

Laura Friedman

Democrat for Assembly District 43

Questionnaire Responses

1. As a seven-year Councilmember and Mayor, I am acutely aware of the issue of local control versus State preemption of local ordinances. It is my firm belief that the closer government is to the people, meaning local government, the better. Local officials understand the unique needs and goals of their communities. They are much more accessible than State or Federal officials, and they are better positioned to deliver services efficiently and effectively. The State can only operate with a one-size-fits-all approach, which works in some areas, but falls woefully short when it comes to land-use, transportation, zoning, labor relations, elections, and many other decisions. Having those decisions taken away from local communities frustrates and angers voters because they feel that they have lost meaningful input into the decision making process. The decisions are often directly counter to the wishes of communities, and ineffective at solving problems.

2. Transportation Funding questions: YES to all.

Essay question:

As Los Angeles grows, we will be crippled by traffic if we don't dramatically increase our investment in public and alternative transportation. I support using cap-and-trade revenue towards this goal, and concentrating on the areas most impacted by growth and congested.

3. Affordable Housing Questions: 2, 3, and 5, YES

Essay question:

I support reinstating some sort of tax increment financing to serve both economic development functions and to once again help finance affordable housing.

4. Water Conservation questions: YES to all.

Essay question:

Much more can be done to foster water efficiency and consumer conservation. Currently only the largest developments are required to incorporate water-saving features. The state should instead require net-zero development, in which new development has to comply with a no-net increase in water use standard either through onsite or offsite improvements in addition to a mandate to retain water on-site, on all new developments regardless of size. All multi-family housing should incorporate individual water meters, and incentives should be created to encourage the owners of older multi-family buildings to switch to individual meters. Gray water from showers and sinks should be recycled to toilets and landscaping. The state should continue to incentivize more water efficient appliances and require them in all new developments.

State should help invest in researching new technologies for chromium 6 and **Perchlorate** filtration, as water purity efforts are expensive and extremely difficult to achieve.



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