

OREB Endorsement 2024-4

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 *

jovita_mendoza@hotmail.com

I. Campaign information

1. Name

Jovita

2. Preferred Pronouns

She/Her

3. Position Running For

Brentwood City Council District 3

4. Email Address

jovita_mendoza@hotmail.com

5. Phone number

510 967-7897

6. Campaign website

BetterForBrentwood.com

II. Campaign finances and support

7. Who has contributed to your campaign?

Residents only - i do not take special interest money

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).

None

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

DPCCC and Marsh Creek Dems

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.

All - resident driven campaign

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?

Policing needs to be for the people for safety. I do not condone force, unless there is risk to human life.

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

YES! Prisons should never be a business. That is why they work to keep people in jail in order to increase profits.

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

YES - a person should not be kept in jail simply because they cannot pay bail. This furthers a world that creates a system for the wealthy and those who do not have money.

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

No, substance abuse is a problem that is driving 60% of the homeless. We need to look at each drug individually and analyze the impact, the addiction rate, the abuse rate. One size fits all does not apply here.

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

I say no to the death penalty. My concern is about getting it wrong, which we have seen time and time again.

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

Yes - being incarcerated does not take away your citizenship and I see no reason why they can't vote.

IV. Immigration

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

I am the daughter of two immigrants. We need an easier process to allow people to come in and work that allow them the same benefits as other workers. I am happy to see that there is hope for undocumented spouses of citizens to earn their residency. We also need to give citizenship to all who have been in the military.

V. Infrastructure issues

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

PUBLIC Health insurance. I worked for an Australian company and was happy to see that they have baseline medical benefits. We need to look at something like that for all Americans.

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

We need a banking system that is fair to all. Today with large institutions we see them be able to pick who they would like as customers and everyone else is left out of the system. We need a place for everyone to be able to save, invest, get loans and have a checking account.

21. Do you think public transit should be free?

I would say YES, but we would have to secure the funding. That is the hardest part. We see BART which is on the way to have no money by 2027 . Education, Housing and Transportation should be first items spent on.

VI. Labor

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

We need a wage that allow for people to be able to pay for RENT, FOOD, CLOTHES and the other basics. Right now people are spending 70% of income on housing. I don't know if it's the PAY or managing housing that is the answer. I'm seeing that when we move up pay, the landlords push up rent. We need to sop the chase.

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

The state has an office the "Labor Commissioner's Office". We need to better utilize that office to implement at a state level make protections law and fund the office to be able to carry out enforcement. All employees should be protected.

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

I don't believe we have to tax them. Many small companies use contract workers to start up. If we had statewide health and benefits contractors would have the same benefits.

VII. Housing

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

There is a few drivers: Short term rentals have taken thousands of units off the market in the areas we need them most, developers are making 20-30% profit points and they can afford to create 20% inclusionary affordable housing in all new developments. The state needs to re-fund the redevelopment agency with strict criteria for cities around money usage. 100% affordable developments should be ministerial when they adhere to zoning and design standards

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?

There should be housing for all. We need a statewide policy around rent increases, we need just cause eviction guidelines. We're seeing landlords evict just to turn around and rent out again at a higher rate. We also need to focus on VERY LOW, LOW and those below that. We have a marketing campaign for "missing middle" that was created to protect developer profit margins. The narrative has to change.

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

Yes, we can not punish people for being homeless. We need to offer them shelter and aid. For those with mental health and drug addiction there needs to be a health plan.

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

20% affordable inclusionary housing in all new developments, BAN short term rentals, ministerially approve 100% affordable housing. The state needs to earmark money directly to housing and not waste it in the bureaucratic system that has been taking money for years.

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

I am not a big fan being from Oakland. What I saw is the isolation of poor people and lower investment in those areas in infrastructure and schools. I have no problem having people of all incomes living in my neighborhood.

VIII. Education

30. What is your opinion about charter schools?

No, like with prisons, the for profit system does not benefit those most in need.

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

YES - our residents should be given the opportunity to get out of poverty via education.

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

YES - the student loan industry has taken advantage of the people. We need a loan system that is manager by the people for the people and not profits.

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

This all goes back to state funding. The state has a lot of money that goes to pet projects and EDUCATION should be prioritized before those.

34. Do you support "strengthening" Title IX?

YES, Title IX should be extended to include LGBTQ+ students

IX. Environmental

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

We need to be reliant 100% renewable. It's a BIG ask, but possible. Wine and Solar are the biggest ones in CA. We need guardrails around the CPUC which has killed solar with NEM 3. Green energy is more important than PG&E profits.

36. Do you support banning fracking?

We need to continue pushing on our legislators. In Brentwood during my tenure we have banned oil & gas drilling (which we did have application in the county for). We can't take our foot off the gas at the city, county and state level

X. Election

37. Do you support public financing of elections?

We need campaign finance reform. In Brentwood we passed reform that caps donations at \$500. We need that across the sate. We also need NO PACS. Private companies are driving elections results with millions of dollars.

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

No, the math doesn't work because you could have the worst candidate and that isn't the best for the people.

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?

Yes, BDS is the only lever we have outside of warfare and that should never be an option. The US needs to stop funding Israel and step in and help the people of Palestine. A genocide is NEVER something we should condone.

XII. Anything else?

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

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