

# Santa Clara County Democratic Party

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SILICON VALLEY

## 2017 Call To Action



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# Executive Summary

This report comes in the wake of the 2016 presidential election where Donald Trump was elected despite Hillary Clinton having earned almost 3 million more popular votes. Furthermore, residual divisions remain from the the 2016 primary contest between Hillary Clinton and Senator Bernie Sanders. This document comes against the backdrop of national disappointments, local and state accomplishments, such as electing legislative supermajorities and passing an historic housing bond, and renewed enthusiasm as the Santa Clara County Democratic Party (SCCDP) charts a path forward in unity.

This document is published to help provide guidance for Santa Clara County Party leaders, elected officials, and activists in the fight against Donald Trump and his alt-right, white supremacist, and misogynist allies. As the local arm of the Democratic Party, the SCCDP is authorized to endorse and support candidates and ballot measures for local office. The SCCDP will use this authority and do everything possible to resist and oppose Trump and his agenda.

We seek to inspire people to spread the Democratic message, to volunteer to register voters and get out the vote, and to stay involved. Our goal is nothing less than taking back the White House and both houses of Congress, and maintaining the Democratic super-majorities in both houses of the California legislature.

On Saturday March 11th, over 350 Democratic activists and interested allies gathered for the historic Santa Clara County Democratic Party “Call to Action.” People from throughout the Valley gathered to share ideas, provide feedback and gain inspiration from our elected leaders and each other regarding the future of the local Party. Together, our “Call to Action” enhances local party organizations and conveys the Democratic Party’s message with a persuasive, professional, and vigorous voice.

Our Call to Action featured tabling by our chartered Democratic clubs. Our clubs signed up many new members, and each club hosted an action that attendees could take that day, such as by completing postcards to be mailed on March 15 as part of the Ides of Trump protest.

Congressional leaders Zoe Lofgren and Ro Khanna, State Assemblymember Ash Kalra, County Supervisor Cindy Chavez, and San Jose Vice Mayor Magdalena Carrasco provided informative and passionate presentations that educated and inspired attendees.

With the goal of learning about what policy and organizing goals the party should prioritize, attendees shared their ideas and visions focuses on ten categories. Over 473 comments were collected and distilled to help us identify next steps and areas of focus. A comprehensive summary is provided in this document.

This report is divided into two sections: category summaries and category response raw data. The category summaries attempt to capture major themes and narratives from the raw data, and to translate them into the next steps to grow the party and take action through our clubs and policy efforts.

## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Category Summaries</b>	<b>6</b>
Democratic Party	6
Healthcare	7
Environment	7
Anything We Missed?	8
Good Government	8
Transportation	9
Budget Priorities	9
Seniors	9
Children	10
Fundraising for the Democratic Party	10
Civil Rights/Immigrants	11
Gender Equity/Equality for All	11
Housing	11
Divestment and Corporate Influence	12
Criminal Justice	12
Jobs/Economy	12
Public Safety	13
Labor	13
Economic Justice	<b>14</b>
Education	14
Win Back the Heartland	<b>15</b>
<b>Category Response Raw Data</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Democratic Party</b>	<b>16</b>
Responses: 87	16
Grassroots/New Groups	16
Responses: 9	16
Fight Trump	16
Responses: 11	16
Midterm 2018 Elections/Support Candidates	17
Responses: 10	17
Engage Opposition	17
Responses: 8	17
	2

Strong Party Members	18
Responses: 8	18
Push to the Left	18
Responses: 8	18
Build Our Base + Pipeline	18
Responses: 17	18
Pressure on our Representatives	19
Responses: 8	19
End Electoral College	19
Responses: 8	19
<b>Healthcare</b>	<b>20</b>
Responses: 62	20
<b>Education</b>	<b>21</b>
Responses: 38	21
<b>Environment</b>	<b>23</b>
Responses: 36	23
<b>Anything We Missed?</b>	<b>24</b>
Responses: 31	24
<b>Good Government</b>	<b>25</b>
Responses: 23	25
<b>Civil Rights/Immigration</b>	<b>26</b>
Responses: 23	26
Voting rights/Detention Centers	26
<b>Gender Equity/Equality for All</b>	<b>27</b>
Responses: 20	27
Women’s Rights	27
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>27</b>
Responses: 12	27
High Speed Rail/BART/Public Transportation/Electrification?	27
<b>Win Back The Heartland</b>	<b>28</b>
Responses: 11	28
<b>Housing</b>	<b>29</b>
Responses: 11	29
Senior Housing/Affordable Housing/Homelessness/Sanctioned Encampments	29

<b>Budget Priorities</b>	<b>29</b>
Responses: 11	29
Military Funding Increase?	29
<b>Criminal Justice</b>	<b>30</b>
Responses: 10	30
Private Jails AKA For Profit Prisons/Black Lives Matters	30
<b>Jobs/Economy</b>	<b>30</b>
Responses: 10	30
<b>Seniors</b>	<b>31</b>
Responses: 9	31
Social Security	31
<b>Public Safety</b>	<b>31</b>
Responses: 8	31
Police/Flood Warnings	31
<b>Labor</b>	<b>32</b>
Responses: 8	32
Fair Wages	32
<b>Children</b>	<b>32</b>
Responses: 7	32
Childcare/Preschool Education?	32
<b>Fundraising for Democratic Party</b>	<b>33</b>
Responses: 7	33
Best Way to Fundraise? Emails? Phone Banking?	33
<b>Economic Justice</b>	<b>33</b>
Responses: 6	33
<b>Divestment</b>	<b>34</b>
Responses: 3	34
Social Justice	34
Economic Justice	34
Environmental Justice	34
For Profit Prisons	34
Detention Centers	34
City, County, Personal	34

# Category Summaries

## Democratic Party

### **Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats are adamant that we must Fight Trump actively and aggressively, including by coordinating effectively with new “Resistance Movement” groups and those working to take back Congress and State Legislatures. Many responses urged the Party to embrace its progressive wing, build a pipeline of progressive Democratic candidates, work to regain the support of disaffected Democrats, and otherwise build our base, from the grassroots up!

### **Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: Party organized action that attracts and speaks to young people; conduct training and develop talking points to enable every Democrat to help grow and strengthen the Party by convincing others of the Party’s value and relevance.
2. Club Action: Meaningfully involve clubs in candidate recruitment and training; conduct policy actions across clubs – stronger together.
3. Policy Action: Review Party structure and rules at all levels, push for reforms that will ensure the Party is responsive and accountable to its base. Review endorsement process; platform.
4. Strategic Plan: Partner with our Democratic Party counterparts in nearby swing districts (CD10, CD7, Nevada US Senate) and with resistance groups to regain power in DC, while supporting local candidates and building a pipeline of progressive candidates.

## Healthcare

### **Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats want Obamacare, Medicaid, Medicare, Planned Parenthood preserved or enhanced NOT repealed or replaced. In particular, so that more doctors accept these programs, more health care access such as single-payer is made available, drug prices are regulated and women have more power to make their own healthcare decisions.

Furthermore, if Washington is unable to do so, California and/or Santa Clara County should work toward these objectives.

### **Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: co-host a phone bank night with an outside youth organization to call into a Congressional district about the damaging effects of the Republican repeal/replace effort.

2. Club Action: invite a health-care expert to provide an overview about our national, state, and local health care system and how to enact change.
3. Policy Action: form a platform review committee together with the seniors and children categories to explore legislation at the state and local level for support and developing the Party's platform.

## **Environment**

### **Summary:**

Democrats want us to fight to protect and fund the EPA, preserve environmental protections, defend science, address climate change and its causes and effects, and preserve our oceans, parks, and public lands.

### **Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: Millennials value the environment and consider climate change a threat to their future. Promote millennial Democrats as the voice and face of a renewed environmental movement.
2. Club Action: Encourage clubs to work together to support environmental candidates; appoint club environmental leads to coordinate with environmental groups and other clubs.
3. Policy Action: Educate ourselves and the public about threats to the environment and why environmental regulation is essential. Support state and local leaders to ensure California and our County maintain high standards and move forward, not back.

## **Anything We Missed?**

### **Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats are passionate and energetic on a range of issues including women's rights, Trump's taxes, Trump's Russian ties and the possibility of impeachment, the role of money in politics, national popular vote versus the electoral college, the Dakota Access Pipeline, Republican tort reform efforts, and fake news. Santa Clara County Democrats want leadership in the fight against Trump and the Republican Congress.

### **Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: develop and circulate a resolution and petition calling for Nancy Pelosi and California Democrats to support the impeachment of the President.
2. Club Action: invite an expert to provide an overview about our reforming our electoral college system.
3. Policy Action: ensure that these Call to Action responses and the Party platform are shared with 2018 candidates for local office, and that this report is shared with the California Democratic Party, the Democratic National Committee, and California's Democratic Congressional delegation.

## **Good Government**

### **Summary:**

In response to Trump's and Republican's self-serving and "trickle-down" agenda, Santa Clara County Democrats are strongly in support of increasing democracy by reducing the role of gerrymandering, dark money, and lobbyists in politics. This includes flipping Red districts blue, working to overturn the Citizen's United Supreme Court decision, advancing technology and net neutrality, and protecting voting rights.

### **Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: co-host a phone bank night with an outside youth organization to call into a legislative district about the Disclose Act.
2. Club Action: co-host a regular phone bank night with a Democratic club to call into a legislative district about the Disclose Act.
3. Policy Action: form a platform review committee to explore good government legislation at the state and local level for support and developing the Party's platform.

## **Transportation**

### **Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats want an affordable, accessible, clean, efficient, and intermodal transportation system that increases the use of buses, trains, and bikes, and decreases reliance on personally owned automobiles.

### **Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: Recruit and support millennial leaders in our Party to plan and stage an event to highlight the new tools, strategies, and services available to get around other than by relying solely on each traveling driving their own private car. What's working? What shows promise? What's missing?
2. Club Action: Our clubs represent communities and areas throughout the county, together we may be able to develop a comprehensive picture of what each part of the county needs in terms of transportation infrastructure and policy.
3. Policy Action: Figure out what is going on with the VTA and local transportation bonds, etc. Insist that candidates seeking our endorsement commit to specific goals and actions; encourage Democratic officeholders, especially those we've endorsed, to do the same.

## **Budget Priorities**

### **Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats put their money where their mouth is, and want budget priorities to reflect our values -- like lifting working families out of poverty (including protecting Medicare and Social Security), investing in peace and harmony as well as infrastructure -- and resistance to President Trump's backwards agenda, including the border wall, sanctuary city ban.

**Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: co-host an elected official to provide an overview of the local and state budgets.
2. Club Action: co-host an elected official to provide an overview of the local and state budgets.
3. Policy Action: form a platform review committee to explore budget priorities at the state and local level for support and developing the Party's platform.

## **Seniors**

**Summary:**

To protect our seniors, Santa Clara County Democrats want Medicare, Social Security protected and preserved and senior centers maintained. They also want to work to eliminate the unfair Government Pension Offset for public employees.

**Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: co-host a phone bank night with an outside youth organization to call into a Congressional district about the damaging effects of the Republican repeal/replace effort.
2. Club Action: invite a health-care expert to provide an overview about our national, state, and local health care system and how to enact change.
3. Policy Action: form a committee together with the children and healthcare categories to explore legislation at the state and local level for support and developing the Party's platform.

## **Children**

**Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats care about supporting the next generation by teaching values, providing funding for child care, family leave, universal preschool and the foster care system.

**Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: co-host a phone bank night with an outside youth organization to call into a Congressional district about the damaging effects of the Republican repeal/replace effort.
2. Club Action: invite a health-care expert to provide an overview about our national, state, and local health care system and how to enact change.

3. Policy Action: form a platform review committee together with the seniors and healthcare categories to explore legislation at the state and local level for support and developing the Party's platform.

## **Fundraising for the Democratic Party**

### **Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats want to advance our values while also addressing the role of money in politics. To accomplish this, fundraising efforts should be as strategic as possible and take into consideration the amount and tone of the "asks" made.

### **Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: Ask and inspire more individuals to support the local Party through donations. Fund monthly primarily through small donations from many donors.
2. Club Action: invite clubs to host outside organizations at the Democratic Unity Dinner (formerly the Jefferson Jackson Dinner).
3. Policy Action: develop new technologies, including text-to-donate and social media campaigns, to make it easier to donate to the Party.

## **Civil Rights/Immigrants**

### **Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats believe all humans deserve dignity and access to civil rights. To accomplish this vision, the government should not invest any taxpayer monies to build a wall nor should "Sanctuary Cities" be penalized by the Federal Government. We want to protect and defend the progress made under President Obama especially DACA, the identities of Dreamers, refugees, and no religious tests. Furthermore, they expressed concerns for the rights of the LGBT immigrant community, sanctuary cities, and farm workers. We want comprehensive immigration reform with a pathway to citizenship!

### **Next Steps**

1. Growing the Party: co-host a phone bank to Congressional offices asking them to oppose any federal budget that includes funding for the wall.
2. Club Action: invite a speaker from the City of San Jose or County of Santa Clara to talk about ways to support their respective Offices of Immigrant Relations
3. Policy Action: form a platform review committee to explore legislation at the state and local level for support and developing the Party's platform.

## **Gender Equity/Equality for All**

### **Summary:**

Democrats in Santa Clara County are committed to a vision that affirms gender equity and equality for all. In addition to protecting and passing policies that support this position including pay equity, we want to develop a pipeline to place women in leadership positions.

**Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: Engage more women and in particular more young women in our local Party, including as candidates.
2. Club Action: Ask Democratic Activists for Women Now (DAWN) to coordinate with other clubs to organize and co-host a candidate training/recruiting event.
3. Policy Action: Review and change endorsement procedures and practices as needed to ensure gender equity and diversity receive thoughtful and intentional consideration in the endorsement process.

## **Housing**

**Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats know first hand the challenges of living in the most expensive and competitive housing market in the U.S.A. To address this challenge, it's critical to protect the rights of renters and vulnerable populations such as foster children and seniors.

**Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: Hold a local housing policy forum focused on the needs of Millennials.
2. Club Action: Identify a club (or clubs) to take on housing as an issue on which the club will focus its resources to educate and advocate for more affordable housing.
3. Policy Action: Adopt a set of positions on housing and related issues of transportation, land use, and the environment, which local Party leaders can invoke in advocating for policies that provide more affordable housing.

## **Divestment and Corporate Influence**

**Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats believe the government should eliminate funding for-profit prisons and detention centers. Overturning "Citizens United" is key to reviving the Voting Rights Act, reducing corporate influence, and returning democracy back into our hands.

**Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: Host an event that provides an opportunity for groups working on issues of corporate influence on government to educate and recruit new members, especially younger people.
2. Club Action: Identify groups working on issues involving corporate influence on government and conduct coordinated actions.
3. Policy Action: Help ensure the DISCLOSE Act becomes law.

## **Criminal Justice**

### **Summary:**

Democrats in Santa Clara County support and defend the “Black Lives Matter” movement. We believe that sentencing and sentencing alternatives should be rational, fair, and humane.

### **Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: Host a program on the Black Lives Matter movement and the collective experience with policing it represents.
2. Club Action: Invite a Black Lives Matters group or spokesperson to present information to our Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee.
3. Policy Action: Press local leaders to discover and adopt best practices for policing minority/immigrant communities.

## **Jobs/Economy**

### **Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats understand that a robust economy that works for all people creates diverse, healthy, and sustainable communities. The redistribution of wealth and resources in Silicon Valley would help to achieve this vision. It’s also important to encourage investments and policies that support job training programs.

### **Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: co-host a forum with the Working Blue Democrats, the Young Democrats and young people to speak directly to local political leaders about the challenges they experience, fears they may have, etc. regarding completing their education and other training and getting a job that will enable them to support themselves and realize their life goals.
2. Club Action: (see above) use this event to recruit new members across age groups and economic status, to ensure all have a voice within our Party.
3. Policy Action: Support more actively efforts to ensure workers are paid a living wage and are treated fairly by their employer. Join more actively with our local Labor Movement in efforts such as Silicon Valley Rising and local efforts to increase the minimum wage and protect workers’ rights.

## **Public Safety**

### **Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats believe that people should feel safe in their communities and that public safety officer and programs should have the tools and trainings they need to be successful. This includes addressing the problem of racial and political profiling by police and

other government agencies. Given the current environment of fear and intimidation, we are committed to protecting JCC's and Mosques (and affiliated communities) from hate crimes.

**Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: Invite and welcome members of groups targeted in hate crimes to join and become active in our Party.
2. Club Action: Invite and welcome as new club members individuals who are members of groups targeted in hate crimes.
3. Policy Action: Work with local officials to ensure adequate staffing levels and training of public safety agencies in all communities in Santa Clara County.

## **Labor**

**Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats know that labor unions help create and maintain quality jobs and build a stronger, fairer economy. In the current political environment, it's critical to support and strengthen unions as we fight against "Right to Work" efforts to dismantle organized labor.

**Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: co-host a forum with the Working Blue Democrats, the Young Democrats and young people to speak directly to local political leaders about the challenges they experience, fears they may have, etc. regarding completing their education and other training and getting a job that will enable them to support themselves and realize their life goals.
2. Club Action: (see above) use this event to recruit new members across age groups and economic status, to ensure all have a voice within our Party.
3. Policy Action: Support more actively efforts to ensure workers are paid a living wage and are treated fairly by their employer. Join more actively with our local Labor Movement in efforts such as Silicon Valley Rising and local efforts to increase the minimum wage and protect workers' rights.

## **Economic Justice**

**Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats know that trickle-down economic theories do not work. The wealth disparity has gotten out of hand, and new financial regulations are needed to protect the middle class. These protections should include progressive taxation, equal pay for equal work, environmental justice, and health care for all.

**Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: co-host a forum with the Working Blue Democrats, the Young Democrats and young people to speak directly to local political leaders about the challenges they experience, fears they may have, etc. regarding completing their education and other training and getting a job that will enable them to support themselves and realize their life goals.
2. Club Action: (see above) use this event to recruit new members across age groups and economic status, to ensure all have a voice within our Party.
3. Policy Action: Support more actively efforts to ensure workers are paid a living wage and are treated fairly by their employer. Join more actively with our local Labor Movement in efforts such as Silicon Valley Rising and local efforts to increase the minimum wage and protect workers' rights.

## **Education**

### **Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats believe education is a civil right, and public education is America's most vital institution. Access to education should not be limited to people with economic prosperity, nor should it burden students with crippling debt. Schools should re-invest in art and music programs and resist vouchers and ensure charter schools are properly conceived and managed and do not weaken or displace our public schools.

### **Next Steps:**

1. Growing the Party: Organize an action that brings together youth, teachers, and school board members to educate and advocate. Invite attendees to be active in our Party!
2. Club Action: Ask geographically based clubs to follow up with endorsed school board members in their area to ensure they are working to advance our education priorities and policy goals.
3. Policy Action: Ensure our endorsement process, criteria, and follow up for school board candidates align with our values. Support efforts to make higher education available to all, regardless of economic resources.

## **Win Back the Heartland**

### **Summary:**

Santa Clara County Democrats are committed to help take over red districts throughout the country. This includes fighting for a fair redistricting process, enacting a robust infrastructure/jobs program, and addressing "heartland values". Part of this effort includes the manner in which we communicate to certain voters, keeping in mind that Democrats have historically championed working-class issues.

**Next Steps (these are the same as the next steps for "Democratic Party"):**

1. Growing the Party: Party organized action that attracts and speaks to young people; conduct training and develop talking points to enable every Democrat to help grow and strengthen the Party by convincing others of the Party's value and relevance.
2. Club Action: Meaningfully involve clubs in candidate recruitment and training; conduct policy actions across clubs – stronger together.
3. Policy Action: Review Party structure and rules at all levels, push for reforms that will ensure the Party is responsive and accountable to its base. Review endorsement process; platform.
4. Strategic Plan: Partner with our Democratic Party counterparts in nearby swing districts (CD10, CD7, Nevada US Senate) and with resistance groups to regain power in DC, while supporting local candidates and building a pipeline of progressive candidates.

## Category Response Raw Data

### Democratic Party

Responses: 87

#### Grassroots/New Groups

Responses: 9

"How do you plan to harness the energy of grassroots groups like Indivisible, Swing Left, etc? Laura Tegtmeyer,"

"Is the DNC in S.C. County organizing to form an 'umbrella' over all the resist, Indivisible, etc. groups that have sprung up? Virginia Carpio"

"Great grassroots groups forming all over country. How can the DNC (SC) bring these groups together + help them maintain momentum + make the best use of their efforts"

"What is the most effective use of our time phone calls, letters, post cards, visits to rep offices, letter to editors, showing up to protests, etc"

"How can democratic party facilitate, utilize the energy that is 'out there' now in such groups as "Meet Up", "Resist" and others. How can we stand together to change what is happening in Washington?"

"Dems need to be more "activist" - no more top down establishment machine mentality"

"Patricia R Guerrero, Democratic Rallies/protests/meetings, Will the Democratic Party do more calls to Action in the future? Most of the protesting/Call to Action have been made by outlier groups"

"Be honest about your roots!"

"Connect with/make inroads w/online activism groups -- Teresa Fiss"

## Fight Trump

Responses: 11

"I want to Democratic Party to actively resist Trump and actively engage Republican Congress seats in 2018"

"Dems need to stand united, strong, Be brave and hold Trump's feet to the fire on every lie"

", Demos need to stand strong and united to accomplish goals, C. Floyd"

"Democrats need to strong stance, be on the offense, Scott Gottlieb MD is wrong for FDA - many conflicts of interest to Pharma, boards, etc. Judith Monahan"

"Party of reason"

"When is Kellyanne Conway going to be fired for illegal behavior?"

"Focus on specific issues/transgression of Constitution not on Trump tweets. Say Republican Admin not Trump. Make officeholders take stands, Kathy Mattingly"

"Drain the swamp! Ha!"

"Get to the bottom of Trump connection to Russia!"

"What are local/state Demo Party priorities in face of Trump admin? Priorities?"

"How can we have some impact against 45's agenda as a minority party?? Alicia Perry"

## Midterm 2018 Elections/Support Candidates

Responses: 10

"Dems need to find "super" candidates to face Republicans in 2018"

"How to help Dem candidates in 2018 elections"

"How can we connect with others in D10, D22 to effect change in 2018?"

"We were outfoxed by the Republican Party by their gerrymandering tactics in the midterm elections. Let's get smarter. Davis Dilling"

"Taking back the House in 2018!"

"1 - How will we be able to get more democrats on board? 2 - Is there a chance the Democrats can vote off a Republican senator or two?"

"How to upset GOP candidates running House seats in CA eg Rorabacker? Issa Denham"

"Strategy for Nov 2018"

"How can we help AD10 (Modesto) find a candidate? Or do they have one? Teresa Fiss"

"Patricia Guerrero Governors Election I believe within the next two years, there will be many election for governors in the U.S. will there be a strong push to get these election won by Democrats?"

## Engage Opposition

Responses: 8

“we need to reach out and bridge the chasm between ideologues. How? C. Floyd”

“Dems need to actively engage the base and reach out to those in the Rust Belt”

“Take back our country”

“We need to get more involved in the cities + neighborhoods of the disenfranchised Democratic voters that we lost in the last election. David Dilling”

“Clear party strategy to reclaim working class”

“Is there a strategy to bring back Dems that voted for Trump?”

“Teresa Fiss How can we partner with Swing Left, Flippable, etc?”

“What actions do we take as Democrats to keep California “blue” Graham Judge408.679.7667”

## Strong Party Members

Responses: 8

“That when asked, any Democrat attending any event be able to articulate, in 30 seconds or less, what in the mission, vision, and strategy of the Party.”

“Give us ideas for action, lead”

“Clear, consistent message of what party stands for”

“Dem - political system “bad” wrong”

“Take time to figure out a clear message and strategies, recruit strong candidates figure out social media -- get it right before acting”

“What is our message?”

“Help red areas (House district) go blue?”

“What public information plans does the local DNC Chapter have re: health care reform (Education people about what’s in Republican Repeal + Replace?)”

## Push to the Left

Responses: 8

“Party has to change - to save it but not as it is”

“Integrate more left ideals e.g. Sanders’ vision”

“The Democratic Party has not demonstrated an interest in promoting a progressive agenda. How will South Bay representing push back + return the Party to the People?”

## Build Our Base + Pipeline

Responses: 17

“Recruiting younger people (voters + non-affiliated) to our local DNC programs, what plans + activities to support this? Virginia Carpio”

“Democratic Party developing a pipeline for future leaders”

“Leadership courses for women in government”

“Target younger generation. Become more progressive. Stand up to Tea Party!”

“Betty Siemer recruit lots of younger Democrats to volunteer and run for local office,”

“Massive effort to recruit + develop young leader for the Democratic Party + office a must,”

“Clear Party strategy to develop candidates for governorships, senators, and Congress”

“Get back to being Party of the people (through messaging)”

“Need more voters”

“Is there a strategy to get non voters to vote?”

“Engage the young people”

“Better local coordination on how to get involved”

“Generate + motivate excitement and participation”

“How can we identify what younger political figures to support for public office now?”

“How can we appeal to young people?”

“How are we doing to actively recruit young democratic leaders?”

## Pressure on our Representatives

Responses: 8

“How do we get Democrats in Congress to become more active, Susan Klear”

“How do we make issues not fundraising the priority of our Members of Congress.”

“Are we being heard?”

“We know the problems we want solutions”

“Who will run in 2020 for President”

“We (no one) voted for Steve Bannon”

“Stop endorsing bad candidates”

“How much is Gorsuch like Steve Bannon? Policy wise.”

## End Electoral College

Responses: 8

“Should the Democratic Party do away with Super Delegates? The Electoral College? Pat Cochran”

“Judith Monahan National Popular Vote - Support”

“How long will it take to remove the Electoral College and what do we do to make sure it stays out?”  
“Judith Monahan End Citizen’s United”  
“Why was this event held at such a small venue Khanna + Eshoo drew 1000’s at recent town halls”

## Healthcare

### Responses: 62

“Preserve Obamacare”  
“ACA - preserve + revise not repeal!!! Protect Medicaid Medicare Planned Parenthood - provides needed with healthcare - protect it! Judith Monhan”  
“ACA -- don’t repeal advocate to revise problems”  
“Retaining + improving (not replacing) the ACA is our highest priority”  
“Make Obamacare better! Do not replace!”  
“Don’t approve changes to ACA - poor people can’t use tax credits”  
“Obamacare continuation”  
“Reject ‘Amendment Plan’ Work together to improve Obamacare”  
“Will we ever get our wish with ACA and avoid the botched up replacement”  
“Protect + improve ACA”  
“Improve what we already have - insist all doctors accept but also pay doctors decent for services”  
“How do we reduce pharmaceutical \$\$ C. Floyd”  
“Regulate drug prices”  
“Affordable health care for all”  
“Maintain and enhance Medicare & Medicaid. Ensure that it will continue into the distant future. Single-payer system. Women’s right to choose Planned Parenthood funding.”  
“Medicare for all Patrick”  
“Danielle Dill Medicare for all!”  
“The country needs to go to a single payer system medicare works great”  
“Maintain Medicaid expansion, fight for continued support for PP”  
“H.R. 676 expanded + improved medicare for all”  
“Healthcare affordability + availability for healthcare for all”  
“Betty Siemer Protect health care for all”  
“Universal healthcare Dianne Voeck”  
“Universal healthcare for all!”  
“Healthcare for all insurance coverage Mylene Madrid”  
“Healthcare - keep it affordable, protect the poor Bonnie Murchey”  
“Don’t privatize social security or defund Medicare”  
“Protect Medicaid, no lifetime max”  
“Preserve Medicare increase under Obamacare, Protect women’s reproductive rights”  
“Medicare for all!”  
“Does the DNC support CA efforts + enact single payer health care? Laura Tegtmeyer”  
“Can California set up single payer for CA?”

"If Trump/Ryan Care passes. What will happen to us with pre-existing conditions? Will California come up with their own plan? Cass Langer"

"Improve ACA not repeal"

"Maintain funding for Planned Parenthood"

"Keep choice a right between a women & have doctor Roe v. Wade!"

"What can the party do to protect women's healthcare & right to choose"

"Pamela Johnson women's health how are you going to keep Planned Parenthood + other women's issues"

"Making women health care services available (liike Planned Parenthood) cannot be tied to political agendas"

"Maintain access + support for family planning, primary health, pre-existing"

"How not to allow defunding Planned Parenthood"

"Save Planned Parenthood"

"Save Social Security + Medicare No cuts"

"Save healthcare for those with pre-existing conditions low income"

"Single Payer/Universal Healthcare in CA!"

"Join the rest of civilized world - single payer healthcare"

"SB 562 - Lara, The Health California Act"

"Single payer"

"What are the chances of "Ryancare" passing?"

"How will you work to prevent passage of the Ryan health care plan? Michael Lubin"

"Norman Fries How about doing something about the cost & health care? Not just working about insurance"

"Single payer"

"Expand Medicaid"

"Keep up medical marijuana availability"

"I am a senior and also have a special needs grandchild. How will the "new" ACA affect this child with her services?"

"Medicare should not be block grants"

"Completely decouple healthcare insurance from employment. (Our children are projected to have 15 different jobs over their lifetime)"

"Regulate health insurance as a public utility"

"Means tested for reimbursement"

"We need to say more about how selling insurance across state lines need to have requirements for common limits on how much coverage"

"Require all insurance plans to include comprehensive reproductive + mental health care"

## Education

Responses: 38

"Don't privatize education no vouchers keep public schools public"

“Stop the move toward vouchers & funding private education”

“Strong public education!!! No vouchers, no private for profit charters, less testing, get rid of common core”

“Support public schools stop vouchers”

“Keep public education public, not vouchers for private religious schools”

“Betty Siemer Protect public education from DeVos 0 vouchers for the rich”

“Judith Monahan Secretary of Education’s history + policies just at risk all levels of education”

“What actions can we do and/or take at the local level regarding education to stop the Trump Agenda or the Dept of Education and education overall. Graham Judge 408.679.7667”

“Current education sucks need change”

“Protect rights of students with disabilities”

“Funding for public schools? Alicia Perry”

“Comm Colleges More funding for the least adequately funded schools in over education system - less than high schools, CSU, & U.C.”

“Don’t allow federal government to take money away from public education”

“Defend public education”

“Fund public educatio”

“We need to come out big for public schools. If not we widen the haves from the have nots”

“Funding public education and protecting students with disabilities.”

“Public schools for all Patricia Ohanian”

“Improve public schools. Do not use public funds for private schools”

“Education must have federal structure. Locals must address these goals”

“Michelle Bejaran”

“Affordable higher education Patrick”

“Betty Siemer Free junior college for all”

“Free or more affordable college for all”

“More disclosure of higher education salaries - we pay those salaries yet tuition keeps going up”

“A regional approach to education. Create coherence and a true education system in the region that involves real collaboration among primary, secondary & community college districts as well as government, employers & non-profits”

“Civics/Government as a required course in senior year of high school”

“Education in social leadership”

“Require civics education in elementary through high school”

“Science based education!”

“Make science, logic, & critical thinking essential skills”

“Danielle. Teacher pay must change to a fair and equitable level. Otherwise things won’t change...”

“Our educators need to have respect restored by the public. I’m tired of teacher bashing! More financial support for teacher salaries + to support children’s education. milamc@lushey”

“Pamela Johnson How are we going to stop DeVos from gutting education?”

“Public Art Design + Sound”

“Support for Arts in education in schools”

“Charter schools vs. public education Supporting our public schools TK - 12!”

“Public education not charter school”

# Environment

## Responses: 36

"EPA -- stand strong on environmental issues in the face of deniers of established science.

judithmon@sbcglobalnet Judith Monahan"

"How much real damage will result from Obama's environmental regulation discontinuance? How can we stop it?"

"PR campaign on the benefits we've gained for regulation"

"SV Demo club,, best way to protect EPA --- C. Floyd"

"Defend the Environmental Protection Agency"

"Save the EPA"

"Danielle Dill, don't destroy the protections"

"Fund the EPA generously!!"

"Save our planet EPA is a requirement! Not a joke"

"How do we protect EPA, Public Education, environment, healthcare? Sea Klear"

"PR/social/digital campaign on EPA Benefits"

"Pamela Johnson, environment, how to save EPA, stop fracking"

"Staff EPA to ensure enforcement of laws, keep our air, water clean!"

"Save the EPA!!!, Fund properly, Science is real, Climate change is real"

"No Fracking, No Pollution, Do not defund EPA,"

"Mike Basso, Environment, We need to keep the EPA at full funding"

"Environmental & wildlife, Impact of Wall between US, & Mexico Alicia Perry"

"Don't be stupid!! You can't undo poisoned, barren landscapes. We need clean air, water, open spaces"

"Clean, air, clean water, climate change, endangered species"

"Protect our ocean's + Land, No fracking, No train - 350"

"Environment, Dianne Voecks, "

"Protect our wild lands, federal lands from privatization"

"SV Demo Club,, Best way to protect national parks + forests - C. Floyd"

"Byron Burkhalter,, sustainable environment"

"Concerned about what is happening, toward destruction of environment Susan Klear"

"So many issues but this (environment)! Should be at the top. We are getting close to the tipping point"

"Global warming -- how will we able to keep a control over those who want to do away with all the hard work scientist, have put into getting us crucial information?"

"Climate change is REAL!"

"Stop muzzling government researchers #Scienceforall"

"Betty Siemer Protect xx environment fight climate change"

"Science research in government + supported by gov: support continued climate research, oppose any type of political censorship of science, support data preservation, support continuity of long term data gathering Benita Murchey"

"Prepare for climate change, fund mitigation work"

“Action now will save people’s health + lives PLUS the larger natural world”  
“Build renewable energy for all”  
“Save environment no fracking”  
“Too much NOISE street noise! Noise!”  
“Expose How Pipeline will not create long term jobs”

## Anything We Missed?

### Responses: 31

“What are plans to sue Trump over his conflict of interest”  
“Tell us the #1 most important action we can take now to help you? Laura Tegtmeier”  
“Women’s rights + Planned Parenthood Dianne Voecks”  
“Trump Russia impeachment”  
“What are the likely outcome of Trump’s Russian ties & what are we doing about it”  
“Trump’s taxes!”  
“Trump taxes HR 186”  
“Eliminating the impact of \$ in politics - e.g. (Overturn Citizens United)”  
“Trump’s connection to Russia?”  
“Investigate Trump’s financial ties - emolument clause”  
“Possible if not your President not your country”  
“Focus on Trump’s ties to Russia! Illegitimate President! - Sheri Kelly 415/846-2997”  
“President’s Impeachment”  
“What is your opinion about the electoral college vs using the popular vote?”  
“Support the National Popular Vote laws”  
“Build Trump Impeachment case, Make investments for non profits to collect/investigate”  
“Emoluments clause - focus on Trump’s conflicts of interest - Sheri Kelly 415/846-2997”  
“Dems have always been for what's right for & by the people...why are we not rallying around the atrocities for DAPL”  
“Get involved with DAPL”  
“There is not a lot of press on the Republicans’ efforts to pass harmful tort reform, yet it will affect vulnerable populations the most. Why? Sheri Kelly 415/846-2997”  
“What is the plan to flip red districts blue in the 2018 election? - Sheri Kelly 415/846-2997”  
“Support funding for National Endowment for the Arts + PBS”  
“I wish I had the answer: how to encourage a more diverse cross section of the community to participate in democracy? Mila McCuskey”  
“Good government uses the best science available to base its decisions. Objective facts needs to be the main dictator of policy. Mila McCuskey”  
“Science, science, science”  
“Trump Administration has banned government scientist from sharing knowledge with the public?”  
“Judith Monahan NO WALL!!! Ridiculous waste, Rather-improve immigration laws, ”  
“What is the democratic party planning to do to preserve voting rights? - Sheri Kelly 415/846-2997”

“How are the democrats planning to encourage more people to register to vote? - Sheri Kelly 415/846-2997”

“The democratic party is letting Trump define First Amendment issues. Needs to be more proactive. - Sheri Kelly 415/846-2997”

“New Regular News 2-min Segment, ‘Just the facts’, run down of the days misinformation”

## Good Government

### Responses: 23

“End Citizen United!!! People are people not corporations”

“How can we get lobbyist \$ out of elections”

“Gov’t operating in secret Dianne Voecks”

“Investigate Trump Russia Ties”

“Investigate Trump and cabinet get his taxes”

“An independent or bipartisan thorough investigation of Trump Russia connection”

“Trump’s taxes must be reviewed”

“Law to show taxes if you want to appear on California’s ballot”

“PJohnson Is Trump a traitor with his Russian ties”

“Can Congress subpoena Trump’s tax reform? Pat Cochran”

“Georgia and Oklahoma are having special elections soon to replace a House members how do I get involved?”

“Pass a financial disclosure law - so, Trump have show his taxes, Russia + other countries business”

“Patricia Guerrero Executive Order Can we we work on amending the executive order, so not one crazy person has so much power to cause harm?”

“Judith Monhan Trump Impeach, Taxes “audit”, Pathological liar, Ego maniac, dangerously unprepared for the role of President - nationality and internationally”

“What are the current threats to net neutrality and how can we fight them?”

“New Congressional Committee to address changing technology and the needed rules”

“Norma Friesnonpartisan + serve your constituents”

“Fair + Equal Redistricting”

“Stop gerrymandering before 2020 Census”

“Get rid of gerrymandering”

“Restrict gerrymandering”

“Expanding voting rights, not limiting them”

“Fight for equal voting rights”

“How to stop bad voter ID laws in other states”

# Civil Rights/Immigration

Responses: 23

## Voting rights/Detention Centers

“Expanding immigration to Dreamers + those seeking asylum is who we really are as Americans. High priority to stop limitations”

“Privacy protection”

“Maintain + protect Dreamers Immigrant refugees”

“Immigrants are our past and our future. Educate citizens and immigrants alike on American values.”

“Let’s welcome diversity. Embrace all religions”

“Defend LGBT community”

“Civil rights Dianne Voecks”

“Civil rights/immigration fairness not bigotry no religious exclusion”

“Immigration, legal vs illegal, public safety, public welfare”

“A comprehensive immigration policy, no wall!”

“Do not build ‘the wall’ preserve data”

“Byron Burkhalter a path to citizenship”

“Equal protection regardless of national origin”

“Protect DACA, stop deportations, ensure local officials (police, schools, city + country) No not cooperate with ICE”

“No wall! Cost? Environment, steel from Russia, No,”

“Can the Democrat Senators put up a ‘law’ to protect immigrant without having to fight the Republican Senate?”

“Safety (environmental + physical) for farm workers”

“Real immigration reform. The only George Bush speech I ever liked, Kathy Mattingl”

“No wall, please!! Is the Democratic Party strong enough to fight against the wall?”

“Protecting Immigrant Refugees Mylene Madrid”

“Protect Immigrants”

“No wall”

“No private prisons”

# Gender Equity/Equality for All

Responses: 20

## Women's Rights

- "All people deserve to be treated with respect, Connie"
- "One needs to be able to use the bathroom of that they identify as their sexuality"
- "When are we going to pass the ERA Equal Rights Amendment for women"
- "Protect the health care rights that impact women (family planning, PP)"
- "Support Planned Parenthood"
- "Put more women in Government"
- "Protect VAWA VOCA"
- "Stand for equal rights for women, LGBT rights, Planned Parenthood"
- "Betty Siemer Voter Rights, registration, monitoring, voting, Bringing people to vote like we did in the 60's,"
- "Hillary's outreach to women focused on ERA + choice. Women are not single issue voters."
- "ERA still matters"
- "Save the Dreamers"
- "Women's rights are human rights"
- "A renewed push for ERA, women's rights are human rights"
- "Bety Siemer, Preserve civil rights/equality - gays, minorities, women, aged"
- "ERA please!"
- "No erosion of LGBT rights"
- "Equal pay by law"
- "Revive + pay the Equal Rights Amendment"
- "Live our values and be aware of our privilege"

## Transportation

Responses: 12

### High Speed Rail/BART/Public Transportation/Electrification?

- "The economy depends on the nation's transportation system"

“Intermodal, shared use, efficient transportation, Move towards a systems approach to transportation that integrates buses, shared-use autos, busses, + trains that creates real incentives & the ability to reduce reliance on personally owned & operated cars.”

“408-984-4849 V.T.A.working well in keeping the transportation clean and running well, working on time”

“PR Campaign for high speed rail, use cases re; Europe”

“Byron Burkhalter,, invest in public transportation to lessen traffic congestion”

“Improve bus system, improve transportation for disabled/elderly”

“Make CA bike friendly, Public transport needs to branch to neighborhoods to work.”

“Make the case for high speed rail - it works in Europe”

“Solar energy”

“Transportation, Review of affordable transportation for disabled and elderly.”

“Affordable public convenient, efficient transportation, bus/train/minibus across Silicon Valley/SF City/Bay Area - connect w/Airports (See Hongkong model)”

“New design!”

## Win Back The Heartland

### Responses: 11

“Need to win Congressional redistricting or all other efforts are useless”

“How about a program to spend the \$6 trillion for nationwide infrastructure repair...jobs for the working class in the heartland”

“How do we intend to explain to the disaffected that we stand for them as their livelihoods have changed”

“Patricia Guerrero,, Since CA has a strong Democratic presence, we need to help push the Democratic Party in other states that are less Democratic”

“Norma Fr, Stop being elitist, win back the Democratic base”

“The heartland desperately needs jobs! Labor is cheap there. Congress should help Mid-West states w/additional tax incentives to build green tech jobs”

“More Democratic Party investment in the heartland, pipeline candidates into local government, PR campaign on Trump impact”

“Understand better how to win hearts + minds - connect to values widely shared not only progressive values”

“Making connections with rural + needy precincts all over the country, Christa Porter,”

“Yes Yes Yes! Reclaim the heartland”

“Listen to heartland and respond!”

# Housing

Responses: 11

Senior Housing/Affordable Housing/Homelessness/Sanctioned Encampments

“Reform Prop 13”

“Can Old City Hall be used for homeless”

“Renters’ Rights. Support Just Cause + more affordable housing, Jamie Chen”

“The process, management of the existing programs need revamping!! Overhaul, Difficult to get in not enough housing, alternative programs for support”

“Foster care, Housing Over 18”

“Danielle Dill, Victims of domestic violence need more housing for themselves + their children”

“ELI/VLI NOT “Affordable” - Shaunn”

“Tax Big Corporations, To fund low income housing for worker”

“Public safety, Rehoming for homeless people relative to demand”

“More dense housing, break down local city resistance to higher density/lower cost housing, esp. Near trans. Corridors.”

“Build more inclusive + aging in place low-income housing”

# Budget Priorities

Responses: 11

Military Funding Increase?

“No \$ for border wall”

“Fight ‘sanctuary city’ penalties”

“Modify low income tax credit programs to help poor families”

“Invest in peace & harmony”

“Block funding for wall”

“Support infrastructure projects, Kathy Mattingly”

“Raise level of the lowest tax credit so low income workers keep more earnings”

“Can the President selectively deny funds to cities/states that are non-compliant w/his objectives Pat Cochran”

“Save Medicare + Soc Sec, Norma Fries”

“For Peace & Harmony”

“Stupidity & Expense of Wall - Who will pay for it!!! Alicia Perry”

## Criminal Justice

Responses: 10

Private Jails AKA For Profit Prisons/Black Lives Matters

“Fairness in sentencing”

“Defend Black Lives Matter movement”

“Rational sentencing treatment for drug users”

“No more private prisons”

“How to stop the privatization of prisons”

“School to jail pipeline needs to be disrupted. Don’t criminalize children”

“Alternative options to incarceration”

“Hold Republicans responsible for their outright lies!”

‘What can be done about Director Comey’s willingness to be forthcoming with information to House Intelligence Committee? Stuart Bowen”

“Stop targeting African Americans + Latinos for prison”

## Jobs/Economy

Responses: 10

“Building renewable energy can increase jobs”

“How can we address the crumbling infrastructure of roads, bridges, internet, etc.”

“Let’s put those on social in active to volunteer in Santa Clara area for welfare causes, 408-984-4849”

“Mentoring jobs/economy of high school students in disadvantaged locales”

“Community Colleges increase operational funding for community college - currently the least adequately funded schools on a per student basis -- less than H.S., CSU, & UC”

“Funding for community CBO job training, more money for job training”

“Emphasis on worker retraining, growing the economy, fair trade, education on economics/trade”

“Once 45 is out how do we reverse his destruction? Susan Klear”

“What can we do about the brain drain (primarily scientists) leaving government service?”

“Support Trump if does roll back bad trade agreements, Christa Porter”

## Seniors

Responses: 9

### Social Security

“Can we save Medicare and Social Security?”

“Medicare + Social Security”

“No cuts, Save Social Security, Save Medicare”

“Permanent funding for Social Security, Replace the “borrowed” funds”

“Recognize us as a force - need ideas for action”

“Stop the Republican war against seniors”

“Give seniors dignity, Connie”

“Keep up the Senior Centers”

“Work to eliminate the unfair (GPO) Government Pension Offset for public employees”

## Public Safety

Responses: 8

### Police/Flood Warnings

“Human rights + civil rights, lifelong education for all sworn officers”

“Norma Fries,, Gun safety/gang safety”

“Psychiatric pre-screening for all new police recruits”

“SJPD racial profiling”

“Improve police training for mental health calls”

“SJPD political profiling”

“Protect JCC’s + mosques, who? Why? The threats”

“Stop hate crimes, zero tolerance, Mylene Madrid,”

## Labor

Responses: 8

Fair Wages

“Unions keep us strong Connie”

“Unions built the middle class”

“Promote a living wage”

“Worker protections + higher min wage”

“Equal rights, equal pay, not exception”

“Tie/connect high school vocational training w/JCs w/hiring companies help train kids for REAL jobs”

“No ‘RIGHT to work’”

“End Right to Work!”

## Children

Responses: 7

Childcare/Preschool Education?

“Teach children to value life Connie”

“Allow them to be born”

“More funding for early childcare”

“Michelle Bejarano”

“More family leave”

“Universal preschool for all”

“Foster care system”

## Fundraising for Democratic Party

Responses: 7

Best Way to Fundraise? Emails? Phone Banking?

“What can we do daily to fight Citizens United”

“Paid social + paid media outreach”

“If I donate don’t ask for more \$ for at least a month. Now you ask one hour later”  
“Stop ask for donations based on outrage. Give me a plan and strategy first - then ask”  
“Cake walk 408-984-4849”  
“More cohesive fundraising between Democratic groups!”  
“Betty Siemer, elect Democrats for Congress, Get Lots of \$ to do this,”

## **Economic Justice**

### **Responses: 6**

“Only supporting the 1% does not help. Trickle down economic does not work. Connie”  
“Reduce the wealth disparity, strengthen regulation, end “too big to fail”, return to real progressive taxation”  
“Fix the wealth disparity issue”  
“Equal pay for equal work”  
“Economic justice is the most important to me -- consumer protection, environmental justice, health care for all, Kathy Mattingly,”  
“Economic justice will only happen if we change the tax codes”

## **Divestment**

### **Responses: 3**

Social Justice

Economic Justice

Environmental Justice

For Profit Prisons

Detention Centers

City, County, Personal

“Fight all anti-semitic + anti-Israel divestment campaigns against Israel”  
“How can we get Citizens United removed - C. Floyd”  
“Get politics out of SCOTUS C.Floyd”