



Candidate Questionnaire

General Information

Candidate Name: Traci Park

Office Sought: Los Angeles City Council District 11

Proposed Ballot Designation: Municipal Law Attorney
(Or Occupation Listing)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Campaign Team*

Provide the names and cell phone numbers for the following campaign team members:

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Elected Office

Do you currently, or have you ever held public office?

No, I have not nor currently occupy a public office.

If yes, which public office(s) have you held and when did you do so?

N/A

Personal and Political Background

Democrats for Israel Los Angeles
Candidate Questionnaire

Current Occupation: Municipal Law Attorney

Are you a registered Democrat?

Yes, I have been a registered democrat for more than 18 years.

Have you ever been registered with another political party or selected “Decline to State” or “No Party Preference” for your voter registration party affiliation, and if so, for what period?

Yes, I was a registered Republican until 2004.

In less than 250 words, briefly summarize your personal background (work experience, education, community involvement, etc.).

I am a municipal law attorney and partner at Burke Williams and Sorensen. I advise cities on policy and best practices. During my career, I helped reform police body cameras and use of force policies, advised organizations on closing the gender pay-gap, and helped protect public first amendment law. During the COVID-19 pandemic, I helped cities and businesses navigate changing regulations and directives while advising these organizations on the establishment of health and safety protocols for workers and residents. I have helped organize and fundraise democratic causes for years, especially with Blue Revolution, wherein I helped raise close to a quarter-million dollars for the Biden-Harris campaign in 2020.

What endorsements have you received from organizations and prominent individuals?
(You may either use the space below or attach a separate list.)

CA Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis, CA State Treasurer Fiona Ma, Former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, United Firefighters of LA City, SEIU Local 721 Registered Nurses, Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Welders Local 761, the California Restaurant Association, Los Angeles County Business Federation, LA Area Chamber of Commerce, LA Airport Peace Officers Association and others. Endorsements page here: <https://tracipark.com/endorsements/>

Democrats for Israel Los Angeles
Candidate Questionnaire

In the past five years, have you:

- belonged to an organization that has taken action or formally expressed a viewpoint on Israel or related issues;
- participated in an organized activity, including a forum, on Israel or related issues;
or
- while holding office, introduced or co-sponsored legislation (other than purely ceremonial, supportive measures) on Israel or related issues?

No, I have not.

Policy Questions

Please describe your positions on the following issues. Please limit your responses to 250 words for each response. If you wish, one response may include up to 500 words.

1. Please describe your last trip to Israel and the Middle East, including the year of the trip and any group that arranged or sponsored the trip. If you have not yet been to Israel, when and to where do you plan on going in Israel, and the region generally, for your trip?

I have never gone to Israel or traveled in that region. I would love to have the opportunity to go with an LA organization such as the LA Jewish Federation or another group so that I could get the full context and knowledge of the Culture versus the silo effect that can come from news media reports.

2. Who do you speak with to develop your positions and views on Israel and the Middle East, including people overseas and local leaders in Southern California?

I develop my positions by speaking with Jewish community leaders, especially those active in volunteer work on behalf of Israel and the US-Israel relationship and also through my own reading from trusted sources.

Democrats for Israel Los Angeles
Candidate Questionnaire

3. Please describe your relationship, if any, with the Israeli-American and Jewish community in Los Angeles.

I attended a WIZO event recently and one of the speakers quoted Golda Meir, as having said “If only political leaders would allow themselves to feel, as well as to think, the world might be a happier place” and I really related to that comment and have since started learning more about Golda and her trendsetting and glass ceiling breaking leadership. I attended this event as I care deeply about the health of women and children which WIZO has created an amazing model for which I want to learn more about to support those in need in LA. My friend who introduced me to WIZO is active with many Jewish and pro-Israel organizations, including DFI and I have learned much from sharing with her and other Jewish community leaders. I want to serve all the people of my district and in the process of this campaign I have met with many Jewish activists and religious leaders and I look forward to continuing this conversation.

4. If elected, what committees and organizations would you try to be active in, and what policy areas would you try to affect that are relevant to Israel and the Middle East?

I hope to continue my engagement with DFI and ICAN and WIZO and Kehillat Israel and so many others I have met through this campaign. Given the alarming rise in anti-semitic attacks and anti-Israel sentiment, I want to become active with the ADL and other organizations that are actively working on this issue and to be in contact with LAPD Hate Crime division. I will continue to oppose BDS and groups that support it and to support a two-state solution to the ongoing Middle East conflict. Given the large number of Jewish refugees from the Middle East that now reside in Los Angeles and California, and many of them in CD11, I want to become more active in the work of JIMENA in raising these voices and their lost story in the foundations of LA and beyond.

5. Over the past decade, there has been a small but growing movement around the country to divest from Israel. These groups often use anti-Semitic language in their efforts, some target Jewish students on campuses and instead of discussing how to engage the democratic-process to challenge Israeli policies that may be objectionable, they try to delegitimize Israel or question its right to exist. In short, these are frequently attempts to influence state and local governments and their universities and pension boards not to invest in Israeli companies or companies that do business anywhere in Israel.

What is your view on the Israel boycott and divestment movement and what will you do about it?

I strongly oppose BDS and will fight it whenever the opportunity presents itself. The two areas in the US where the BDS movement seems to be the most successful are on our campuses and in the Labor Movement. I will work with my labor supporters, and we should come up with a better strategy to oppose BDS more coherently in the Labor

Democrats for Israel Los Angeles
Candidate Questionnaire

Movement. There should also be a more coherent effort on our college campuses so that younger Jews and Zionists can feel safe to believe in what they believe in.

6. The FBI's Uniform Crime Report for 2014 showed that there were more than 609 anti-Jewish hate crimes in the United States that year and even today, Jews were the most persecuted and targeted religious group in the country.

What steps would you take (for example, in the education and law enforcement arenas) to help prevent current and future anti-Jewish hatred and anti-Semitic activity in your jurisdiction?

As the candidate who is endorsed by all the Law enforcement groups, I will be a great conduit to ensure that the dialogue between law enforcement groups continues and grows as it relates to anti-Jewish hate crimes. I will work extremely closely with LAPD Hate crime and anti-terrorism division to ensure that the hate crime report is an active document that is used and doesn't just sit as clutter on a desk or in an email box. I will make sure that there is dialogue with all house of worship and organizations about security and support for these locations and the membership.

7. As a Democrat, what steps can we take to help fight anti-Semitism on both the left and the right?

I share the LA Museum of the Holocausts Motto in saying that we must "inspire humanity through truth". I think that within both parties and many other places there are alot of uneducated opinions being given over about fact when it comes to Israel. I think that I have myself been given misinformation and hope that as an elected Democrat I can help create honest conversations that are respectful to help move back false information. I also plan on speaking out when I see antisemitism within the party whether hidden or blatant.

I think we all need to have a more honest conversation about Israel's right to exist and the right of Jews to have self-determination. And a huge thing that seems obvious but is little done is for me and other leaders to speak up and say just that. All of our communities must work together and unite to make our City and beyond kinder and healthier.

8. What other issues do you think are unique or important to the Jewish and pro-Israel community, and how do you propose to make a difference with these issues and keep in touch with the community?

Through the campaign, I have had the opportunity to engage with some leaders in the Jewish community here in Los Angeles, and I have learned so much about Jewish LA and beyond and I am excited to learn more especially given the sizable population of Jewish community in CD11.

Democrats for Israel Los Angeles
Candidate Questionnaire

I am very excited to become a sponsor of LA's Jewish American Heritage Month and help this program grow. I know that the past Councilmember did not participate in this program and I would like to engage all residents of CD11 to learn about and share in Jewish culture and history in our City.

I also would like to see more recognition and sharing of holocaust education outside of just the commemorative days recognized in Council. We definitely need more education inside of schools but we also need more adult education especially for elected leaders and grass top leaders and senior officials in City Departments. I would like to help see this happen if I am honored to be elected.