

Leanna Louie - Ride the Vote!

2024 SF Community College Board candidate questionnaire

1. What office are you running for?

Community College Board Trustee

2. What is your name?

Leanna Louie

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

Not yet. However, I will be working on this with my website designer to add a section on public transit, transportation and mobility soon.

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 grew up in San Francisco since 1979. When I was a child, pre-teen, and teenager, I mostly walked, biked, or took public transportation to school, or to Fisherman's Wharf or Chinatown to hang out with my friends.

I joined the US Army when I turned 18. When I came back to San Francisco, I was 29. I had a husband and a young child. I also worked a full-time job. We had one family car and we carpooled, I first dropped off my child at school. Over the past 10 years, I mostly drove a car because I was a Lyft driver, then because a restaurant owner. It is necessary for me to drive daily because I had to pick up hundreds of pounds of fresh produce, meal, and seafood and transport those to my restaurant. I closed the restaurant in 2018. Then went back to driving for Lyft.

During the pandemic, I started a nonprofit organization in March 2020. We are a group of volunteers who conduct safety patrols by foot in and around Chinatown San Francisco. We also provide graffiti removal. During our patrols, we walk and sometimes get on the public busses to make sure passengers are safe from harm.

5. How often do you ride public transit?

It depends on what is on my calendar for the week. Sometimes, it's once or twice a week, sometimes more often.

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

If elected my top transportation priorities would be to make sure students from every corner of San Francisco can get to City College Campuses relatively easily. For the students who need to drive to CCSF, I would make sure that there is enough parking so they do not spend precious time circling around for parking. Our students should not be expending time worrying about parking and should be able to focus more on learning what CCSF has to offer.

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. How will you use your position to advance the Transit First Policy for people commuting to and from City College?

Before we put in policy to demand Transit First, we have to make sure that public transportation is safe for ALL to ride. As an Asian Female, I have been yelled at, sexually harassed, spit at, and witnessed a male flashing his private parts in front of me. I personally do not feel safe riding public transportation by myself. We also have to consider safety of all seniors, young children, and disabled people.

If we live in an ideal world, it would be great for us all to take public transportation. However, we have to first fix the public safety concerns before we continue to advance the Transit First Policy for people commuting to and from City College.

8. How can City College help make access to campus easier for people who cannot or do not drive?

There is already a lot of different modes of transportation for those who do not drive to City College. For example, my 18-year-old son usually walks two blocks to a public bus stop and takes public transit to CCSF. His friend usually rides his bicycle to CCSF. If there is extra funds in the budget, we could consider adding a shuttle that runs from one CCSF campus to another. There are maintenance costs, drivers costs, and insurance costs to consider.

9. Earlier this year, the City College Board of Trustees approved a <u>Green New Deal for City</u> <u>College</u>, which calls for City College to "promote mass transit methods, including free public transit for students," but sets no specific benchmarks toward achieving that goal. How can public transit help meet City College's climate goals? Should City College set more specific transportation goals to encourage bus ridership over cars and reduce carbon emissions?

Yes, I think that all CCSF students should be able to ride public transportation for FREE with their CCSF student ID. Perhaps create a scannable QR Code or something on their CCSF student IDs so that they can scan it to the Clipper Card scanners when they ride the bus or metro.

10. What role do you think law enforcement, fare enforcement, community ambassadors, and private security should play, if any, in patrolling the transit lines that serve City College?

Law enforcement should be patrolling for public safety reasons and to make sure riders do not break laws such as vandalism, or violent acts against another rider. Fare enforcement's role is to make sure those who do not qualify for FREE transit pay their fair share. Community ambassadors should assist in reporting crimes to law enforcement and assist fare enforcement policies. Private Security should be patrolling for public safety reasons.

11.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 personally LOVE riding public transportation as long as it is safe for me to do so. If I feel safe and if time allows, I would ride public transportation daily.

12. Students are working to get fare free student transit passes for all students at City College. This year, City College <u>received discretionary funding</u> from Senator Padilla (Dem–CA) to start a transit pass pilot program. To fully fund fare free passes, City College will need to find additional funding. Do you support using the funding remaining from past years of the Free City funds to offer fare free transit passes for students who live in San Francisco? What other funding pathways should City College pursue to provide transit passes for all students?

Yes, I support using the funding remaining from the past years of the Free City funds to offer fare free transit passes for students who live in San Francisco. I would look in to State and Federal grants available for public transportation for CCSF students.

13. Did you support the SFMTA's <u>Frida Kahlo Way Quick-Build Project</u>, which will remove some curb parking spaces to add pedestrian safety improvements and bike lanes on Frida Kahlo Way and Judson Avenue? Why or why not?

> NO! I do NOT support the SFMTA Frida Kahlo Way Quick-Build Project. There are already existing pedestrian sidewalks and existing bike lanes which are safe to use. Why take away more parking spaces for people who need to park along Frida Kahlo Way and on Judson Ave? The Quick-Build Project is expensive and unnecessary. It is not quick; pouring cement and reconfiguring two streets means it will be quite permanent. It will be horribly expensive to revert back if the Quick-Build ends up causing more traffic congestion and accidents that the existing state of Frida Kahlo Way and Judson Ave.

Having lived in San Francisco since 1979, I have seen streets and highway exits change from two-lanes to one-lane, then 5 years later the one-lane changes back to two-lanes. What a waste of tax payers' money! The situation at Frida Kahlo Way and Judson Avenue is fine. Why pour money in to it now? 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.



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