

Henry Flynn - Ride the Vote!

2024 San Francisco Mayoral candidate questionnaire

1. What office are you running for?

Mayor of San Francisco

2. What is your name?

Henry Flynn

3. Do you have a section on your website about public transit, transportation, or mobility? If so, please provide a link.

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4. How do you usually get around San Francisco? Please tell us when and why you use cars, trains, Muni buses, bikes, walking, wheelchairs, or any other mode you frequently use for transportation.

I walk and ride Muni.

5. How often do you ride public transit?

Everyday.

6. If elected, what would be your top transportation priorities? This can include priorities related to public transit, active transportation, driving, or any other mode of transportation.

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7. San Francisco's <u>Transit First Policy</u> applies to all officers, boards, commissions, and departments of the city and county, and states that within San Francisco, travel by public transit, by bicycle and on foot must be an attractive alternative to travel by private automobile. Do you support the principles laid out in the full Transit First Policy? If so, how will you use your position to advance the policy?

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8. The Mayor appoints members to the SFMTA's Board of Directors, which provides oversight over agency policy and the Director of Transportation. If presented with a vacancy on the Board of Directors, what qualities would you look for in a candidate for SFMTA leadership?

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9. What role do you think law enforcement, fare enforcement, community ambassadors, and private security should play, if any, in patrolling transit? What should Muni do to improve safety and the sense of safety for riders?

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10. Muni is facing a budget deficit of up to \$322m starting in 2026. How would you work towards financial stability for Muni? What new revenue sources should be on (or off) the table? How should the City address the deficit if funding from other levels of government do not materialize? If new sources of funding are not found, what kinds of SFMTA cuts would you support or oppose?

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11. Since the pandemic, different Bay Area transit agencies have adopted a variety of fare policies to help recover ridership and revenue. This year, Muni approved a 14% fare increase for most of its riders. On the other hand, San Francisco Bay Ferry lowered fares, and has seen ridership grow quickly as a result. Petaluma Transit also expects to see large increases in ridership since using the city's general fund money to make fares free this year.

Currently, only about 8% of Muni's total revenue comes from fares.

What role should fares and fare increases play in the future of Muni? Do you support raising fares to balance Muni's budget and keep up with the cost of inflation, or should Muni consider lowering or freezing fares to grow ridership? If you support raising fares, how should Muni address equity concerns for low-income riders, most of whom are not enrolled

in Muni's Lifeline discount program? If you support fare-free public transportation or fare freezes, what alternative funding sources do you support?

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12. How should San Francisco work toward equitable access to public transit for all people, no matter their race, gender, abilities, neighborhood, income, or other characteristics? Do you support or oppose any local or regional transportation projects or policies because of the effect they will have on equitable transit access?

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13.A <u>1993 ballot measure</u> made it official city policy that all elected city officials must ride Muni or other public transit to work at least twice a week. If elected, how closely will you abide by this policy?

I ride Muni Everyday.

14. San Franciscans have strongly supported SFMTA's independence from the city's electoral politics in two separate elections over the past several decades, including Prop E in 1999 and Prop A in 2007. What are your positions on SFMTA's independence from the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor's office? How would you make SFMTA more accountable to San Franciscans?

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15. Transit-only lanes provide faster and more reliable service. They prevent buses from being stuck in traffic and save money that can be reinvested in additional transit service. If elected, would you work to expedite the creation of new transit-only lanes in San Francisco? If so, what corridors would you prioritize for transit-only lanes and other needed transit improvements?

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16. While transit ridership is very high in some neighborhoods, it remains lower in others, including San Francisco's outer western and southeastern neighborhoods. As Mayor, how would you promote high transit ridership across the whole city?

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Rapid-fire questions

Feel free to expand on your answers to any of these questions, but all that we're looking for is a quick "yes" or "no."

17. Did you support <u>Proposition A (2022)</u>, which would have authorized up to \$400m in general obligation bonds to support SF transportation infrastructure projects?

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18. Did you support <u>Proposition I (2022)</u>, which would have reopened the Great Highway to cars at all times, and reopened JFK Promenade to cars on weekdays?

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19. Did you support Proposition J (2022) which codified a permanent car-free JFK Promenade?

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20. Did you support <u>Proposition L (2022)</u>, which approved a new 2022 Transportation Expenditure Plan and extended an existing half-cent sales tax for transportation for 30 years to fund the plan?

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21. Did you support <u>SB 1031 (2024; Wiener, Wahab)</u>, the authorizing legislation for a regional transportation funding measure?

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22. Do you support this year's <u>Proposition L (Fund the Bus)</u>, which will tax ride-hail companies to generate up to \$30 million annually for transit in San Francisco?

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23. Do you support this year's <u>Proposition K (Ocean Beach Park)</u>, which will create a new park by permanently closing the Upper Great Highway between Lincoln Way and Sloat Boulevard to cars?

Open The Great Highway.

Note: This Ride the Vote! questionnaire is provided to the public for informational purposes only and does not imply endorsement by San Francisco Transit Riders. San Francisco Transit Riders does not endorse electoral candidates. Responses to this questionnaire are presented as submitted by the candidate unless otherwise noted.



San Francisco Transit Riders is the city's member-supported, grassroots, nonprofit advocate for excellent, affordable, and growing public transit. We believe that empowering everyday transit riders to speak up for rider-first policies will bring us the world-class transit system we need for a livable, sustainable, and accessible San Francisco.

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