



**WEST LA DEMOCRATIC CLUB
APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION OF
ENDORSEMENT AND CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

ELLEN EVANS

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that I am a registered Democrat and that the statements in this document and those in any attachments are true and correct. If any part of this application or any information provided during the endorsement process is found to be false, it may be cause for an immediate revocation of any endorsement. I understand that my application is available to any WLADC member upon request.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ellen Evans", written in a cursive style.

Signature of Candidate

Print Full Name

Date

Please provide written answers to the questions below:

1. Why are you running for this office?

Our communities deserve common-sense leadership and tenacious representatives with the conviction to deliver real change. As President of our Neighborhood Association, I've fought to improve public safety and ensure my neighbors have a voice in City Hall. As a civil rights advocate, I've stood on the front lines of the fights for marriage equality and to end HIV. As a mom, I've worked to ensure our students have a shot at the American Dream.

I'm running for State Senate to fight for the people of all the neighborhoods in the district the same way I've fought for mine. I know that together, we can strengthen public safety, tackle the housing crisis, and build an economy that works for working families. We can expand access to union apprenticeships and job-training programs. We can rebuild the Pacific Palisades and Malibu, safer and stronger than ever. And we can defend our democracy and our California values from attack.

2. What are your top 3 issues? Include the role that a State Senator can take in addressing those issues and the specific steps/plans you have.

a. Public Safety, Emergency Preparedness, and Resilient Infrastructure

As a State Senator, I can shape budget priorities, author legislation, and provide oversight to ensure California is investing in resilience before disasters strike. I will fight for sustained state funding for wildfire prevention, emergency response, and resilient infrastructure, including fire hardening, utility upgrades,

transportation, and emergency communications. These investments protect lives and neighborhoods while also reducing long-term costs by preventing catastrophic damage that drives up insurance rates and housing costs. I will also work to ensure infrastructure investments create good, family-sustaining jobs and workforce training opportunities, so resilience efforts strengthen both public safety and affordability.

b. Housing Affordability and Homelessness

The State Senate plays a central role in housing policy, funding, and accountability. I will focus on increasing housing supply by cutting unnecessary red tape at the state level that delays construction and increases costs, while supporting responsible development near jobs and transit. I will also push for stronger oversight and transparency to ensure state housing and homelessness dollars are used effectively. Addressing homelessness requires pairing housing with mental health and substance-use treatment, and I will advocate for coordinated state funding that supports both housing production and the services people need to regain stability.

c. Economic Opportunity Through Education and Workforce Development

As a State Senator, I can secure funding, shape statewide education policy, and align workforce programs with California's economic needs. I will champion strong investment in public schools, community colleges, and career technical education, with a focus on expanding union apprenticeship and job-training programs in high-demand fields like the building trades and mental health care. By strengthening the connection between education, training, and good-paying jobs, we can lower barriers to opportunity, address workforce shortages, and build an economy that works for working families.

3. What do you envision for your first bill package?

My first bill package would be developed collaboratively with my legislative colleagues and key stakeholders, with a focus on advancing solutions that are practical, durable, and capable of moving quickly. I believe effective legislation is built by bringing people to the table early — including local governments, labor, utilities, healthcare providers, environmental experts, and community stakeholders — and aligning policy so state government works more efficiently and delivers real results.

A central focus of my initial package would be resilient infrastructure and affordability. I would work to advance statewide interconnection and infrastructure guidelines that reduce delays, uncertainty, and inconsistent rules across jurisdictions. Clear state-level standards can lower costs, speed up critical infrastructure and clean energy projects, strengthen public safety, and support job creation. By improving coordination and predictability, California can build faster and more affordably while reducing long-term costs for communities.

My bill package would also address how California finances major public priorities. I would pursue legislation to modernize and better align our financing tools, including exploring the role of a state bank or state-backed financing mechanisms to leverage public dollars more effectively and reduce borrowing costs. In addition, I would work to consolidate and streamline existing affordable financing programs so they are easier to access, more transparent, and better coordinated. Reducing fragmentation and administrative complexity is essential to delivering projects faster and at lower cost.

I would also include legislation focused on protecting access to essential healthcare and ensuring continuity of care in the face of federal interference. As federal policies move to restrict or defund providers offering gender-affirming, reproductive, or other medically necessary care, California must ensure legal clarity for providers and uninterrupted access for patients. This legislation would use the state's regulatory and licensing authority to protect healthcare providers acting within California law, prevent discriminatory denial of care, and reduce administrative and legal barriers that cause providers to limit services out of fear or uncertainty. By coordinating existing state protections and enforcement mechanisms, California can safeguard access to care for women, LGBTQ+ patients, and immigrant communities without requiring significant new spending.

Across this bill package, I would prioritize accountability, workforce development, and good, family-sustaining jobs. My goal for a first bill package is to improve how state government works — building safer and more resilient communities, lowering longterm costs, protecting essential rights, and creating economic opportunity through smart, coordinated policy.

4. Do you have any mentors in the State Senate? Who?

I do not currently have formal mentors in the State Senate, but I have great respect for many Senators whose leadership I admire and would seek out for guidance once elected. I particularly admire the thoughtful, effective approach to governance demonstrated by Monique Limón, and I would look to Ben Allen for guidance as well, especially given his experience representing this region and navigating complex policy issues.

I believe strong legislators build relationships, learn from colleagues with different strengths, and approach the work with humility and collaboration. That is the approach I intend to take in the State Senate.

5. How much do you expect your campaign to cost? How much money have you raised? How do you plan to fund the rest of your budget?

I expect my campaign to cost approximately \$1 million through the primary election. To date, we have raised more than \$250,000, with strong early momentum and broad grassroots support, including a significant number of in-district donors.

We plan to fund the remainder of the campaign through a combination of continued grassroots fundraising, call time, fundraising events, and online outreach, supported by a professional fundraising team with experience both in the district and in Sacramento. I am also prepared to continue making personal investments in the campaign to ensure we have the resources necessary to communicate effectively with voters and run a strong, competitive race.

6. Who do you see as your main opponents in this election?

This is an open-seat race with multiple candidates, and at this point I don't believe there is a single clear frontrunner. That said, it would be unrealistic not to acknowledge that Brian Goldsmith has entered the race with a significant financial advantage, which will allow him to spend heavily early on.

My focus is not on any one opponent, but on running a strong, values-driven campaign rooted in community leadership, coalition-building, and a clear plan to govern effectively. I believe voters are looking for experience, judgment, and the ability to deliver results, and that is the case I am making throughout the district.

7. Please list your top five (5) individual and organizational endorsements.

California Legislative Jewish Caucus
Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur
Equality California
Kathy Spillar, Executive Editor of *Ms. Magazine* and Co-Founder of the Feminist Majority Foundation
Los Angeles City Councilmember Nithya Raman

8. How long have you been a registered Democrat? Have you been registered as a member of another political party? If so, which party and why?

I have been a registered Democrat since I first registered to vote as a teenager.

9. Please list any Democratic clubs and/or organizations with which you are a member, including the length of your membership and any leadership position you have held in each Democratic club and/or organization.

I joined several Democratic clubs in the spring of this year as I launched my campaign for State Senate, including the West LA Democratic Club, Heart of LA Democratic Club, and Stonewall Democratic Club. Prior to becoming a candidate, my

civic and political engagement focused primarily on community leadership and issue-based advocacy rather than participation in Democratic clubs.

At this time, I have not held leadership positions within these clubs. I value the important role Democratic clubs play in grassroots organizing and party-building, and I look forward to becoming more active and engaged over time.

10. Please list any organizations you are a member of, including the length of your membership and any leadership positions you have held in each organization.

Doheny Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association – Co-founder and President, 2017–present

Bel Air–Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council – Elected board member, 2017–present; currently Vice President of Legislative Affairs

Hillside Federation – Participant through the Doheny Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association; regularly attend meetings

Equality California Institute – Former board member; previously served as Vice President

Equality California PAC – Former PAC Committee member

Temple Israel of Hollywood – Member

11. Please feel free to include any other information you would like us to know about you.

I come to this race as a longtime community leader, civil rights advocate, former union member, and mom who has spent years solving real problems at the local level. I did not set out to be a career politician. I stepped into leadership because my community needed someone willing to do the work, bring people together, and push for practical solutions.

That experience has shaped how I approach public service. I believe good governance is about listening, collaboration, and follow-through. Whether advocating for public safety, wildfire preparedness, housing solutions, or civil rights, I focus on outcomes, accountability, and building coalitions that can actually get things done.

If elected, I will bring that same hands-on, problem-solving approach to the State Senate. My goal is to be a thoughtful, effective legislator who earns trust, works across differences, and delivers results for the people of this district and the state.

Candidate's Signature 