on parole should be able to vote. More than a dozen other states allow people to vote once they've finished their prison sentences. My niece had an addiction to oxy and made one mistake. Served 6 months. And still cannot vote. This isn't right.

IV. Immigration

18. What is your view on immigrants and immigration? What new legislation is needed? And what laws should be removed?

We are all immigrants. I supported Biden's bi-partisan attempt to reach across the aisle and pass the nation's most comprehensive border reform this country has seen. And could still get the votes needed to pass. I think we could do more. I do NOT believe that immigrants drive down wages or puts people out of jobs. I believe they take jobs no one else wants and helps to drive our economy. I support a five-year pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, with priority status for young people.

V. Infrastructure issues

19. What kind of health care insurance system do you support? And why?

I support Universal Healthcare for all. Our healthcare system is a catastrophe. I know firsthand from my younger brother's search for care as a stroke survivor at 59 years old. It has been a disaster. Our population is on the rise and so is the cost and ineffectiveness of our healthcare system. People like my brother keep putting off medical preventative care, which just leads to more health issues and at a time with so many uninsured. We know it works in other countries. We need to replace for profit medical system to Medicare for all.

20. Do you support public banking? Why or why not?

Yes, I agree with Bernie who says it best: "It is clear to me and to the American people, that the CEOs of the largest banks in America should not be allowed to serve as directors of the main agency we have in this country in charge of regulating those very same financial institutions. The Fed has got to become a more democratic institution that is responsive to the needs of working people and the middle class, not just CEOs of some of the largest financial institutions in America."

21. Do you think public transit should be free?

Definitely cheaper. And maybe free. For sure, free to start. Eliminating fares would provide a boost to ridership by removing the cost burdens of public transit and making it equitable to everyone. Making it accessible to folks who need to get to work and to jobs. Moreover, not have to spend their whole salary to get there. Nevertheless, I do think having some small fares, could also help fund capital improvements, and O&M of a system so that it stays high quality and good service. Which should be a priority for transit systems across America

VI. Labor

22. What do you think the minimum wage should be in California? Nationwide? What does a "living wage" mean to you?

Earning a living wage means that you can pay necessary costs including shelter, food, and basics. According to SmartAsset, a single adult needs to earn \$119,558 annually, to live comfortably in San Francisco.

23. How would you protect workers not covered by the National Labor Relations Act?

In progress

24. Would you propose to tax the companies that rely upon contract workers? And how?

in progress

VII. Housing

25. What are the causes of the housing crisis in California and the Bay Area?

in progress

26. What do you propose to protect renters? Please comment on laws/acts, such as Costa Hawkins and others, to be repealed, and added/legislated?

in progress

27. Do you support the repeal of all laws that criminalize or punish homeless persons? What will you do to protect our unhoused communities?

In progress

28. How do we provide/develop more affordable and low-cost housings?

In progress

29. Do you support social housing? How do you propose to create it?

In progress

VIII. Education

30. What is your opinion about charter schools?

I am a union supporter. I believe in public schools

31. What is your opinion about no cost public college and university?

I support educating our future generations

32. Do you support the cancellation of all student debt?

I was bound to my own students loans until the age of 41. I believe we need to educate and not burden our workforce.

33. How do you propose to make universal public pre-K free?

in progress

34. Do you support "strengthening" Title IX?

inn progress

IX. Environmental

35. What do you think, broadly, a "Green New Deal" should contain?

I am the founder of a 501c3 organization called Contra Costa County Climate Leaders. we are the fiscal sponsors of the Bay Area's Blue Green New Deal. you can see our workshop on this topic here: <https://cccclimateleaders.org/workshops/green-new-deal-symposium/>

36. Do you support banning fracking?

YES!

X. Election

37. Do you support public financing of elections?

In progress

38. Do you support ranked choice voting for your office, and in general?

In progress

XI. US foreign policy

39. Do you support the international campaign of BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions)? And what should the US policy be on Palestine/Israel?

I do not know enough about the specific details BDS to take a position. I believe the US policy should be to support efforts to advance a two-state solution.

XII. Anything else?

40. And if you have chosen not to answer some questions, please explain why.

I was only provided 48 hours to complete. It deserves much more time than that. I am an environmental scientist running for a seat for the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD). the largest regional park system in the nation! Open spaces are critical to the health of our people and planet. I attach my resume for your full consideration, and this quote from my colleague at the Washoe Tribe. "Lynda understands the connection between all terrestrial inhabitants and the environment for which she dedicates her life to protecting."-- Darrel Cruz, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California

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