

# 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 \*

alfredtwu@gmail.com

## I. Campaign information

1. Name

Alfred Twu

2. Preferred Pronouns

any pronouns

3. Position Running For

Berkeley Rent Board

4. Email Address

alfredtwu@gmail.com

5. Phone number

7328501013

## 6. Campaign website

alfredtwu.org / berkeleyrentboard.org (will be updated soon)

## II. Campaign finances and support

### 7. Who has contributed to your campaign?

Berkeley donations: Soli Alpert Alfred Twu Barnali Ghosh Kyler Blodgett Mark Humbert Brandon Yung Diego Aguilar-Canabal Elizabeth (Betsy) Morris Otto Pippenger Samuel (Sam) Kaplan Pettus James Brown Andrea (Andi) Jones Jennifer Shanoski Michael Cheng Carol Coyote Ana Vasudeo Jennifer Azulay Bradley Slaughter Avery Arbaugh Chris Lee-Egan Adena Ishii Libby Lee-Egan Xavier Johnson Sarah Bell Cecilia Lunaparra. Outside Berkeley: Jean Walsh Robert Rich Austin Bruckner Carrillo Phoebe Shin Venkat Michelle Weiner Zane Rice Stephanie Beechem Sadia Khan Evan Adams Lisa Danz Thuon Chen Kenneth Russell Emily Ramos Analisa Swan

### 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).

As a Berkeley candidate, I can only take donations from individuals

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

Berkeley Tenants Convention, Berkeley Tenants Union, Ana Vasudeo, Avery Arbaugh, Cecilia Lunaparra, Jovanka Beckles, Nikki Fortunato Bas, Soli Alpert, Xavier Johnson

### 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.

Fossil Fuels, For-profit corporate entities (corporations, LLCs, etc.) Political committees formed by for-profit entities Real estate developers and realtors For-profit corporate lobbyists Professional landlords Police or prison unions Charter schools or non-profits supporting charter schools

## 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?

Needs to be minimized. Appropriate when there is an immediate threat and de-escalation has failed. Never appropriate for crowd control of peaceful protests

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

Yes

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

Yes. Replacement risk assessment should be managed such that it does not lead to an increase in people in jail awaiting trial

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

Drugs should be legal and regulated in a similar way as food or household products. Similar to food ingredients and household chemicals, some drugs can remain banned if there is a safer alternative available that has the same uses. This is how we solve the overdose crisis, many of which is caused by people taking drugs where other drugs have been added without the buyer being aware.

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

Yes

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

Yes

#### IV. Immigration

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

Immigration has many benefits and we should move towards the day where all people are free to move where they want. Legislation needed today include paths to citizenship for people already here, removing the country-based quotas that lead to some people facing multi-decade waits, and accepting more refugees. The policy where people who immigrated as young children get deported to countries where they have little or no connection also needs to end.

#### V. Infrastructure issues

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

Single Payer. It's been shown to work well elsewhere, saving money and improving everyone's health

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

Yes. Would make it easier to fund affordable housing and public infrastructure

21. Do you think public transit should be free?

The most pressing need for transit is avoid the fiscal cliff coming up in a couple years, which would lead to service cuts. Once the budget is balanced, free fares can be considered. In the meantime free transfers including between agencies would save riders money while also increasing ridership to cover the cost. Long term free transit can be funded by taxing property, for example, Emeryville's free bus is funded by property taxes, with businesses that generate lots of trips paying more.

## VI. Labor

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

Should be at least \$25 in CA and \$15 nationwide. Living wage = can afford housing large enough for a family, in case of CA that is about \$42 an hour.

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

I would support their efforts to organize and efforts to expand NLRA coverage

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

Yes. Right now contract workers have to pay a self-employment tax on top of their income tax. This should be paid for by the company instead. Repeal prop 22

## VII. Housing

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

Lack of funding for public housing, minimum wage too low, not enough new homes relative to the amount of office & retail development

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?

Locally we need stronger enforcement of habitability standards. We also need better disclosures of rights to tenants, something similar to how workplaces have to post a poster of labor laws. Same disclosure of tenants rights should be required when property is being sold, one problem is that investors buy buildings, thinking they can raise rent because the seller didn't tell them about all of Berkeley's laws. New buyer overpays for the building and then harasses tenants or cuts maintenance to break even. I support repeal of Costa Hawkins and Ellis Act

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. The blanket bans on being unhoused do not work. Instead it can be regulated, for example, issuing one RV or tent permit per block, that way there's enough places for people to live and every neighborhood does their share. Most effective are tenant protections that protect people from becoming homeless in the first place.

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

Pass the RM4 housing bond

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

Yes. Countywide approach may be the best way to start, Alameda County has the support for it and pooling funds can provide efficiency. See Montgomery County in Maryland as example

## VIII. Education

30. What is your opinion about charter schools?

Bad. They reduce funding for public schools, but don't have the mandate of educating all students. This leaves public schools with students with greater needs but without the proportional amount of money to provide what they need

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

Support

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

Yes  
.....

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

Subsidize it by taxing the rich  
.....

34. Do you support “strengthening” Title IX?

Yes  
.....

### IX. Environmental

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

Green jobs that use the skills of existing fossil fuel workers, pay them as well or better, and are located in communities that currently rely on fossil fuel jobs  
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36. Do you support banning fracking?

Yes  
.....

### X. Election

37. Do you support public financing of elections?

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

Yes  
.....

### 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. US policy should be immediate end to the war, release all hostages and political prisoners, support an independent Palestine, provide aid for reconstruction and economic development.

## XII. Anything else?

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

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