

Name	Cheryl Davila	Nanci Armstrong-Temple	Darryl Moore
Age	60	41	55
Job	Full charge bookkeeper	Social entrepreneur, mom, teacher	Senior management analyst for the Oakland Housing Authority: Administer project-based section 8 vouchers, as well as HUD guidelines, policies, and regulations, manage reasonable accommodation request, and manage the budget for the section 8 program
What is the main reason you are running?	Our community needs diverse, ethical folks with integrity and honesty to step up and become public servants. I have been active in District 2 for thirty-five years, and I have seen how dysfunction at City Hall has meant that the voices of my neighbors have been absent from city decision making. I have experience working effectively within city government, serving as commissioner on the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission since 2009. I believe in neighborhood-friendly demilitarized policing, neighborhood assemblies, innovative ecological practices, and beautification without gentrification. I am responsive, accountable, and principled. My door will always be open.	As a community organizer in Berkeley, I have seen our streets and parks be neglected, our police out of control, and our elected officials largely unaccountable to the people they have promised to serve. I also see citizens who love Berkeley deeply, who look for ways to make the world a more just and equitable place, and who believe that Berkeley exists to be on the cutting edge of progressive social programs. It's time to bring that Berkeley back again.	I cut my teeth in Berkeley politics working as a legislative aide to Councilmember Kriss Worthington. After witnessing firsthand the tremendous impact that a Councilmember can have on its community, I felt that I could put my Masters in Public Policy that I earned from the University of Chicago to good use. Affordable housing, public safety, our public infrastructure, open space. Virtually all aspects of resident's quality of life are affected by city policies. I felt that, as a Councilmember, I could shape so many aspects of my community and to make it the best that it can be.
Why are you qualified for the position?	<p>I am deeply committed to the needs of the neighborhoods of West Berkeley. My husband and I have lived in District 2 for thirty five years. I've raised our two wonderful children here, organizing with other Berkeley public school parents on the PTA while earning a degree with honors and working as a office manager. We are renters, and have seen first-hand the impact of gentrification and displacement, and the need for truly affordable housing programs that meet the needs of our friends and community members. In 2009, I joined Berkeley's Human Welfare and Community Action Commission, where I've had the privilege of advising the Council on issues of human welfare and overseeing the Community Action Program for the past seven years.</p> <p>Each council member comes at the job with a different set of skills and life experiences. As a financial professional, I will be accountable and won't be bought and sold. As a mother and an activist, I bring a principled approach to community challenges and solution-making. I'm confident that my combination of skills and experience will serve me well as I work to represent my neighbors in District 2.</p>	<p>As the daughter of community activists who ran a non profit in South Central Los Angeles which was led and directed by those who were most impacted by state violence, I have a unique perspective not found by any other candidate. As a social entrepreneur I understand how to identify and solve community problems, and as a small business owner I also know how difficult it is to make ends meet. And as an activist who has a history in helping to direct social movements that hold officials accountable, I will always serve the people.</p> <p>As a board member of several nonprofit organizations, I have been able to navigate the difficulties of leadership and help plan and implement large budgets.</p> <p>As a teacher and coach I have been able to navigate and manage difficult situations and reach across cultural, economic and racial divides to solve problems and hold stakeholders accountable.</p> <p>Most importantly, I am able to navigate difficult people and situations under pressure without losing my composure and without compromising my principles.</p>	<p>I graduated with honors from UC Santa Cruz with a Bachelor's degree in Sociology in 1984, and went on to earn my Master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Chicago in 1986.</p> <p>After graduating from Chicago, I moved to the District of Columbia, working as an Urban Fellow in the Mayor's Budget Office as a Budget Analyst, and later as as a Senior Budget Analyst for the University of the District of Columbia.</p> <p>Beyond my education, I believe my extensive experience serving my Berkeley community (described in my answer to the next question), prior to becoming Councilmember and while serving as Councilmember, gives me the necessary skill sets to effectively work toward the betterment of my community.</p>
What sets you apart from other candidates?	<p>My combination of experience working within city government, my commitment to our community neighborhoods, and my training in responsible, accountable practices, make me the right candidate to represent our district on the Council.</p> <p>As I walk the district speaking with neighbors, I hear again and again that District 2's Councilman is only seen in the district during campaigns and that he is unresponsive when folks need resources and support. Our Councilman has received tens of thousands of dollars in campaign funds from real estate developers and is out of step with residents on issues of development. I've served as a commissioner since 2009, on the Human Welfare & Community Action Commission, where our Councilman tried to shut down discussion on important issues because they could be damaging to his political ambitions. His behavior as councilman has disappointed me and my neighbors. District 2 deserves a change.</p> <p>My thirty years working in all phases of accounting and various manager positions demonstrate my ability to work with budgets and city finances with leadership and competence.</p> <p>I am prepared to provide a responsive, principled council office that represents our needs, our priorities, and our values.</p>	<p>The current incumbent has not been accountable to the people in our district. He refuses citizen requests for community meetings. He meets with homeowners and business owners on behalf of developers, but cannot be bothered to follow through with promises made.</p> <p>In contrast, I am readily available to talk with people in my community. I plan to hold weekly office and community hours, and to hold monthly topical town halls. I will hold the zoning and planning departments to our city law, and make sure that no more properties are built that destroy their neighbors sunlight and provide minimal of any community benefit. And I will help to end rent hike evictions and criminalization of the homeless while working to balance our budget and pay down our debt.</p>	<p>I have lived in Berkeley for 20 years. During my life in Berkeley, I have served the public in various capacities: as a commissioner (Housing Advisory Commission, Public Works, Zoning Adjustments Board, Mental Health Commission, and Berkeley Public Library Trustee), serving on a variety of boards of community agencies (Berkeley Youth Alternatives, YMCA, West Berkeley Foundation, K to College, National Black Justice Coalition, AIDS Project of the East Bay), on the Peralta Board of Trustees, and on the Berkeley City Council. Through all of those roles, I have a proven record of taking action to improve my community. I believe that living in the Berkeley community as long as I have, and gaining a varied perspective due to all of the roles in which I have served, allows me to understand how to effectively navigate a public entity such as the City of Berkeley, but also helps me find creative solutions to difficult and complex problems. I do not believe that any of the other candidates running in District 2 have had as extensive experience serving their community in capacities that play such a significant role in shaping our Berkeley community.</p>

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How did you end up in Berkeley?	<p>I first came to Berkeley in the late '70's from New York to attend my brother's wedding where I met my husband. In 1981, I moved to Berkeley so that I could be close to my family and explore my relationship. We were married in 1989. We love Berkeley and raised our family here. Both of our children attended Berkeley public schools and grew up in our west Berkeley apartment.</p> <p>I've been in love with Berkeley ever since I first arrived. We've got the best food and bread, world-class farmer's markets, and engaged, smart, wonderful residents.</p>	<p>I moved to the Bay Area to attend UC Berkeley and fell in love with the area. As a mixed-race family, there are places that we would not feel comfortable living. My husband and I wanted to raise our children near his family in one of the most diverse places in the nation.</p> <p>Unfortunately many families are being chased out of Berkeley by predatory policing practices, economic and social pressures, and lack of available jobs and housing for our youth. We will work hard to reverse this trend and make Berkeley a more thriving and diverse city.</p>	<p>After graduating from the University of Chicago and working in the District of Columbia for some time, I felt it was time to return to my home state and be able to give back to the community that gave me so much as I was growing up.</p>
What are the three biggest challenges Berkeley faces in the near future?	<p>Housing. As we all know, Berkeley is experiencing a housing crisis that is unprecedented in our history. Our beautiful city offers great schools, delicious food, vibrant neighborhoods and engaged neighbors, so it's no wonder that so many people want to make Berkeley their home. Unfortunately, City Hall seems unconcerned with the challenges that this environment creates for longtime residents, and uninterested in attracting diverse new residents from all walks of life. As rampant gentrification was taking hold, council could have mandated that new businesses in retail corridors should be owned by people who live nearby, in order to keep the profits from new businesses in the neighborhood. They could have offered city-backed small business loans to residents who wanted to start businesses in their neighborhoods, so that longtime residents could have benefited from the rising economies of the neighborhoods. Instead, Council squandered these opportunities and far too many longtime residents were forced out of their neighborhoods as profits from real estate and businesses went to out-of-town developers and investors. Costa-Hawkins, the state law that prevents many forms of rent control, must be repealed so that we may revise our rent control system, both for residents and commercial tenants.</p> <p>Environment. Communities everywhere are struggling to address the local impacts of climate change. Berkeley is already making great strides and creating models for other communities, but there is much to be done.</p> <p>Bias and Inequity. Our communities of color have been the hardest hit by displacement as a result of gentrification. Additionally, our community is not immune to bias in employment practices and policing. We deserve a neighborhood-friendly police force that rejects militarized tactics. We need strong anti-bias policy and practice for all workers, and community assemblies that allow residents to discuss challenges and communicate with their representatives.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Homelessness and the affordable housing crisis 2) Fiscal solvency and half a billion dollars of unfunded liabilities 3) Militarization and lack of accountability of our city and police to the people of Berkeley 	<p>Public safety is a primary concern of all residents in whatever community in which they live. Berkeley has its own unique set of circumstances that make public safety a challenging issue. Our community is sandwiched within two cities that struggle with violent crime. Unfortunately, that means that there is sometimes spill over into Berkeley. We also have a much higher number of pedestrian and bicycle traffic since Berkeley residents are typically much more aware of their carbon footprint. As a result, we tend to have a much higher rate of pedestrian and bicycle involved accidents in Berkeley.</p> <p>Workforce and affordable housing is a huge issue, to which anyone living in Berkeley can attest. We are losing our diversity due to the immense cost of housing. If we want to keep Berkeley Berkeley, we must ensure that people all walks of life and socioeconomic statuses can make Berkeley their home.</p> <p>The state of our infrastructure is also a dire issue. During the years following the recent recession, we have not been able to invest in maintaining our parks, recreation centers, senior centers, streets, and other public infrastructure. While infrastructure is not a very exciting topic, it is something that touches our lives nearly every moment of everyday of our lives, and if there is something wrong with it, we certainly do notice it. We need to make sure that we upkeep our infrastructure so our children aren't saddled with a bill much larger than the one we currently face.</p>

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What are your ideas to solve them?	<p>Housing. The current affordable housing requirements for new construction are not sufficient to address our housing crisis. I will fight to ensure that new apartment buildings offer 35% or more truly affordable units. A recent "below market" unit on University, for instance, is charging \$1933 for a 340 square foot studio. This is a slap in the face to our affordable housing program. Additionally, it is time for a statewide movement to repeal Costa-Hawkins. Berkeley can lead this movement, and I will work with other cities to change state regulations so that Berkeley can have more tools to address exploding housing costs.</p> <p>Environment. I am committed to environmental justice, clean air and water, accessible and plentiful wilderness, careful development that reduces our collective impact on the environment, and a constant eye to addressing climate change. I will work with city staff to develop a plan for 100% renewable energy production, solar rooftop initiatives for renters and low income owners, developing water retention landscapes throughout the city, supporting urban agriculture, and accelerating our carbon neutrality goals. As we face climate change as a community, we must actively research and proactively address environmental threats.</p> <p>Bias and Inequity. I will support efforts to bolster workplace discrimination protections, and will work to prevent militarized policing tactics. BPD spends almost 35% or its resources responding to mental health crises, professionals would be better suited to respond to struggling community members. We need a fully-funded Mental Health Crisis Response Team that operates separately from the police department. City programming needs to be carefully targeted to help us preserve and enhance our city's diversity, and to support our minority communities of color.</p>	<p>1) I plan to push for the declaration of a housing emergency in Berkeley. With this declaration we would be able to immediately allow certain properties to be used as emergency shelters, and also redirect specific funding to housing and services. In addition, we will work to green light developments that have a 35-50% truly affordable housing rate (capped at 3% of income) and build to fully meet our housing needs by 2025.</p> <p>2) We need to immediately make a plan to start paying down our unfunded liabilities. It's not enough to know what they are. We need to stop over funding ineffective areas and underfunding services with proven results. And we need to take the excess funds created by reducing waste and use it to pay our debt. Also by ending criminalization of Black, Brown and Poor people we will save millions of dollars a year in police overtime and expensive court cases defending police misconduct.</p> <p>3) The Berkeley police has said that 35% of their calls are to respond to mental health crises that they are unprepared and unqualified to respond to. That portion of their budget would be better spent on social workers, emergency shelter, and comprehensive mental health services.</p> <p>We will end the criminalization of homelessness and mental illness and end the fiscal crisis by defunding unnecessary and overpaid police positions and instead fund community programs that are proven to reduce crime. Please see http://transparentcalifornia.com/salaries/2015/berkeley for an example of the types of positions which receive as much as 100,000 or more in overtime pay alone.</p>	<p>Public Safety: I have requested five new Police Officers to help Community Policing and bike patrols in our City parks. I've been involved in a working group consisting of Berkeley Unified School District, Berkeley Police Department, Berkeley Mental Health, and local non-profits to examine violence prevention strategies that have proven effective in other urban communities, to determine which might best fit our community, along with figuring out how to fund and implement them.</p> <p>I have also worked with neighborhoods to help them achieve traffic calming to improve traffic safety. I believe that this makes bike and pedestrian transit more appealing, as our streets are safer for these uses. We need to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure, making these viable forms of transit and recreation.</p> <p>Workforce and Affordable Housing: I have made a career working on affordable housing for the Oakland Housing Authority, so it is no surprise that maintaining and building more affordable housing is a top priority. I want to build-up our Housing Trust Fund for Workforce and Affordable Housing to help our working professionals and low-income families that are increasingly being displaced. This is why I worked with my Council colleagues to put U1 on the ballot to raise money for affordable housing projects.</p> <p>Infrastructure Enhancements: I support Measure T1 to raise \$100 million to maintain and upkeep our infrastructure. This will go a long way in addressing the tremendous amount of deferred maintenance in our parks, recreation and senior facilities, streets and stormwater system. If we do not fix them now, it will result in ever-increasing costs to bring them back up to baseline. The Berkeley Pier is a prime example —it used to provide recreational activities to families, fisherman, and tourists. Now, it's completely shuttered due to lack of maintenance.</p>
What is your most inspired or unique idea for Berkeley?	I am passionate about hosting neighborhood assemblies that will allow community members to come together, identify and share challenges, and problem-solve together. The workings of city government are too removed from the day-to-day lives of our residents. Neighborhood assemblies will build relationships and help us resolve problems as neighbors. Unite!	My most inspired idea for Berkeley is to create a thriving center where business owners can receive help with whatever they need to thrive in our city. We can only have a vibrant economy if we focus on supporting our citizens, and this is one way I will do so.	Piggybacking on Mark Leno's SB1413, which allow school districts to use surplus property to develop affordable housing for their teachers, I would like to expand this to include other professionals that we want invested in our community, ie. police officers, firefighters, and healthcare professionals.
How will you be accessible to constituents?	I am active in our community, and I'll be a visible presence in the life of District 2. We'll meet at neighborhood assemblies, block parties, community events, and in my offices which will be regularly open for residents and conversations. If you haven't met me yet, please visit my website and visit one of our campaign events, or give me a call. I'm walking the district, knocking on doors and introducing myself, and I look forward to meeting you and talking about how we can build a better district together.	We promise to implement weekly office hours and community hours so that community members do not have to wait for the city council to have just 1 or 2 minutes to be heard. It is clear that people listen to who they are talking to, and the city council and mayor need to spend more time talking and listening to the people of Berkeley rather than out of town developers and real estate speculators.	I feel I've done a good job during my Council tenure, being accessible to constituents: holding community meetings, sending out a District newsletter, meeting with constituents. I recently started sending out "Welcome Packets" to new residents of my district, which includes helpful community information. I would like to increase the number of community meetings on specific issues, as well as meetings to just solicit concerns, input, or just generally be available to answer questions. I am excited about the implementation of Open Town Hall, which is an online civic engagement tool to solicit resident's views on various topics.
How much do you expect to spend on your campaign?	About \$15,000, all from small donors.	\$10,000-\$12,000	I expect to spend approximately \$30,000.
A final thought?	My candidacy is about achieving the sustainable, safe, vibrant, equitable community we want and deserve. I am committed to principled and accountable leadership, and I am passionate about our Berkeley community. I am honored to be endorsed by many, many community members, including Councilman Max Anderson, former Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport, the Green Party, Evolve, Friends of Adeline and many more. Please visit my website, www.CherylDavila.vote , to learn more about my campaign and to get involved. Know I am honored and humbled to be a candidate for City Council. I look forward to meeting and speaking to you!	(none listed)	I feel as though I've accomplished a great deal during my time on City Council, increasing our police force while improving accountability through a city-approved effort to implement body cameras, revitalizing our parks, enhancing traffic safety, and increasing the number of affordable housing units, but there is a great deal more that I'd like to accomplish. Greening the Santa Fe Right of Way, reopening the Berkeley Pier, tackling Berkeley's affordability crisis, and many other issues that affect the lives of our residents.

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