

Central Valley Progressive Political Action Committee

Endorsement Questionnaire for the Clovis City Council

Name Joseph Hebert

Name of Campaign Committee Hebert for City Council

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Who are your five largest financial contributors and how much did they give you?

Our FPPC # is pending, as a result we have not yet been able to receive any donations at this time. However, our largest committed and endorsement to date is from the Fresno County Women's Democratic Club (\$250.00)

Please answer YES or NO to the following three questions:

Climate change is an environmental crisis that must be addressed by decreasing our dependence on fossil fuels and increasing solar, wind and other alternative energy sources.

Yes X
No _____

I support unions and think workers should be paid a living wage.

Yes X
No _____

I believe in a woman's right to reproductive freedom and will do what is in my power to keep abortion affordable and legal.

Yes X
No _____

Please limit your responses to the following six questions to no more than 200 words per question.

- 1) What specifically do you plan to do to ensure that Clovis's stock of affordable, safe and decent housing increases significantly while you're on the City Council? Include in your answer if you support and would you implement a comprehensive routine interior code inspection program for rental housing

In 2021 – 2022 the median home price in Fresno County was/is \$415K this is representative of a 16.9% year over year trend. The median home price in Clovis is a bit higher than the county at large, running closer to \$500K or more. Home prices and rents are not keeping pace with wage. More and more citizens are being forced to other smaller more affordable cities (e.g., Madera, Merced etc. City leaders should address this issue head on not all Clovis is affluent and many of the Clovis citizenry are one paycheck away from poverty. I believe the issue of housing affordability can be addressed through Grants allowing down payment assistance and/or alternative investment vehicles like real property investment using IRA's.

NET/NET there is one solution to this issue. If there were it might have already been discovered. However, City leaders are in a position to understand, evaluate and address this complex subject.

Finally, slumlords, rent gouging and substandard housing should be discouraged via ordinance and/or code enforcement.

- 2) Evaluate the successes and failures of Clovis's approach to ending homelessness and what, if anything, you would do differently.
Homelessness is one of the key issues driving my campaign.

Clovis's approach to ending housing appears to be marginal at best. Although they could exist, I am not presently aware of any direct services provided by or within the city. A quick google search indicates that the city's Clovis engagement is limited to referrals. Referrals made to services offered within Fresno (e.g...Fresno Rescue Mission, Poverello House etc.). I am not sure if this is a partnership or how this system works. Homelessness is pervasive throughout the valley, we can all do better.

If /when elected I will strengthen these processes and ensure that adequate city resources are available to address transportation and treatment within the city. I currently serve on the Board for a nonprofit, Salt & Light, based in Visalia California.

<https://www.saltandlightworks.org/>

The organization's mission is based on a premise of dignity and community. I would like to see this organization expand throughout the valley.

3. Police accountability in Clovis has been a longstanding concern of the progressive community. What exactly do you propose to require greater accountability of the police to the citizenry of Fresno, especially in interactions within neighborhoods of color and the LGBTQ community?

I am a staunch advocate for community policing and support funding for staffing re: trained/certified behavioral health experts. Additionally, after elected, I will advocate the formation of a citizen's advisory commission. Finally, I believe the city can do

better job and become more intentional in areas related to diversity hiring. I will spearhead these efforts.

Please return this questionnaire by e-mail (in either a .docx or .pdf format by Friday, September 9, 2022, to mikerhodes@comcast.net.

Thank you so much for your time and energy in completing this questionnaire. Your answers will be distributed to our members prior to our endorsement meeting through the CVPPAC Web site.