Page 1: Candidate Information

Q1
Office You are Seeking
Mayor

Q2
Party
Democrat

Q3
First Name
Colleen

Q4
Last Name
Hanabusa

Q5
Email
info@colleenhanabusa.com

Q6
Phone
8085953388
Q7
Campaign Website
colleenhanabusa.com

Page 2: COVID-19 Response and Recovery

Q8
What steps do you think our state and/or counties should take to aid this recovery? Some examples could include how you think federal funds should be spent, diversifying the state’s economy, etc.

This seems to imply that Hawai‘i has successfully addressed the pandemic. I do not believe that we have passed that threshold. Hawai‘i is unique in that we are the only island state. As such we could control access into our aina. However, because our primary industry is tourism, to recover, we must address how to protect our workers and others who may visit areas like Waikiki from the pandemic. Until there is a vaccine, it will be a challenge. We need science to tell us whether a pre-test of 72 hours is adequate and whether there needs to be a equal amount of time in quarantine once arrived or if the testing is sufficient.

Q9
Please share some of the efforts you have led or participated in response to COVID-19.

I along with my supporters sewed over 1500 masks and are still sewing. In addition, we distributed care packages which included our masks to kupuna service organizations like Catholic Charities. I have personally responded to emails as to what the CARES Act means and how it will impact.

Q10
Additional thoughts/comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Page 3: Tobacco and E-Cigarette Regulations

Q11
What policies do you think the state and/or counties should enact to reduce tobacco and e-cigarette use?

After the tobacco litigation which the State received and continues to receive a tobacco tax, the purpose of the tax is education and that must be used to educate the public on the tobacco use and e-cigarette as well.
Q12
Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- Apply a tobacco tax to e-cigarettes, such as a percentage of the wholesale cost or taxing e-liquid by volume. **Strongly Support**
- Prohibit the sale of all flavored tobacco products, including menthol cigarettes and flavored e-liquids. **Strongly Support**
- Restrict online sales of e-cigarettes to tobacco retailers only, in order to curb illegal sales to minors. **Strongly Support**
- Increase the tobacco tax on cigarettes to help smokers quit and prevent new users from starting. **Strongly Support**
- Funds from the tobacco settlement and tobacco taxes should fund tobacco prevention and cessation efforts. **Strongly Support**

Q13
Additional thoughts/comments:

There may be legal challenges to the extent the State’s legislation may be deemed to affect interstate commerce. However, I believe the Congressional Delegation can be called upon to assist in the enforcement. The concern is with online sales and purchases.

Q14
What steps do you think the state and/or counties should take to ensure food security for all of Hawaii’s people, and to significantly increase food self-sufficiency for our state?

Food security is one of the great challenges for this State or any state/counties. The counties participation with this issue is to preserve agricultural lands; however, the way we grow food in the future may be different due to the issues of food security to attain self-sufficiency. The counties must be ready to be creative in assisting those willing to farm in the ways of the future.

Q15
In 2019, Hawaii’s made a commitment to adopt Vision Zero, an initiative to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all. What policies and infrastructure changes should the state and/or counties make to achieve this goal?

We need to be truly committed to a City that is less dependent upon automobiles. The concept of TODs, Age Friendly City initiatives. If people do not need to drive to get everywhere, there will be a reduction in fatalities. It is a lifestyle change.
Q16
Please indicate your position on the following policies:

We must significantly increase public investment in food systems workforce development, including programs such as farm to school, agriculture and food systems education (PreK-12 and higher education), and farmer training programs.  

Strongly Support

The state should continue to invest in a Double Up Food Bucks program, which doubles the value of SNAP benefits when buying fresh, locally grown produce at participating retailers.

Support

Enact a one-cent per-ounce fee on sugar-sweetened beverages.

Support

Use revenue from a sugar-sweetened beverage fee for obesity prevention programs.

Strongly Support

Make health and physical education (PE) courses a curriculum requirement, rather than an option, for middle school students. PE is currently a requirement for elementary and high school students.

Strongly Support

Implement a red light camera program to deter red-light running and help curb traffic fatalities and injuries.

Support

Q17
Additional thoughts/comments:

I am unsure as to how SNAP which is a federal program interfaces with the State’s program. Also I am unsure what that price point is that will deter sugar-sweetened beverages. It could like the taxes on cans and plastic. We just accept it and I wonder whether the impact on recycling has diminished. Red light cameras, having been in the legislature when it was discussed, its success will be in the implementation.

Q18
Please indicate your position on the following policies:

Reinstate coverage of preventative dental benefits for Adult Medicaid participants.  

Strongly Support

Fluoridation of community water supplies is an effective way to prevent tooth decay.

Strongly Support

Q19
Additional thoughts/comments:

I grew up in Waianae and I concur that this is an issue that tends to be driven by location and income.
Page 6: Alcohol Regulations

Q20
Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- Increase in alcohol taxes. **Strongly Support**
- Repeal of the alcohol takeout laws that allow people to buy and take home liquor-based mixed drinks from restaurants. **Support**
- Repeal of alcohol delivery laws that allow restaurants to deliver beer and liquor-based mixed drinks to people’s homes. **Support**
- Increase in enforcement that helps ensure that youth do not access alcohol through existing laws allowing for alcohol takeout and delivery. **Strongly Support**

Q21
Additional thoughts/comments:

Though I support the prohibition on alcohol and youth, isn't this an issue of family and parental control.

Page 7: Marijuana Regulations

Q22
Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- Do you support legalizing recreational marijuana sales in Hawai‘i? **Support**
- If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that marijuana be regulated by the Department of Health? **Support**
- If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that the price of marijuana be regulated? **Strongly Support**
- If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that the promotion and advertisement of marijuana sales be regulated? **Strongly Support**
- If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that marijuana potency be regulated? **Strongly Support**
- If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that the number and placement of marijuana outlets be regulated? **Strongly Support**
Q23
Additional thoughts/comments:

Recreational and even medical marijuana will be difficult until the Federal Government either permits each state to regulate it, including, its legalization. Until then, for Hawai`i and our State’s geographic composition of islands with the issue of interstate commerce, it cannot be legally sold between islands and definitely between states. An issue that hasn't been raised here is how to measure impairment. Like alcohol, this issue must be addressed for public safety.

Q24
What are your immediate plans to help make Hawai`i more affordable for its residents?

By truly making housing affordable. This will mean affordable rentals along with affordable units for purchase. The City is uniquely positioned to address this issue because it controls zoning and building permits.

Q25
What is the role of government in addressing housing affordability issues and what would you do to encourage the production of more affordable homes for Hawai`i residents?

I believe we must re-think housing and our views of “homes.” I lived in a true Transit Oriented Development in Washington DC because I wanted to experience how it was done right. I was in the first condominium and watched the “Wharf” develop around me. Affordability is not only the cost of housing, it is also the lifestyle and the quality of life. If we develop true TODs, we are developing communities which will be self contained and address how the next generation chooses to live.

Q26
Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- Increase the state’s minimum wage in a series of annual steps to a living wage of $17 per hour.  
  - Strongly Support

- Create a statewide Paid Family Leave Program, which would allow up to 12 weeks for employees to provide care for a newborn, bond with a new child, or care for a family member with a serious health condition.  
  - Strongly Support

Q27
Additional thoughts/comments:

A benefit of the pandemic is that I believe it created a situation where people were in their homes, caring for their families. Given Hawai`i’s high cost of living, both parents work. Hopefully this experience will show how important the family unit is and create an overall support structure for family leave and minimum wage.