

SAY San Diego Questionnaire – Carl DeMaio

Underage Drinking Prevention Social Host Ordinance

1. As Mayor of SD, how would you build community awareness of the Social Host Ordinance?

As Mayor, I will work closely with local community organizations and law enforcement to decrease underage drinking citywide. I support the Social Host Ordinance and will work with my colleagues on the City Council and advocacy groups like the Critical Voice to increase awareness of the ordinance so that parents and young adults can fully understand the law and the consequences should they buy and/or provide alcohol for minor consumption.

2. Would you champion the allocation of resources to the SDPD toward sustained enforcement of the Social Host Ordinance? If so, what are your ideas for identifying this source of dedicated revenue?

I would continue to support resources for the San Diego Police Department to enforce the Social Host Ordinance. As Mayor, I will put in place my “Roadmap to Recovery,” a detailed plan to bring our City’s budget from near bankruptcy to solvency which will allow me to restore necessary funding to our Police Department enabling them to enhance their important work in making our communities and youth safe.

Alcohol Licenses

3. As Mayor of SD, what steps would you take to address the problem of alcohol licenses over saturation in certain communities such as PB, North Park, and City Heights?

I appreciate that many local businesses want to open new restaurants and bars in many of our booming local communities. As a businessman, I believe that everyone should have the opportunity to be successful and the City should not deter small business start-ups. I do not support conditional-use permits to control the number of alcohol licenses being issued locally by California’s Alcoholic Beverage Control. However, as Mayor, I would be fully committed to supporting the San Diego Police Department and their efforts to combat any alcohol-related disturbances that arise in every San Diego community.

4. Would you champion the idea of giving local govt a greater role in alcohol-licensing process? Why or why not?

I believe all local communities and groups, like the Critical Voice, should have a fair opportunity to express their opinion to the California Alcoholic Beverage Control. I have an intrinsic belief in an open and transparent government, and before a permit is

considered, I support a public comment period to give local residents the opportunity to share in the decision-making process which will be publicly posted on the City's website

5. What steps would you take to cultivate a stronger partnership between state and local agencies to ensure compliance with ABC and Neighborhood Code Compliance laws that govern alcohol licenses?

As Mayor, I will ensure that the City undertakes a concerted effort to increase communication between state and local agencies. In addition, I will work to enhance statewide efforts by employing local available resources such as the San Diego Police Department and Code Enforcement.

Billboard Ordinances

6. The City of SD is one of a handful of municipalities that have passed ordinances that prohibit alcohol ads on billboards located near schools, parks, child care centers and playgrounds. As Mayor, would you champion the idea of revising the existing ordinance to include teen recovery centers?

Yes, I would reconsider the existing ordinance that prohibits advertising alcohol near teen recovery centers.

Substance Abuse Prevention

7. As Mayor, how would you make sure that retailers are not selling unregulated synthetic drugs such as Spice and Bath Salts?

I will partner with local law enforcement and District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis to keep these synthetic drugs off of retail shelves. In addition, the City must be more proactive in letting San Diegans know how dangerous these drugs can be.

8. How can the Mayor be an advocate for restricting access to drugs, particularly among youth?

As Mayor, I will continue to work with youth groups and expand substance abuse prevention education. Peer-to-peer education is effective, which is why I would partner with students, like you, to help other at-risk youth become successful contributors to society. Also, it is critical that the San Diego Police Department has the necessary funding to discover and prevent drug deals in our communities. I will ensure that law enforcement agencies have the necessary funding and staffing levels. Finally, I have a plan to restore funding to after-school programs so at-risk youth have a place to go to continue their education and avoid drugs and alcohol.

Bullying

9. As Mayor, would you work with community stakeholders to create a city-wide public awareness campaign against bullying?

Bullying in our schools cannot be tolerated. Earlier this month, I introduced my “Clean and Safe Schools Initiative” and pledged to take an active role in education reform and build important relationships with schools, teachers, parents, local communities, and advocacy groups, such as yours, to create awareness about the important issue of bullying in our schools. As Mayor, I will establish a Clean and Safe Schools Task Force that identifies concerns and recommends policy changes to help decrease bullying in our schools. Furthermore, I will partner with District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis to establish an independent Education Foundation to fund after-school programs so students have a safe environment until their parents are able to pick them up after school.

10. What steps would you take to cultivate a civic environment that upholds mutual respect and civility?

I have worked hard to shape my policy decisions as I represent the 5th District of San Diego in a bipartisan, collaborative way where I brought stakeholders together for the well-being of the City. One important example is pension reform (Prop B) which passed in June. I was able to work across party lines to pass pension reform which will restore solvency to our City Budget so we can properly fund education, after-school programs, fire and police, and our infrastructure and public transit. I have pledged to hire republicans, democrats, and independents in my Administration, and I look forward to continuing to run this City in a bipartisan manner with the highest respect for my colleagues.

Building a Partnership with Youth

11. As Mayor, what would be your vision for empowering young people to play an active role in local government?

If elected Mayor, I hope that young San Diegans take an active role in our communities. I want to directly hear groups like yours. I plan on offering multiple internships within the Office of the Mayor and other city agencies so that our youth have direct access in my Administration. I also plan on holding monthly community meetings where interested parties, including youth, can come ask questions or share concerns directly.

12. What steps would you take to engage young people, including homeless, foster and at-risk youth, in your agenda to improve the quality of life in our community?

I can personally relate to at-risk youth. When I was 14, my mom passed away, two weeks after my father abandoned my family. I know the hardships youth can go through at a young age, and how to resist the temptation of harmful behavior. Through my life experience, I hope to inspire youth and instill in them the knowledge and belief

that no matter what hand they are dealt with, they can be successful in life. Young people need encouragement to study hard in school, have a disciplined work ethic, and build relationships with people who want to help and see them succeed. I am grateful that Jesuits took me in after I was orphaned, and I learned a strong sense of public service. I want the opportunity to give back to the at-risk youth in the San Diego community, and if I'm elected Mayor, I will make sure you are a priority.