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Meet the candidates, week 3: “How will you address public safety in the district, specifically?”

We must ensure a fully staffed police department by advocating for increased funding to hire and recruit additional officers. This would enhance response times, improve community policing efforts, ensure a visible law enforcement presence to deter crime, and allow better collaboration with departments that are serving our most affected populations who need treatment and support.

My public safety platform includes:

**Ensure a Fully Staffed and Funded Police Department:**
- Objective: Increase police presence and effectiveness by ensuring the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) is fully staffed and adequately funded.
- Action Plan: Advocate for increased budget allocations to the SFPD to hire additional officers. Implement robust recruitment and retention strategies, including competitive compensation and benefits, to attract qualified candidates.
- Impact: A fully staffed police department will enhance response times, improve community policing efforts, and ensure a visible law enforcement presence in our neighborhoods.

**Utilize Technology like ALPRs in Light of Severe Staffing Shortage:**
- Objective: Augment police capabilities and efficiency using technology such as Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs).
- Action Plan: Deploy ALPRs strategically across the district to assist in crime detection and prevention. Other technologies include:
- Impact: ALPRs will aid in solving crimes more quickly and effectively, especially crucial during times of staffing shortages.
  - ALPRs can also accelerate response times to emergencies

**Streamline Processes to Maximize Officer Availability in Neighborhoods**
- Objective: Reduce administrative burdens on police officers to increase their availability for community-focused policing.
- Action Plan: Implement technology solutions to automate administrative tasks and streamline reporting processes. Redistribute certain non-core police tasks to civilian staff.
- Impact: Officers will spend less time on bureaucratic tasks and more time actively engaged in community policing and crime prevention.

**Change Policy Making: Restructure Police Commission Authority**
- Objective: Balance the power of the Police Commission to ensure it is effectively serving the community’s safety needs.
- Action Plan: Advocate for legislative changes to redefine the role and powers of the Police Commission. Propose a system that includes greater community and governmental oversight.
- Impact: This will lead to a more accountable and transparent process in police policy-making, ensuring decisions are made in the best interest of public safety.

**Foster a Culture of Community Support for Police:**
- Objective: Improve relations and trust between the police and the community.
- Action Plan: Encourage community engagement initiatives, such as town halls and neighborhood meetings with police officers. Promote programs that highlight positive police-community interactions. Stop the culture of legislative hostility that has led to low morale amongst officers and general deterioration of pride in public safety.
- Impact: Building a supportive relationship between the community and the police will lead to a cooperative effort in maintaining public safety, improving the quality of life for all residents.