

## 2024 General Election Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire

1 message

Google Forms <forms-receipts-noreply@google.com>  
To: franzcitycouncil@gmail.com

Fri, Aug 23, 2024 at 6:21 PM

### Google Forms

Thanks for filling out **2024**  
**General Election Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire**

Here's what was received.

[Edit response](#)

## 2024 General Election Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire

By completing this questionnaire, you are indicating your desire to be endorsed by the Solano County Democratic Central Committee. Indicate if you're the Candidate seeking endorsement or a Ballot Measure Representative.

**IMPORTANT:** To be considered for endorsement, candidates must complete the online endorsement questionnaire and submit it at least 72 hours before the start of the endorsement meeting they are scheduled to attend. For the August 28 meeting, questionnaires must be submitted by **7:00 PM Sunday, August 25**. For the September 7 meeting, questionnaires must be submitted by **9:00 AM Wednesday, September 4**.

Prior to completing this form, please know the guidelines for endorsements. They can be reviewed here:

<https://www.solanodemocrats.com/endorsements>

***Thank you for being part of our process!***

Email \*

[franzcitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:franzcitycouncil@gmail.com)

Completion Acknowledgement Email \*

Please give us the email which should have a receipt of completion to.

[franzcitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:franzcitycouncil@gmail.com)

Are you a Candidate running for office, or a representative for a ballot measure? \*

- Candidate
- Ballot Measure Representative

Which office you are seeking election in

Use the fields below to tell us which office you are seeking to be elected in

What office are you seeking to be elected to? \*

City Council ▼

Location (County Level, Cities & School Board Districts)

- Solano County
- City of Benicia
- City of Dixon
- City of Fairfield

- City of Rio Vista
- City of Suisun
- City of Vacaville
- City of Vallejo
- Benicia Unified School District
- Davis Joint Unified School District
- Dixon Unified School District
- Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
- River Delta Unified School District
- Travis Unified School District
- Vacaville Unified School District
- Vallejo Unified School District

**Area / District for which you are running in the location specified.**

- District 1
- District 2
- District 3
- District 4
- District 5
- District 6
- District 7
- At-Large

## About the Candidate

Let us know how to contact you and your team, and supply us with a photo.

Candidate Name: \*

Franz Rosenthal

Full Address (Please include ZIP Code): \*

630 Kearney Street, Benicia, CA 94510

Phone Number ( Please include Area Code): \*

(225) 235-5986

Candidate Email: \*

franzcitycouncil@gmail.com

Campaign Website if any: \*

www.franzbeniciacitycouncil.com


Social Media Links: \*

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61564673041964

Please submit your photo \*

Please submit your candidate photo to be used to publish on our website and other endorsement related information. Only used should you be successful in garnering the committee's endorsement. 10 MB file limit. Photos should be of you only, and not a group photo.

Submitted files

 Franz Rosenthal - Franz Rosenthal.jpg

Campaign Contact Name:

This can be the candidate name, or the name of the campaign manager.

Franz Rosenthal

Campaign Contact Phone Number:

(225) 235-5986

Campaign Contact Email:

[franzcitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:franzcitycouncil@gmail.com)

**Have you been endorsed by the Solano County Democratic Central Committee before?**

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure

Do you seek the endorsement of the Solano County Democratic Central Committee? If so, why? \*

Yes. I identify with the Democratic platform and would consider it an honor to be endorsed by the Central Committee.

## Candidate Questions

These questions are to be answered by the Candidate or their representative. To be considered, all questions must have an entry. If something does not apply, please put "N/A".

### 1. Why are you running for office?

I feel that I can make a difference for the City of Benicia. My background as an engineer running projects and planning for the future while balancing the demands of different departments has prepared me for the task of helping plan the future of the city in a way that will ensure a sustainable future while preserving the character and charm we enjoy today.

### 2. What is the nature and extent of any prior relevant involvement you have had in the community, civic, and/or political activities? Please include a description of all elected or appointed offices you have held.

I have volunteered my time with the Lions, as well as volunteered for activities such as distributing meals and cleaning the streets.

### 3. What elements of your background, work history, education, volunteer positions, and/or other personal accomplishments make you the best candidate for this position?

I feel that my experience as an engineer heading up projects while balancing the diverse requirements demanded by diverse departments has best prepared me for this position. My MBA has also prepared me to think critically about finances and how to select the best option from available solutions.

### 4. What do you hope to accomplish in office? What are your top priorities for this term?

I hope to support revenue growth to address our current deficit in a way that is sustainable for the future. I also hope to support family services and housing that encourages families to move here as well as aid those that are already here.

5. How much funding do you anticipate needing to raise for this election? From what sources do you plan to raise the funds you need for this election and who has contributed to your campaign to date?

I anticipate needing the \$42,300 allowed. I believe this will be a contested race and will require as much campaigning as possible. I plan to seek funding from Benicia businesses and citizens. I have not collected any funds thus far.

6. Please list any endorsements you have already received.

I do not currently have any endorsements.

7. Have you hired, or do you plan to hire, a campaign consultant? If so, who?

I do not plan to hire one.

#### Candidate Questions Continued

8. California, Solano County, and local Jurisdictions are all facing substantial demands on their budget. What ideas do you have to help deal with the fiscal issues we face?

I believe that we need to look at our tax base and court those opportunities which will help us to sustainably grow. For Benicia, I believe that is seeking sales tax revenue.

9. What are the major issues faced by the constituents in your jurisdiction, and how do you plan to address them?

We face the City deficit which has limited its ability to provide the services we require to maintain our wonderful community. We see our parks and roads suffering and need to address their needs. We are also burdened with high water bills, little of which is due to actual water consumption. I believe that by increasing our tax revenue, we may address these issues in a way that ensures they are mitigated in the future. It is essential that we court the types of businesses that will provide us the greatest revenue, while still respecting our integrity, character, and charm.

10. What are the major issues facing public employees in your jurisdiction, and how do you plan to address them?

I believe this deficit has impacted them by creating staffing shortages. I believe in offering competitive pay to attract quality talent, but we must address our deficit in order to sustain our payroll. Contracting certain positions out could alleviate some of the strain while saving the City the cost of a full benefits package, until our revenue has grown to the point of not needing to contract them out.

11. What are the major issues facing historically under-represented groups in your jurisdiction, i.e., Black, Latinx, Asian/Pacific Islander, LGBTQIA+, etc.? Are there issues specific to one or more groups in particular? How do you plan to address them?

I would say the major issue is under-representation in government and business. I plan to advocate for greater inclusivity and diversity in both of these areas.

12. What are the major economic issues facing your jurisdiction? How will you balance the concerns of union members, working families, local businesses, and regional/national corporate firms?

The major economic issue is the lack of tax revenue growth to match our growing expenses. By presenting solutions and recommendations that align with those implemented by other cities, I hope to enlist the support of all of those groups. Though their interests and needs are disparate, I believe that they all have the best interest of the city and its community at heart. The common goal to work toward is to close our budget deficit in a way that will sustain Benicia for the future.

13. What are the major issues facing children, youth, and their families in your jurisdiction? How do you plan to address them?

The major issues are a decline in school ranking and the threat of having to cut back on activities and services for families due to the budget deficit. By addressing our deficit and emphasizing our schools and youth programs, we will attract new families and reverse our trend of a declining population.



14. What are the major issues facing your jurisdiction, relating to the environment and the climate crisis? What are the specific impacts faced by marginalized and under-represented communities? How do you plan to address them?

Our City lacks significant public transportation, increasing our reliance on cars. This contributes significantly to emissions. More walkable/bicycle paths to our downtown would go a long way to addressing this concern. Also, the lack of public transportation limits the mobility of our marginalized and under-represented communities. A system of small electric-powered vehicles would help alleviate that impact as well as mitigate the traffic experienced during certain times of the day. Our City also houses a refinery. Ensuring they comply with the emission limits imposed on them ensures operating in the most environmentally-friendly manner possible.

15. What are the major sources of green house gas emissions in your jurisdiction? What specific steps would you take to lower green house gas emission from government, commercial and residential sectors?

Our largest sources locally are transportation and the refinery. If electricity generation emissions are included, they would also account for a large portion. Encouraging solar electricity production and electric vehicle use would be a first step. For the refinery, we should request greater reporting of their emissions.

16. What role would the use of renewable energy sources, enhanced energy efficiency, conservation, and other methods play in your response to the climate crisis? What is your opinion on the recent proposal by the California Public Utilities Commission to change rooftop solar incentives?

I believe a shift toward renewable energy is inevitable, with greater focus placed on the conservation and efficiency of energy use. The focus should be toward behavior change, such that each person and entity becomes responsible for their own consumption. As far as the reduction in incentives, I believe it is a balance between cost absorption and incentivizing the installation of renewable energy sources.

17. What are the major issues in your jurisdiction related to poverty, income inequality, affordable housing, homelessness, and food insecurity? How do you plan to address them?

The major issue faced by Benicians of those listed is the lack of affordable housing. This is stymying the growth needed by barring new entrants from becoming part of the Benicia community. To a lesser degree, there is also the need to reduce food insecurity and support

families in crisis. For the affordable housing issue, I will support plans to include affordable housing as part of a larger development to include mixed-use commercial and residential areas. To address the concerns of food insecurity and families in crisis, I will support funding programs that address those concerns.

18. What are the major issues facing your jurisdiction related to public health services and access to affordable health care? How do you plan to address them?

Our community does not provide access to such care. However, individual providers in town do provide sporadic support to those who cannot access care in other ways.

19. Are you in favor of following science-based advice from health experts on pandemics and vaccine mandates? Which entities, if any, do you feel are best suited to issue public health mandates?

I am in favor of science-based advice. I believe local community government is best equipped to issue public health mandates.

20. Do you support a woman's right to make reproductive healthcare choices? Please explain.

I support a woman's right to choose what to do with her own body. In general, I believe each individual should be allowed to choose how they treat their body.

21. How would you respond to concerns that some public employees, and specifically members of law enforcement, are affiliated with extremist groups, including those that advocate violence against the government and racial, ethnic, LGBTQ+, and other under-represented groups? What steps would you take to address this issue?

I do not believe such affiliations are appropriate. Law enforcement, in particular, is tasked with enforcing laws as written. Should such affiliations be confirmed, those individuals should no longer be allowed to work in law enforcement. Any concerns with a particular individual should be addressed with their supervisor.

22. Members of the public are exhibiting declining levels of faith and trust in their elected officials at all levels, leading to increased tension and reduced civil discourse. What will you do to restore public confidence and encourage productive civic participation in your jurisdiction?

I plan to speak on the issues without attacking individuals, groups, or political parties. I will encourage open dialog and will engage in reasonable debate when invited to do so.

### More Candidate Questions

23. How long have you been a registered Democrat? Why are you a Democrat, and how do your reasons relate to the office you seek?

I registered Democrat four years ago. I am moderate in my views and vote on issues, not along party lines. I am a Democrat because I am socially liberal and fiscally conservative. I believe those values align with the direction the City needs to move in.

24. Have you read and do you support the current California Democratic Party platform? Are there any parts of the Party platform that you do not support? If so, why.

I support the platform.

25. Have you ever publicly endorsed a candidate other than a registered Democrat? Are there circumstances in which you would do so? Please explain.

I have not provided public endorsements.

26. If you discovered that negative campaign methods, such as the use of attack ads and mailers, misleading phone and text messages, or similar tactics, were being used against an opponent, what would you do?

I would denounce those methods and endeavor to discover their perpetrator and the method by which to end such methods.

27. Please share any other information you think will assist the Central Committee in considering your endorsement.

I am new to the public political arena. As such, I have no record to fall back on to explain my positions. And, though a recently registered Democrat, I have, in fact, been voting Democrat for quite a while. However, my views are very much aligned with those of the party and I believe we are in the best position to lead this wonderful country through the next quarter of a century of our history.

### Wrap Up

Thank you for your submission. We appreciate that you have taken the time to seek our endorsement and complete this questionnaire.

### Endorsement Submission Status \*

**Are you ready to submit this as a final submission to the Solano Democratic Central Committee?**

When you are ready, please answer "Final" to this question and we will take it from there. Please note that only submissions marked final will be considered. This will allow you to edit your responses over time. Please note that the deadline for

Draft

Final

I hereby acknowledge that the Solano County Democratic Central Committee will publish my responses on the organization's website. \*

I Acknowledged

I hereby acknowledge that the Solano County Democratic Central Committee will share my responses to Democratic clubs within the county. \*

I Acknowledged

I hereby acknowledge that my interview with the Solano County Democratic Central Committee will be live streamed and made available to the general public

on the committee's YouTube Channel. \*

I Acknowledged

### Central Committee Logo Use Acknowledgement \*

You hereby acknowledge that you will not use any logo to represent the Solano County Democratic Central Committee except the officially supplied Endorsed Logo. Failure to comply with this can result in your having our endorsement revoked.

I Acknowledged

[Create your own Google Form](#)

[Report Abuse](#)