

**Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter**  
**City Council Candidate Questionnaire**  
**Due by , 2022 to**

**Candidate Information**

Name: Sergio Zygmunt

Office being sought: San Mateo District 3 City Council

Campaign manager & Office Address: Charles Merrick, 1630 S Delaware St Unit 5409 San Mateo CA 94402

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Website: <https://sergioforsanmateo.com>

Please Send a JPEG photo of yourself to Mike at [MichaelJFerreira@gmail.com](mailto:MichaelJFerreira@gmail.com). Please do not embed the photo into the email as our layout person cannot copy it with the resolution needed for publication.

In answering these questions, please remember that most of our endorsement decision is based upon a combination of your environmental accomplishments and environmental aspirations.

Please provide explanations with your answer and please include the original question with your response. Your response must be returned in the text of an e-mail, and as an attached MSWord file. The file must include your name in it.

***General Questions:***

1. We consider your past record as the best indicator of your future action for the environment.  
What have you done to protect natural resources and the environment?  
I believe in the sustainable use of natural resources - including for my campaign. My campaign is digital first - and sends minimal mailings and purchases minimal physical signs. I also believe in the electric future and only drive electric vehicles. Finally, I believe in transit and use it whenever possible.
2. What do you regard as the major environmental and conservation issues facing your city and the Bay Area as a whole?  
Getting all residents to realize the value of transit is going to be a major challenge. Unfortunately, transit is not safe for all yet and systematic issues must be addressed before we can expect all residents to use transit.
3. What are the principal areas of the environment that you will work on if elected? How will you deal with them?  
I will work to improve first/last mile access to transit. I will also hold businesses responsible for pollution and their impacts on our environment.
4. Are you a Sierra Club member? Membership is not required for endorsement.  
Yes I proudly am

## ***Issue Questions:***

### **Sustainable Land Use**

5. What are your views about the creation of downtown and transit hub specific plans that zone for building heights sufficient to generate significant economic value that will benefit your entire community and provide significant affordable housing? What types of development conditions (for example: Residential Parking Permit Programs to reduce redundant parking) would you support to reduce land waste, unit cost and auto dependency?

I will support almost any program that encourages transit use and that reduces the number of cars on the road. I will support policies that reduce the number of street parking users to improve the environment and to promote transit.

5b. Do you support making funds available to assist in the development of more affordable housing provided that it prohibits building on former hazardous sites and in environmentally sensitive areas? Do you support having all new affordable housing providing their residents access to a public transit stop within a reasonable distance and through a safe, walkable route? All housing developments, not just affordable housing, should be required to be near transit connections to discourage the use of personal cars.

5c. Regarding the well-known Jobs/Housing imbalances in most Peninsula cities what are your views as to office caps, tying office development to housing availability, or letting the marketplace play out?

I want to keep San Mateo as an area for commercial development. I will support mixed-use development to allow for a balance of housing for the commercial spaces but I also recognize that a lot of people like to transit from San Francisco to San Mateo.

### **Open Space & Urban Recreation – Access to Nature**

6. How will you ensure that residents in your city have access to safe and enjoyable parks and open space?

I will support policies to extend park programs and to prohibit private businesses from cannibalizing park spaces.

### **Sea Level Rise**

7. Scientific analysis overwhelmingly concludes that sea levels are rising and that San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties are seriously threatened in this century. Please give us your thoughts as to the near term tasks that you think should be undertaken by your city and the Bay Area at large? The Bay Area should continue its efforts to reduce pollution, especially industrial pollution. This can be done by holding businesses accountable for the pollution they cause and by further encouraging transit use.

### **Wildlife**

8. What would you do to help preserve wildlife habitat and wildlife corridors in the face of pressures from the growing human population?

I will support policies that provide for protective areas for at risk wildlife populations.

9. What will you do to reduce light pollution and bird collision hazards in your city?

I will promote studies of the hazards of light pollution and its impact on the natural habitats of animals.

### **Transportation**

10. What types of transportation projects would you support to provide people with an alternative to the private auto?

I will always promote transit-first development. San Mateo residents should feel safe and comfortable using their public transportation - that means service must be frequent enough to support the riders' needs.

### **Water Conservation & Recycling, Rivers & Creeks**

11. California will continue to face increasing droughts; do you support increasing the use of recycled water in your city, the Bay Area? What other actions do you support to make your city water smart?

I will discourage corporate and industrial developments that cannibalize our natural resources.

12. What is your position on stream setback requirements for development? Do you believe current requirements are too strict, too lax, or just right?

I am unfamiliar with this particular issue but always support policies to research environmental issues and to take action against environmental impacts.

### **Internet Equity**

13. Are you supportive of current initiatives to define High Speed Internet as a Public Utility thereby expanding participation by disadvantaged communities in the internet economy and education while reducing dependence on commuting?

Yes, high speed reliable internet should be made a utility which will protect all residents of San Mateo. This will allow people of all backgrounds to have equal access and will promote work from home, further reducing the environmental impacts commuters have.

### **Electrification Reach Codes**

14. Please provide your vision for your city's approach to Electrification Reach Codes relative to both new construction and existing development; and what time goals would you set for achievement?

In general, utilities should be electric when the source of the energy is green. I will support policies to reinforce this idea.

### **Light Pollution and bird safety**

15. In the next four years, will you champion a Dark-sky and Bird Safety ordinance for private properties, and address over-lighting and light pollution by the City itself (Public Works), and the safety of birds?

I will support policies to further investigate this issue and to take action against issues with light pollution.

## **Campaign Readiness –**

**Tell us about your campaign readiness, including funding, volunteers, and organization. Please bring examples of your prior and current campaign literature.**

1. Please list your endorsements. If they are on your website – please just insert your URL.  
Please visit [sergioforsanmateo.com](http://sergioforsanmateo.com) for all updates

2. Please include below an exact copy of your ballot statement as submitted at filing.  
San Mateo deserves a City Council Member who knows what matters to them - affordable housing, transit that works for everyone, and education that prepares our students for the workplaces of tomorrow. They also deserve a candidate that lives by their policies - and who isn't a career politician.

I'm running on a platform that I believe in because I live it - I use our city's public transit and volunteer in our community. I'm impacted by commercial pollution near my home and can see the impact our public safety policies have on our community.

As your city council member, I'll work to find a balance of public transit that works for everyone - with enough frequency to get people to their vital destinations, but doesn't pollute our city with loud train horns or diesel fumes.

I'll support common-sense development that will bring new small businesses to town - and not let developers get away with bait and switch tactics.

Our children - all children - deserve after school programs that encourage them to explore science and technology career paths.

I encourage any member of the community to contact me anytime at (650) 473-5149 or [sergio@sergiozymunt.com](mailto:sergio@sergiozymunt.com) to talk about what's important to them.

[sergioforsanmateo.com](http://sergioforsanmateo.com)