



## BASIC INFORMATION

Name: Joshua Arce

Candidate for: District 9 Supervisor

## PERSONAL WALKING EXPERIENCE

1. Please describe what role walking plays in your life.

*I've lived in the Mission district for the better part of a decade. Walk down any street in the Mission and you will be immersed in a dazzling scene of outdoor murals, galleries, cafes, boutiques, and local artists. It is such a privilege for my wife and I to be able to raise my two young boys in the midst of this rich diversity and creative energy. I love being able to walk the streets and feel so connected to my community.*

## BIG PICTURE

2. Describe your vision of a healthy, safe, equitable, and sustainable transportation system for the city and the role that walking plays in that vision.

*A world class city deserves a world class transit system. We need better, more reliable transportation services across our city. We need people to not only walk our streets, but want to walk our streets. This means working for pedestrian safety measures, energy efficient buses, fair wages for transit workers, clean streets, and better city planning. City hall has had years to fix the city's transit problems; it's clear the status quo has failed. I have the experience to make our ideal transit vision a reality.*

## VISION ZERO

3. If elected, what steps would you take to ensure the implementation of Vision Zero projects? In your answer, please explain whether you pledge to prioritize safety improvements that narrow crossing distances and slow traffic (bulbouts, "road diets," etc.) over other competing demands for street space, including parking or automobile lanes.

*As someone who has been hit by a car while riding my bike, I know all too well the importance of bicycle and pedestrian safety. In fact, it took me several years to start riding again. We must redouble our driver education efforts to improve safety for the tens of thousands of people who ride on our streets every day. I wholeheartedly support the goal of Vision Zero of eliminating rider fatalities in our roads by 2024 and cosponsored a 2014 Environment Commission resolution endorsing Vision Zero. In line with these goals, as Supervisor I will push to expedite our bike friendly roadways program, continue lobbying other local and state officials to improve our road safety laws and advocate for stronger enforcement of dangerous driving which puts riders life at risk.*

4. What would you do to ensure there is enough funding for pedestrian safety improvements and Vision Zero projects?

*Vision Zero should be unanimously supported in City Hall. I will work to protect funding for initiatives that improve safety and make our city liveable. Our streets should be safe, no matter if we walk, run, or bike. We should not have to worry about injury on our way to work. Our children should not have to be scared crossing the street. And, we know our city can be better laid out to prevent traffic deaths. I protected and endorsed Vision Zero as President of the Environment Commission, and as Supervisor I will make sure the two-year action strategy laid out by Vision Zero is followed. I will commit to streets that work for all of us.*

#### POLICY/LEGISLATION

5. The most dangerous transportation behavior in the city is speed, as it exponentially increases a victim's risk of injury or death. Two key strategies that have effectively reduced speeds in other states and countries are automated speed cameras and decreased speed limits. Unfortunately, the State of California doesn't permit automated speed enforcement and only allows speeds lower than 25 mph in school zones. Do you support these strategies? If so, how will you work with your community and State legislators to change these (and similar) laws so the City can use these strategies to save lives?

*I support and take seriously any measures that reduce traffic related injuries and death, including automated speed cameras and decreased speed limits. I'm fully supportive of the Walk First campaign, which targets pedestrian safety in the 6% of SF streets responsible for the most traffic injury. Traffic safety affects everyone. A couple of years ago, I was hit by a car while riding my bike. Just last week a member of my campaign staff was hit while crossing the street. We must do more to make our streets safer for everyone in our city. It's time to end the decade of disappointment in our transit system and work towards safe, reliable streets.*

#### SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

6. Approximately 41% of San Francisco elementary school students live within walking distance of school. Unfortunately, only 25% take the short journey by foot. Studies have shown that children who walk to school enjoy key health benefits and academic advantages, as well as getting more quality bonding time with parents. What would you do to increase the number and safety of children walking and biking to school?

*I'm a father of two young sons. I know what it's like to worry for their safety. More needs to be done to ensure walking to school is safe for children of all ages. This means keeping speed limits down, providing more crossing guards, encouraging walking school buses and bike trains, 2 and decreasing traffic congestion around schools. I am a supporter of the Safe Routes to School and Walk and Roll programs. It's important that parents and kids are educated about the benefits of walking to and from school*

## WALKABILITY/WALKING MODE INCREASE

7. The City has established a goal to steadily increase the percentage of all walking trips and walking trips for commuting in the next 5 years. Do you support this goal? If yes, what would you do to help the City realize it?

*I support all efforts to increase the percentage of walking trips in San Francisco. Commutes can and should utilize walking and public transportation. We need to localize employment to keep jobs within walking distance of our city's residents. I developed the most successful local-hire programs for our construction workers. As Supervisor, I'll expand this program to other industries.*

*Our city's walkability is tied to our city's affordability crisis. Commutes to and from the city are growing exponentially. We need a comprehensive plan to address affordability and crowded commutes. The status quo has failed, and it's time for fresh leadership in city hall to fix these problems.*

8. Walk San Francisco believes that everyone deserves equal access to enjoyable places to walk, and that our street space can be better used by shifting excess street right-of-way from private automobiles to places for people to walk and gather. How do you feel about projects like these that improve our public realm, and how will you support them?

*Throughout my campaign for Supervisor, I've seen and experienced the value of building community. Everytime I walk through District 9, I stop to meet someone new. This is how we improve our public realm; through developing accessible spaces and encouraging our friends and neighbors to walk, gather, and engage with one another. I fully support shifting excess street right-of-way from cars to pedestrians.*

## OTHER EXPERIENCE

9. Have you championed or strongly supported any other initiatives that are in line with Walk San Francisco's mission of making walking in San Francisco safe, so that our community is healthier and livable?

*Safe, reliable streets are a priority for my campaign. I support the use of red lanes to increase the efficiency of public transportation and shorten commutes that involve walking. I'm in support of all planning changes that could help reduce traffic related injury or death (bulbouts, daylighting, enhanced crosswalks, scrambles, and more).*

10. Is there anything else you'd like to share with the people of San Francisco, all of whom walk or travel with an assistive device at some point?

*As a bike rider and the father of two young children, I look forward to the day when all riders and walkers in San Francisco have safer access to our roads. I support all of WALK SF's efforts to 3 double down on education and safety for pedestrians. As Supervisor, I will continue to work to make San Francisco one of the most walkable cities in the country.*