

CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

1 What is your motivation for running for this office?

Because of my deep concern for the quality of life of the citizens of Birmingham. With my knowledge of workable solutions I felt compelled to enter the race.

2 What is your greatest virtue, especially as applied to stewardship and the law?

My greatest virtue is honesty.

3 If you currently attend a house of worship, what is the name of it and how often do you attend?

I am presently seeking a church home.

4 What impact will your faith have on the performance of the duties of this office?

My faith in God and righteousness greatly influence all aspects of my life, which includes my duties as a City Councilor. That means providing equal attention. As Councilor I want a fair distribution of resources and quality education for our children. And clean and safe neighborhoods for our most vulnerable neighbors, particularly the elderly, in addition, I would work toward a review of the Mayor-Council Act as it has upset the balance of power between the Mayor and City Council

5 How will you establish a good working relationship with the elected Mayor to ensure the city's success?

Whom ever is elected he or she will understand that I'm there to represent the interest of the citizens and my devotion to them. And a relationship will grow from that. In growing that relationship, it is crucial that all positions are listened to and evaluated, compromised is essential. But I will stand firm on issues that are best for our citizens. I will always be respectful and patient.

6 Suppose the City Council faced a development proposal that meets all the regulations, yet a large number of citizens appeared before City Council to shop it. How would you vote?

I would move to table the item and recommend a town hall meeting to discuss the concerns of the citizens. In doing so, perhaps a compromise can be reached. If not, I am an agent for the citizens. I represent the citizens.

7 How would you stay informed about City issues and what the City Council is working on?

I will stay informed by attending meetings and researching items independently. In addition, I will attend conferences, invite experts to address related city issues, establish a relationship with the various boards, for example, the school board, the water board, airport board, the transportation board and housing authority, just to name a few.

8 Have you thought about any legislation you are interested in seeing the City Council enact, repeal or revise? If so, what is it? What would you propose?

There are many city ordinances I want revised, but the purpose is singular in that these ordinances need updating to reflect present day concerns. Many of them do not effectively address our residential problems.

9 How will you determine the City's wants v. needs?

I have been apart of the Neighborhood Associations since 1985. And am very aware of what the city's wants and needs are by decades of trying to solve the problems. In terms deciding how to address needs and wants. I would priorities the needs and based on the budget take care of the needs. Then I

would take a look at the wants and weigh the cost. I feel that it is essential to provide some of the wants of our citizens. But of course needs are the first priority.

10 What do you see as Birmingham's major challenges and assets?

They are one in the same. Our biggest challenge will be rebuilding trust. In previous administrations there has been a lack of transparency and accountability. Our people don't trust what our officials say or do. I would make every effort to fully disclose the city's business. In doing so, through hands on communication and engagement with the citizens, I can rebuild trust. Our biggest asset is our people. Once together we have built trust, our citizens will have a willingness to work hard along with the council to make things better. I believe our people love Birmingham.

11 How long have you lived in Birmingham, and how would you characterize the city's quality of life? How should it be improved?

I have lived in Birmingham my entire life. And the city's quality of life is very poor, that's why I'm running. As the Legislative body of the city I must make our ordinances address the betterment for a sound quality of life.

12 What distinguishes you from the other candidates?

What distinguishes me from other candidates is my verifiable commitment to improve the quality of life for all our citizens. Being part of the Neighborhood Association since 1985 shows my devotion to curing everyday problems of people that no other candidate doesn't come close. This is my third time running and it's hard running for office but I really want to be the representative citizens can trust and be proud of. No other candidate have done the same. I have addressed many problems of citizens to past and current city council members and mayors. I have spoken to citizens, and gone before the media to keep everyone accurately informed for many years, while the other candidates have not been interested in solving neighbors problems.

13 What issue is not getting enough attention?

Through civic engagement, it would be important for me to get a grasp of what the interests are of our longtime citizens. So, there has been so much attention and development downtown and neighborhoods like Avondale and the South Side with all new restaurants, loft apartments and bars this same attention needs to be given to other neglected areas. The city is 74% Black, so I would like to see more tax revenue going back to develop these communities.