

# #6

**COMPLETE**

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## Page 1: Questionnaire

### Q1 Candidate Information

**Candidate Name:** Drew Glover  
**Email:** contact@drewgloverforcitycouncil.com  
**Phone:** 8313254721  
**Website:** www.drewgloverforcitycouncil.com

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### Q2 What office do you seek to be elected to?

Santa Cruz City Council

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**Q3 Please choose the option best describing your candidacy:** **Open Seat**

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### Q4 Do you identify as LGBTIQ?

**No, but I strive to be a LGBTIQ ally!**

Is there anything else about your identity that you'd like us to know?:

I have, at times, questioned my sexuality. I have had experiences with other people of the same gender before, but I was much younger and experimenting. Perhaps social pressure has always stopped me from exploring that side of myself. Maybe one day, until then I will be an ally since I understand that regardless of my identity our liberation is tied together.

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**Q5 Are you a member of the GLBT Alliance?** **Yes, I am currently a 2018 member!**

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**Q6 Please describe your qualifications for the elected position you seek. Include your main issues, priorities if elected, key endorsements, plus anything else that you'd like our members to know about you and your candidacy.**

QUALIFICATIONS Elected Delegate to the California State Democratic Party for the 29th Assembly District - Santa Cruz, CA Elected President of the United Nations Association of Santa Cruz County - Santa Cruz, CA Staff Member at the Resource Center for Nonviolence - Santa Cruz, CA Appointed as a Commissioner to the Commission for the Prevention of Violence Against Women - Santa Cruz, CA AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2013-2014 Designed and implemented "Save the Dental Hygiene Clinic" nonviolent action campaign that raised \$100,000 to supplement cuts from the Cabrillo College budget. Campaign included objective data collection, analysis, advocacy and education. 2013 - 2014 Recipient of the Rosemary Grainger Peace Activism Award - Cabrillo College Aptos, CA 2014 Coordinated Breaking the Silence March Against Police Brutality and lead an information talk on White Supremacy, Violence and the Criminal Justice System - Santa Cruz, CA 2014 Founded Project Pollinate - Santa Cruz, CA 2016 Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County 2016 Community Game Changer KEY ISSUES Preventing Violence Against Women Restructuring the Budget Affordable Housing Development Expanding Public Transportation Strong Union Contracts and Living Wage Jobs LGBTIQ Rights and Equity Environmental Sustainability and Resource Management Limiting UCSC Expansion SIGNIFICANT ENDORSEMENTS INDIVIDUALS: (everyone is significant, but here is a short list) Kimberly Ellis - Activist and 2017 Candidate for the California State Party Chair John Brown Childs - Professor Emeritus, UCSC Lesley Reid-Harrison - LGBTIQ Community Organizer Toshan Richmond-Harrison Ajita Harrison Darrel Darling Karen Darling Christopher Krohn - Current City Council Member Sandy Brown - Current City Council Member Tim Fitzmaurice - Past Santa Cruz City Mayor Celia Scott - Past Santa Cruz City Mayor Felipe Hernandez - Watsonville City Council Bruce Van Allen - Past Santa Cruz City Mayor Rick Longinotti - Transportation Advocate Daniel Sheehan - Attorney Christopher VanHall - Progressive Pastor Deborah Hill-Alston - Nonprofit Executive Don Williams - Lecturer, UCSC Akin Babatola - Nonprofit executive Ron Pomerantz - Housing Advocate Curtis Reliford - Humanitarian Rick Nolthenius - Educator, Cabrillo ORGANIZATIONS: (Most organizations are holding their endorsement forums at the end of August, but so far:) UCSC Democrats Fossil Free UCSC Santa Cruz for Bernie I come from a single parent, low-income household in Santa Cruz where I was raised by my mom as she worked, went to school and took care of my ailing grandmother. She studied Feminism at UCSC and graduated with a minor in Multicultural Studies. She was who helped shape my perspective of the world and molded my understanding of equity, justice, empathy and compassion. During her time at Cabrillo and UCSC, my mom had instructors like Bettina Aptheker whose reading assignments sparked conversation between my mom and I about what it meant to be a feminist, what it meant to be gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and what it meant for me to be a man. A "real" man as she put it. Not someone who objectified women or abused them, but someone who appreciated, respected and revered women. She encouraged me to be open, experiment and explore who I was outside of what I was told to be. She was the one who educated me about my responsibility in making sure that I was a force for progress in the struggle for women's liberation, and also LGBTIQ equality. My mom is the reason I sit on the Santa Cruz Commission for the Prevention of Violence Against Women. She is the reason I am the man I am today, and the reason I am dedicated to the fighting for equity, justice and representation for people of different identities. As for me, after high school I was hit with testicular cancer. As a young man it was a serious shock, not only to get cancer, but also to lose my left testicle. This experience came with more tough questions about what it means to be a man. I decided to travel for about 5 years as a photographer, capturing moments of life before I returned to Santa Cruz and transitioned into community organizing in 2012. I re-enrolled in school and took every sociology class available at Cabrillo. Women studies, world conflicts, race and class, gender, these are where I have decided to focus my field of study. That shift into Sociology and community organizing ignited my passion for service, launching me into projects and nonviolent action campaign design to accomplish things that support equity as well as access to resources and knowledge. Through the work that I have done, I have designed programs and organized communities to accomplish a variety of goals such as: saving a vocational dental hygiene program at Cabrillo College that offers access to good jobs for women and people of color, protecting the environment by getting the City Council to move away from toxic pesticides and organizing anti-racism actions centered around police accountability. I have engaged in, and led trainings on, how to address racism and inequity. I work with youth to understand the power nonviolent resistance and I have stood in solidarity with LGBTIQ folks to demand representation and fight against discrimination. I teach Nonviolent Conflict Reconciliation from the perspective of Dr. Martin Luther King jr.. As an elected delegate to the California State Democratic Party for Assembly District 29, I have had the honor to advocate for, and support, political candidates that support equity, LGBTIQ rights and diversity on a state level and have used this as an opportunity to learn more about the forces working against progressive change. Identities are personal things, whatever they may be. Through my experience, the one constant is respect. Respect for people and the work they do to make the world a better place. Respect for people who need support to reach their full potential. Most of all, respect for people who ALL deserve love, compassion and dignity. I am running for City Council to continue dedicating my time to amplifying the voices of the underserved and less affluent. I am running for a seat on the council to continue to be a community organizer.

**Q7** Why are you seeking the endorsement of Santa Cruz County's grassroots LGBTIQ political organization, the GLBT Alliance?

I am seeing your endorsement because I believe in coalition building. To me, a strong community means working in coalition. It means building shared power. One of my driving principles and the only way I can see for us to achieve the progress we wish to see is by identifying allies who have a similar perspective and pushing forward with them. I believe I am such an ally. I believe we have a shared vision. I am willing to not only do the work, but put myself on the front lines to fight for civil rights in all of its' forms. We must hold each other accountable, even if it means being uncomfortable, and ensure that there is a unified voice calling for representation and equity. Being in coalition doesn't mean we will always necessarily have to agree, but the overarching message of equity and the foundation of justice must always be present. As Dr. King said in his book "Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?", "This plea for unity is not a call for uniformity. There must always be healthy debate. There will be inevitable differences of opinion." I am seeking your endorsement to ensure that we can secure a progressive majority on the Santa Cruz City Council. I am seeking your endorsement for your support both morally to acknowledge our shared values, but also physically to help spread the message about my campaign and encourage others to vote for a progressive voice, communicating our shared vision of the future to the larger population of LGBTIQ folk and get people out to the polls to vote for the representative change we know is righteous and just.

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**Q8** Please tell us about any past or current experiences or involvement you've had addressing LGBTIQ issues or work you've done to support the LGBTIQ community.

I am an outspoken supporter of LGBTIQ rights and advocacy. Throughout my community organizing career I have intentionally dedicated space to create opportunities to amplify the voice and the message of LGBTIQ folk in our community. This includes intentional inclusion as panelists in panel discussions, speakers at events and rallies and the incorporation of language in promotional outreach materials. In addition to the intentional inclusion of the LGBTIQ voice, I emphasize intersectionality in events, programs and content. By continually reminding others that our liberation is tied together I am able to constantly bring the conversation back around to empathy and the concept of applying compassion and understanding in all of the work that we do. Outside of my own intentional organizing I have attended rallies to address inequity issues such as the Masterpiece Cake Action that took place on the courthouse steps to stand in opposition of the Supreme Court decision. I have spoken out in support of LGBTIQ rights at events addressing issues of discrimination. I have marched in pride and train in nonviolent conflict reconciliation that centers the message of seeing each person as a human and working to understand their background, how they became who they are and loving them for it.

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**Q9** What historic political or civil rights struggles are you familiar with that impact LGBTIQ equality?

The Mattachine Society: its Communist leaders were able to draw public attention to the realities of life as someone who was gay identified in the mid 20th century. Because of the very real fear in the US of communism, their efforts to raise consciousness was overshadowed by their communist affiliation and was lost in the hysteria about the threat of Communist subversion. After the end of the Mattachine Society, other groups like the Society for Individual Rights (SIR), was founded in San Francisco in 1964 as well as the North American Conference of Homophile Organizations (NACHO), founded in 1968. Both of these organizations fought for the civil rights of gay and lesbian people on constitutional grounds. Some critical but underrepresented uprisings took place that paved the way for more outspoken voices to address issues of discrimination against LGBTIQ folk. Uprisings like the one that took place at the Compton Cafeteria in response to the management calling the police on transgender patrons, citing that they were driving away business and the implementation of a service fee that only targeted transgender folks. There was also the Black Cat in Los Angeles in 1967 where plain clothes police officers entered the tavern and proceeded to beat patrons after they kissed on New Year's Day. This led to an action with over 200 people and was met with an armed police force. With the increased level of public advocacy, we then saw the establishment of Lambda Legal in 1973 which presented their mission as one dedicated to the achievement of full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and everyone living with HIV through litigation, education and public policy work. Their work helped to get the famous Lawrence v. Texas case through the lower courts and eventually to the Supreme Court that repealed sodomy laws. A more recent political victory for LGBTIQ folk was Obergefell v. Hodges ultimately removed the ban on same-sex marriages in 2015. Other victories include the election of John Laird to be first openly gay mayor in Santa Cruz in 1983 and the first openly gay men to serve the California Legislature. Now we see Adam Spickler, the first transgender man to be represented on Cabrillo College Board of Trustees. It's a good time to be alive, but we have so much more work to do.

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**Q10** What is your philosophy about working with minority communities of which you are not a member, and how will this manifest in your future work with the LGBTIQ community?

As community organizer who has been working in the City of Santa Cruz for the last 7 years, I have dedicated my time to amplify the voices of the underserved and less affluent. As a city council member, I plan to continue the work of a community organizer from elected office. This does not just mean the implementation of working groups that represent specific communities around the city who can meet with me regularly to identify their needs and make sure they are represented the policy that is crafted. It also includes regular visits to those communities for town halls where community members can express their concerns to me directly and make sure their voice is represented in the decision making process. I also plan to make city council more accessible for people by creating easy to understand summaries of what happened each week and updates about what specific communities may want to be aware of coming to city council for a decision. That way they will have the time and information necessary to coordinate to speak in favor, or in opposition to a proposed policy. Solid communication and empathy are at the core of all of this because just because these issues do not affect all of us the same way, we are all impacted when people are underrepresented in local government.

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**Q11** Please describe any programs you know of that impact the LGBTIQ community and that are governed by or funded through the elected office you are running for? Include any suggestions you may have for improving these programs.

There are a variety of programs throughout the County that address the issues of diversity in orientation and trans folks. There are not nearly enough and the ones that do exist deserve more funding, as a councilmember on the Santa Cruz City Council I pledge to use my position to advocate for and leverage additional funding from the City, County and the State. The City currently funds the Diversity Center 60Plus that offers access for LGBTIQ folks over the age of 60 to join with like-minded folks and become a part of the movement for equity. The County applies funding to CORE Youth Programs that has a portion focusing on the needs of LGBTIQ youth. The County Office of Education funds the LGBTIQ youth program, Triangle Speakers and the Safe Schools Project The City of Watsonville contributes funds to the Connectiones program. The City of Capitola contributes funds to the Diversity Center What is important to acknowledge are the other amazing programs that are happening in our County. Programs like: Trans Families of Santa Cruz helping families in transition, High School GSA's (Gay Straight Alliances) because when a school has a GSA, everybody benefits, and the Cantu Queer Center. Then there are other UCSC resources like the African American Resource Center, the UCSC Gender Identity Specialist Tam Welch, the Santa Cruz AIDs project and just outside the borders of Santa Cruz is the Epicenter Youth Program working on their "Our Gente" project. I will fight for continue and expanded funding of these programs. One of the main parts of my platform is adjusting the budget to benefit community programs such as the ones mentioned above. We need to invest more deeply in the people of our community. We must transition away from a profit-driven mindset to a people driven one. As Dr. King said, "A budget is a moral document". We can see where we put our priorities by where we put our money. We must prioritize our budget to illustrate a deep desire for equity and access to resources that allow individuals to not just survive, but to thrive.

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**Q12** If elected, how would you use your position to help further issues of importance to the LGBTIQ community?

From the conversations I have had with fellow advocates and people who identify as LGBTIQ, I am reminded of the many issues facing LGBTIQ folks in Santa Cruz. In a place that proclaims to be inclusive and progressive, we are dealing with many of the same issues present around the country. I have had gay friends who have been beaten on Westcliff for walking and holding hands. A progressive church has had its rainbow flag torn down, vandalized and had bleach thrown on it. Youth I have spoken to have been harassed and bullied at school. Outside of these individual experiences, work has been done on a advocacy level for policy that would help protect LGBTIQ folks. Advocacy like the work done by the Diversity Center to ensure that local businesses are compliant with the single stall, All Gender bathroom laws. Advocates have written to the Downtown Association and requested support to receive very little in return. The Diversity Center distributed 25 all gender bathroom plaques around the county but have run into businesses that have either outright refused or said they need to get permission from the owner, only to not move forward with it. It is the City's responsibility to enforce equity laws. I am disappointed at their failure to lead the charge on getting businesses to be as inclusive as possible. Other exciting policy includes the recent Senate Bill 179 that give the option to mark non-binary status on your California Driver's License. My takeaway from conversations with a variety of advocates and private individuals is that the most glaring issue that has the largest impact on the lives of LGBTIQ folk is straight-up, blatant and cold-blooded discrimination. From the experience of looking for housing, interviewing for housing or living in housing LGBTIQ folk are the target of fierce pushback about their identity. When there are housing adds that specify gender preferences trans folk are left with the reality that they may not be welcome even though they identify as the preferred gender. This discrimination is present in places of employment also where trans folk are fired for just coming out to their coworkers as trans and who feel that there is a lack of anti-discrimination enforcement or limited recourse. I have also been told about the microaggressions that exist in housing and employment. Similar to sexual harassment or other types of microaggression, these behaviors, sometimes part of the workplace culture, cause a sense of discomfort and alienation for people with different identities. What we need are people on the City Council who don't just say they are about LGBTIQ rights, but people who will have the political courage to stand up and demand change, demand enforcement and provide the space for people experiencing discrimination to come and speak freely, without fear of retaliation. A space where they can come and know that they will not only feel heard, but that action will be taken on a municipal level to address the inequity they are experiencing.

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**Q13** If you receive the GLBT Alliance's endorsement, will you display it in your campaign literature?

**Yes, please send me the GLBT Alliance's logo (jpg file) so I can proudly announce the endorsement on my campaign literature, social media and website!**

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