



# 2025 Boston City Council Candidate Questionnaire

*Progressive Mass's Boston chapters collaborated on a joint questionnaire. Whether we have a chapter in a given district or not, we hope these questionnaires are informative for all voters. Remember: Once elected, all councilors, even district councilors, work on committees and policies that impact all of us city-wide.*

~ Jamaica Plain Progressives ~ Progressive West Roxbury/Roslindale ~  
Allston-Brighton Progressives ~

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*The public part of the questionnaire contains a mix of yes/no and open-ended questions. Please keep all answers to open-ended questions to no more than 150 words. A non-response to a yes/no question will be treated as a no.*

## **(A) Your Candidacy**

### **1. What would be your top three priorities if elected to serve?**

The top three priorities I have are housing affordability, strengthening Boston Public Schools and protecting workers' rights.

In JP, Mission Hill, and West Roxbury, too many families are struggling to stay in the neighborhoods they love. I'll fight for affordable housing, responsible

development, and protections against displacement. For example, I helped create an Access to Counsel program that provides attorneys to anyone with a kid in BPS that is in an eviction proceeding. I fought hard this year to fund and expand that program, and my proposal was approved by my fellow councilors in our list of budget amendments we just passed.

Our public schools need urgent investment. I'll advocate for full funding, smaller class sizes, and support for teachers—so every student has the opportunity to succeed, no matter their background.

And I'll stand up for Boston's workers. That means defending the right to organize, fighting for fair wages and benefits, and ensuring strong enforcement of labor laws. This is why I filed a wage theft ordinance that will stop the City of Boston from issuing contracts and licenses to employers who violate our wage laws.

## 2. **What qualifies you to hold this office?**

I'm proud to serve as the District 6 City Councilor, and I have tried to build on my experience to represent my constituents. Prior to being elected, I worked for 18 years as a workers' rights attorney, fighting for low wage workers all across the country. I began my legal career representing migrant farmworkers with Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid and later served as an Assistant Attorney General, prosecuting wage theft and defending public agencies. From approximately 2013-2023, I represented thousands of workers in class actions with Lichten & Liss-Riordan, P.C. in Boston. In addition to recovering millions of dollars in unpaid wages for workers ranging from delivery drivers to hospital janitors, I also worked on a landmark case finding that the Boston Police Department's promotional practices discriminated against officers of color in violation of Title VII.

In addition to my work as an attorney, my experience living in Jamaica Plain since 2008 and raising two kids in Boston Public Schools have informed my work on the council and in support of BPS families. I also spent many years coaching JP kids in soccer and serve on the JP Youth Soccer board. I've been doing this job, learning every day, and building a fantastic team. We're ready to keep fighting effectively for District 6.

## 3. **What do you see as the role of the City Council in our strong-mayor system?**

The City Council plays a vital role as both a check on executive power and as

the legislative body that shapes the city's future. I have viewed my primary job to act as an advocate for District 6 residents when they need help or want to pursue a policy that is going to help our residents. We can be a strong advocate on a whole host of issues. We also have final say on the budget, and I have spent a lot of time focused on that. I think that work has paid off since several of my projects (Access to Counsel for evictions, youth programming at Mildred C. Hailey Apartments, increased funds for City Housing Rental Vouchers) made it into the budget last year and this year and will provide real help for Boston residents.

As a lawyer, I take our legislative role seriously and have drafted and filed legislation to stop wage theft and require employers to have a heat illness prevention plan for workers in heat emergencies.

Finally, the number one thing people have come to my office for is constituent services. Whether they are facing eviction, looking for a permit from ISD, have unsafe road conditions in their neighborhood, or any number of other issues, my office has been able to help thousands of District 6 residents navigate City Hall. Of course, the credit for this goes mostly to my staff, and I am proud to work alongside them.

4. **What is the one policy you've seen pioneered in another city that you'd most like to see Boston adopt?**

I started the Access to Counsel program in Boston as a pilot that is limited to families with kids in BPS in eviction proceedings. I would like to see that program expand to the size of the programs established in New York City, Philadelphia, and Newark so that our program covers the whole city to allow everyone to enforce their rights in housing court and avoid the pain of an eviction.

I would also like to see more policies related to housing affordability, starting with rent control.

5. **Which of the following groups have you chosen to reject / would reject campaign contributions from?**

- a. For-profit developers
- b. Fossil fuel executives or lobbyists
- c. Charter school advocates and lobbyists
- d. Police unions

Re: a, b, and c, I have not spoken with any of these groups. If any of these groups sought to support me, I would not accept it, but if an individual who happens to be in one of these groups has donated in the past (and I am not aware of any), I was simply unaware of it. Moreover, I am strongly opposed to the fuel lobby and charter schools. I am also strongly in favor of the heightened IDP housing affordability requirements, so I do not know what a for-profit developer would expect from their donation.

Re: d, I will not accept an endorsement or contribution from a police union aside from MAMLEO.

## **(B) Community Engagement**

1. **What steps would you take, if elected/re-elected, to engage all the diverse communities of Boston in policymaking, and what past actions of yours should give voters confidence that you will follow through?**

If re-elected, I'll continue the wide-ranging, consistent outreach that has defined my first term. I have a dedicated team that's deeply rooted in the community, and I'm in the district every day—attending events, visiting schools and small businesses, and staying connected to residents. Over the past year, we've hosted more than 20 coffee hours and 7 Town Halls to create accessible spaces for conversation and input. This summer, I'm launching a district-wide listening tour and creating advisory councils for youth, seniors, and pedestrians/cyclists—ensuring those most impacted by our policies help shape them.

I also know that I still have a lot to learn, and look forward to continuing the conversations I have already been having with progressive groups who specialize in housing affordability and income inequality.

2. **The future of democracy depends on robust youth engagement. Describe how you engage youth formally in your work as city councilor, or would plan to do so if elected.**

One of the first things I did as a City Councilor was to meet with youth organizers at Hyde Square Task Force to discuss their priorities and was proud when my first “win” as a councilor was to get the Mayor to put money for a Mozart Park Redesign into the capital budget (which is what they youth had asked for) and to have the Parks Department meet with the youth to set up

designs for the park. I have also met with the awesome folks at The Next Generation at the South Street Youth Center. We then worked together to make sure pickle ballers didn't exclude youth from the apartments from the South Street basketball courts.

I'm also launching a Youth Advisory Council to give young people a formal seat at the table in shaping city policy. Whether it's civic education, housing, transit, or recreation, I work closely with youth across District 6 to ensure their voices are heard and their ideas drive action.

3. **What is one aspect of community process in the City of Boston that should be improved, and why?**

The main thing we need to improve our community process is accessibility and inclusiveness. In my short time on the council, I have seen how, too often, public meetings are dominated by voices that skew whiter, wealthier, English-speaking, and homeowners—leaving out renters, immigrants, parents with young kids, and others who face barriers to participation – leading to what seems like strong opposition to any development of affordable housing. If we want a truly representative democracy, we need to meet people where they are. That means holding meetings at varied times and locations, offering childcare, providing interpretation services, and doing proactive outreach. Too many residents don't even know these meetings are happening. As a Councilor, I've worked to change that by hosting events across the district and making information more accessible.

**(C) Budget & Revenue**

1. **Describe how you would prepare or are preparing the city for a significant reduction in federal funding.**

Preparing Boston for cuts in federal funding is a top priority. At every budget hearing, I've been asking city leaders how they plan to address potential shortfalls and urging them to create strong contingency plans. I am very worried about the impact of losing Section 8 rental vouchers, which BHA Administrator Bok has said will result in 8,000 families in Boston being unable to pay their rent. That is why I support a \$1.5 million increase in the city housing voucher program for the FY26 budget. My focus next year if elected will be on ways we can reduce police overtime spending (which far exceeds what we budget for) and use that money to provide essential services such as rental vouchers, food assistance, and for teacher salaries. Moreover, we must

be able to diversify revenue, which the statehouse has prevented us from doing so far.

2. **How much funding do you think the City should allocate to participatory budgeting? For context, \$2 million was appropriated for the current fiscal year. The Better Budget Alliance has advocated for \$40 million.**

Participatory budgeting in Boston is still in its early stages, and I'm excited to see it grow as more community members get involved. While \$2 million was appropriated this year, I believe the amount should expand over time—depending on the city's revenue and priorities. I've proposed tying participatory budgeting funds to a percentage of our surplus revenue, ensuring the program grows sustainably without sacrificing essential services. The Better Budget Alliance's call for \$40 million is ambitious, and would likely have a negative impact other essential programs like Access to Counsel, youth jobs, or help for the homeless. Ultimately, I want to see participatory budgeting increase, but with some correlation to amounts of money available in the budget.

3. **How will you work to create a stronger PILOT system that expands community engagement, defines community benefits, and creates a fairer system to meet the needs of residents of the city of Boston?**

We are already hearing from university leaders who ask, because of the attacks from the Trump administration, the City lower PILOT payments. I strongly believe institutions benefiting from Boston's resources must contribute fairly through the PILOT program and that they still haven't come close to paying their fair share. I would like to have more community engagement over the community benefits piece of PILOT. These discussions are challenging now, especially with uncertainty in the federal funding climate, but they're more important than ever. By building trust, setting clear expectations, and holding institutions accountable, we can create a fairer system that supports vital services and invests in Boston's neighborhoods for everyone's benefit.

4. **Do you support the City of Boston's home rule petition to shift some of the tax burden away from residential owners to commercial owners in order to mitigate residential property tax spikes? YES/ NO**

YES.

5. **Given state law, Boston is limited in its taxing power. What opportunities do you see for the city to raise revenue?**

Given state limits on Boston's taxing power, expanding revenue options is crucial. I strongly support the proposed real estate transfer fee, which the state must approve to provide cities with needed resources. Beyond that, the city can explore local options like modest excise taxes on short-term rentals and enhanced fees on large-scale commercial developments. I would also support a commuter payroll tax like they have in New York City.

While strengthening partnerships with the private sector and maximizing grant opportunities also help diversify funding, ultimately, Boston needs the state's support to unlock new tools, ensuring we can fund essential services and investments fairly and sustainably for all residents.

6. **The City of Boston has a history of leveraging its financial power for social good, including its decision to divest from fossil fuels. Given this precedent, how would you make sure Boston's investments align with the city's values, such as, but not limited to, policies requiring transparency, disclosure, and divestment of public investments or procurement contracts with companies or countries that profit from war or are implicated in human rights violations?**

I fully support Boston's commitment to divestment and using its financial power for social good. To ensure our investments align with the city's values, we must require full transparency and regular disclosure of all public investments. I will advocate for policies that prohibit investments and procurement contracts with companies or countries profiting from war or linked to human rights violations. Boston's money should reflect our community's commitment to justice, equity, and peace.

## **(D) Education**

1. **What are your top priorities for improving Boston Public Schools?**

In my first term, I have fought to help BPS students who need it the most. I have fought to increase reading specialists in elementary schools to provide personalized support early helping students read at grade level (and the number of reading specialists have increased). I have also fought to ensure that English Language Learners are not left behind in the new inclusion model. I am committed to expanding services for multilingual learners to support native language growth alongside English and have pushed for adequate staffing to provide individualized support for inclusion, so every child's unique strengths and needs are prioritized. My kids attended the

Mission Hill School, which attempted to implement a full inclusion model without the necessary funding or infrastructure. I have worked with Superintendent Skipper to ensure proper staffing so all BPS students can thrive.

I also strongly support funding for widespread renovations of BPS facilities. I also demanded greater transparency around school closure decisions, pushing for at least a year's notice so families can plan. I've also championed expanded sports opportunities, including the White Stadium renovation, to give students world-class facilities.

2. **Do you oppose the expansion of charter schools in Boston? YES/ NO**

YES.

3. **In 2022, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education actively considered a takeover of the Boston Public Schools. Do you oppose any such future efforts at state takeover of BPS? YES/ NO**

YES.

4. **Boston voters overwhelmingly supported a 2021 ballot question to change BPS governance to allow Boston voters the right to elect school committee members. Do you support a fully elected school committee? YES/ NO If so, what would your ideal structure be? If not, why not?**

NO.

I believe a hybrid school committee—with both appointed and elected members—is the best approach for Boston. This model balances accountability to voters with the ability to bring in experts who prioritize students' needs. It prevents the committee from being dominated solely by union interests or people just using the school committee as a stepping stone, instead ensuring decisions focus on what's best for kids and families. Parents and community members deserve representatives who listen to their concerns and advocate for high-quality education, while appointed members can bring experience and a broad perspective. This structure promotes transparency, balance, and thoughtful decision-making that truly serves Boston's students.

5. **What is one policy from another school district that you would like to see implemented in Boston schools?**

Primarily, I would like BPS to have the funding that would allow students who need special services to get the resources they need, which I don't think is always the case now. As far as a specific policy, I would like Boston to adopt the cell-phone ban recently instituted in California.

**6. What is your opinion of the proposed White Stadium redevelopment project? What is your preferred path forward for White Stadium?**

I strongly support the White Stadium redevelopment project because it represents a long-overdue investment in a neglected facility and neighborhood. It is encouraging to see the city prioritize a space that serves Boston Public Schools students, providing them with safe, modern athletic facilities that promote health and opportunity. While I recognize concerns about the project's cost and potential traffic impacts, I believe these challenges can be addressed through careful planning and community engagement. Keeping the stadium primarily for BPS students ensures that our kids benefit first and foremost. Overall, this redevelopment is a positive step toward investing in our youth and strengthening the community, and I look forward to working with residents and city officials to ensure the project meets both educational and neighborhood needs.

**7. Since the passage of "An Act Relative to Justice, Equity and Accountability in Law Enforcement" in 2020, Boston police officers have not been stationed inside Boston Public Schools. Are you committed to maintaining police-free schools? YES/ NO**

YES.

**(E) Public Safety**

**1. Do you support Boston's Trust Act? YES/ NO**

YES.

**2. Given the Trust Act's limited scope, what additional steps will you take to prevent information sharing and collaboration with ICE and other federal agencies?**

This has been an area of focus in my short time on the council and especially since the Trump administration has used ICE to terrorize our residents and strip them of their rights. I spoke with former City Councilor Josh Zakim (who

drafted the Trust Act) and law professors in the immigration field about ways to strengthen the Trust Act. I would like BPD to be more open with how ICE requests cooperation and to quickly publicize every request for information they receive from ICE to alert the community. BPD must also not allow ICE to use fake criminal charges as a way to get information out of BPD, as has been documented in other communities. I will also advocate for BPD to remove the federal employee who resides at BPD's HQ as part of the BRIC.

3. **Do you support shuttering the Boston Police gang database? YES/ NO**

YES.

4. **Do you support ending Boston's engagement in the BRIC? YES/ NO**

YES.

5. **Do you support the creation of an unarmed, community-based emergency response program, separate from the Boston Police Department, to respond to mental and behavioral health crises? YES/ NO**

YES.

6. **Current and former Boston police officers were found to be involved or actively supporting the January 6, 2021 insurrectionist attack on the federal government and attempt to overturn the 2020 election results, and white supremacist organizations have used police departments as recruiting grounds. What steps would you take to combat white supremacist affiliations or sympathies in BPD?**

Through OPAT, we have an outside agency that can hold BPD accountable. I would encourage officers to report their colleagues to OPAT to conduct investigations about white supremacist affiliations. Indeed, the gang database uses tattoos to identify potential gang affiliations, the same must apply to white supremacists.

7. **Do you support the legalization of overdose prevention centers? YES / NO**

YES.

8. **How do you evaluate the City's response to the humanitarian situation at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard ("Mass & Cass")?**

The situation at Mass & Cass reflects complex challenges involving addiction, mental health, and housing affordability. The city's response must focus on compassionate, comprehensive solutions. I support increasing low-threshold and supportive housing to provide stability for those struggling. That's why I'm glad to support housing and support services like the Lyndia and Envision hotels in my district. This is a city and region-wide problem, and every district needs to participate. Addressing Mass & Cass requires sustained investment in housing, healthcare, and community support to create lasting change and improve safety for everyone.

9. **What would be your priorities in reducing gun violence in the city?**

Reducing gun violence in Boston requires investing in youth, housing, and community supports. I've secured funding for youth programming at Mildred Hailey, including a credible messenger program where trusted community members provide mentorship and case management—key to violence prevention. I've also pushed for more youth jobs to offer pathways out of violence, and fought to reopen the Hennigan Pool and improve Boston Public Schools to create safe spaces for young people. Additionally, safe and affordable housing is essential to prevent violence by fostering stable communities. My approach combines prevention, opportunity, and strong community support to build safer neighborhoods for all residents.

**(F) Environment & Transportation**

1. **What are your top three policy priorities for making Boston a climate-resilient city, and how would you ensure that equity is at the center of any such efforts?**

My top three climate priorities are supporting Boston's transition to clean heat, banning harmful materials like styrofoam, and investing in parks across District 6 to improve air quality and provide natural cooling. I'm actively working to hold Algonquin Power accountable for emissions near West Roxbury and ensuring strict compliance with Boston's Building Emissions Reduction and Disclosure Ordinance (BERDO). Equity must be central—meaning policies prioritize communities most affected by pollution and climate impacts, including low-income and historically marginalized neighborhoods. I have also supported the geothermal pilot being installed at the JFK school in my district. By engaging these communities in decision-making and directing investments where they're needed most, we can build a healthier, climate-resilient Boston that benefits everyone.

2. **What steps would you take to reduce dependence on cars and better facilitate the ability of Bostonians to *safely* get around by walking, biking, or public transit?**

To reduce car dependence and make it safer to walk, bike, and take public transit, I'm fighting to continue and expand the city's speed hump program and build more protected bike lanes. I recently helped set up a meeting between the City's Streets cabinet and residents of Forest Hills, who were looking for a Hyde Park Avenue redesign that prioritized pedestrian safety over cars and believe we have a plan to do just that. I'm also actively pushing forward a street redesign in Egleston Square that will improve safety and accessibility for pedestrians, cyclists, and bus riders. I have also testified before the MBTA Board in support of funding for an extension of the Green Line from Heath Street to Canary Square. These investments are essential not only for mobility and climate goals, but also for equity—ensuring every resident, regardless of income or zip code, can move safely and reliably.

3. **Do you support the City of Boston's zoning code update requiring new buildings to achieve net zero carbon emissions standards upon opening? YES/ NO**

YES.

4. **Do you support expanding the fare-free bus pilots and making fare-free buses permanent in Boston? YES / NO**

YES.

5. **Do you support the expansion of the network of permanent, protected bike lanes in the city? YES / NO**

YES.

6. **Do you support expanding the renewable energy content in the Boston Community Choice Electricity (BCCE) program? YES / NO**

YES.

## **(G) Housing**

1. **How would you expand affordable housing in Boston and ensure development without displacement?**

Expanding affordable housing and preventing displacement requires both

immediate protections and long-term planning. I led the creation of an Access to Counsel pilot for BPS families facing eviction—because housing stability helps kids succeed in school. I also helped establish Boston’s first planning department to make development more equitable and predictable, and passed measures to protect homeowners from dramatic tax increases. Going forward, I’ll fight to expand the city’s housing voucher program, which helps families find and stay in stable housing. I’ll also work to expand Access to Counsel citywide and support modernizing our zoning code to allow for more affordable housing while honoring the character of our neighborhoods. I also support zoning reforms that will allow the housing we need to actually be built as well as revisions to the Article 80 process.

**2. What opportunities do you see for leveraging city-owned land for expanding affordable housing?**

We can prioritize city-owned land for deeply affordable, mixed-income housing that meets community needs without driving displacement. By removing land costs, we can reduce development expenses and ensure long-term affordability. I’ll advocate for a transparent, community-driven process to identify suitable parcels and partner with mission-driven developers who prioritize equity and sustainability.

**3. Do you support the City of Boston’s Home Rule Petition to establish a small transfer fee on real estate transactions over \$2 million? YES / NO If so, how do you plan to advocate for it at the State House?**

YES.

I have already spoken at length to my state reps (Samantha Montaño and William Macgregor) and my state senators (Liz Miranda and Mike Rush) to express my strong support for this measure. If re-elected, I plan to spend more time at the state house going door-to-door in support of measures that would help the City of Boston.

**4. Do you support rent stabilization, i.e., limiting the amount that landlords can increase rent for tenants year to year? YES/ NO Do you believe that the City of Boston’s current Home Rule Petition goes far enough, doesn’t go far enough, or goes too far—and why?**

YES.

I believe that the measure does not go far enough, but would still like to see it implemented so that we can show that rent stabilization won't be the end of the world and then seek to improve its tenant protections.

5. **Would you support a Tenant Opportunity to Purchase ordinance, enabling tenants to purchase a building if the owner seeks to put it on the market? YES/ NO**

YES.

6. **Boston recently updated its inclusionary development policy (IDP) to raise the required number of income-restricted units in new developments to 20%. Do you support this policy? YES/ NO**

YES.

7. **Do you support requiring that a majority of new affordable units be built on-site, in order to ensure communities are diverse and integrated? YES/ NO**

YES.

8. **Would you support expanding the City's Condo Conversion ordinance to cover buildings with 2 or 3 units, ensuring that more tenants can access protections against displacement? YES/ NO**

YES.

9. **Massachusetts recently passed legislation to enable renters to get eviction records sealed. What steps would you take to ensure that renters know of this new right?**

For residents in District 6, I would partner with local organizations like City Life, community centers, and tenant groups to spread the word about eviction record sealing. I'd encourage the administration to conduct multilingual outreach, send notices to impacted tenants, and ensure city housing offices proactively share this information. I'd also push for legal clinics in the district to help residents navigate the sealing process. Everyone deserves a fair chance at stable housing, and we must make sure this new right reaches those who need it most.

10. **What specific steps would you take to expand access to supportive housing for individuals experiencing homelessness, people with disabilities, and those with mental health needs in our community?**

I have actively supported expanding supportive housing in District 6, including the opening of the Lyndia, the approval of the Envision Hotel's transition to supportive housing, and the new emergency shelter in West Roxbury under EOHLC. I'll continue to advocate for funding, identify city-owned sites, and ensure services are paired with housing to meet residents' needs.

11. **Do you support the current Squares + Streets process? YES/ NO What is one change you would make to the current process?**

YES.

I would make community engagement more inclusive by actively reaching renters, low-income families, parents with young kids, and non-English speakers, ensuring we hear from a truly representative group of residents in every neighborhood.

12. **Boston recently eliminated parking minimums for affordable housing developments. Would you support eliminating parking minimums for all residential developments? YES/ NO**

YES.

13. **The City of Boston is currently assessing possible reforms to the Article 80 process. What do you view as the appropriate role of community engagement in the development process, and how do you weigh community input against other factors when considering a development?**

I support reforms to Article 80 that create earlier, more inclusive opportunities for residents—especially renters, low-income families, and non-English speakers—to shape what development looks like in their neighborhoods. Early engagement allows us to define community priorities around affordability, open space, design, and transportation before a proposal is finalized. At the same time, I recognize the need to increase our housing supply citywide to address the affordability crisis. Striking the right balance means weighing community input carefully while also considering the broader need for more housing, especially affordable units. Thoughtful development guided by inclusive input and clear citywide planning standards can help ensure we grow in a way that benefits both current residents and future generations.

Community voices should shape development—but they should do so within a framework that acknowledges our shared responsibility to address the housing crisis.

## **(H) Democracy**

### **1. How can Boston increase youth/college turnout in municipal elections?**

In addition to actually granting 16- and 17-year olds the right to vote in municipal elections, Boston can boost youth and college turnout by expanding civic education, making voter registration easier, and meeting young people where they are—on campuses and online. We should also partner with schools and youth organizations to connect local elections to issues they care about, making participation relevant and accessible.

### **2. Do you support allowing 16- and 17-year-olds the right to vote in municipal elections? YES/ NO**

YES.

### **3. Would you support Charter Change to allow for Ranked Choice Voting in Boston? YES/ NO**

YES.

### **4. Do you support making hybrid access to public meetings permanent? YES/ NO**

YES.

### **5. The current administration has been revoking student visas of international students for exercising rights protected under the First Amendment to criticize US foreign policy and specifically Israel's war on Gaza. But this attack is less a radical break from than an escalation of past tactics from politics of both parties and university administrations to criminalize dissent, especially around US policy on Israel. How will you *proactively oppose efforts to criminalize dissent and protect the civil liberties of all residents?***

I strongly oppose any efforts to criminalize dissent or punish individuals for exercising their First Amendment rights, including international students speaking out against U.S. foreign policy or Israel's war on Gaza. I have spoken

out against Project Esther and attend rallies such as Hands Off Mass. and for Rumeysa Ozturk. The Trump Administrations' actions are part of a broader, troubling pattern of suppressing criticism of government policy—especially around Israel—through intimidation and legal overreach. I will use my platform to speak out against such actions, push for local policies that protect free speech, and support institutions that stand up for civil liberties. Dissent is a cornerstone of democracy, and I will work to ensure Boston remains a city where all voices are protected.

6. **The Trump Administration has used the threat of withholding funding to universities to demand, among other policies, a ban on masking which has been used by students to obscure their identities during protests against the genocide in Gaza in response to doxxing, harrassment, and now, the threat of deportation. A municipal "Right to Mask" ordinance would remove this decision from universities. Will you support a Right to Mask ordinance to protect students from doxing for participating in peaceful protests? YES/ NO**

YES.

### **(I) Inclusive Boston**

1. **Name three accomplishments you've been able to achieve to advance racial justice or equity.**

I've launched Boston's first Access to Counsel program for BPS families facing homelessness, helping mostly Black and Brown residents keep their homes. I've fought to expand housing vouchers that provide stability for low-income families. I support youth jobs programs that create opportunities for young people of color, advancing racial equity in our community. I was also part of the legal team that led to the end of using multiple-choice promotional exams by the Boston Police Department, which had been used to prevent officers of color from having more of a role in BPD and recovered millions of dollars for low-wage workers who were exploited by large corporations across the United States.

2. **The Trump administration has previously used the threat of withholding federal funding to pressure cities into complying with federal policies that may be contrary to the values of progressive governance—such as sanctuary city policies, protections for LGBTQ+ residents, DEI policies, or environmental regulations. If faced with such a scenario, how would you**

**respond? Specifically, what strategies would you employ to resist federal overreach while protecting critical services and funding for residents?**

I would respond by coordinating with every other city legal team impacted with these policies to challenge federal overreach in court while ensuring compliance with federal requirements where possible to protect funding. There is only one understaffed federal DOJ office, while we have thousands of municipalities that can each file something individually. I'd advocate for diversifying revenue streams to reduce dependence on federal dollars, including pushing state support for new local taxes like transfer fees. Building strong coalitions with other sanctuary cities and progressive organizations would amplify resistance efforts. Additionally, I'd prioritize clear communication with residents about risks and city actions, and work to safeguard essential services by reallocating resources if federal funding is threatened, ensuring that vulnerable communities continue to receive critical support.

**3. Will you fight to ensure that shelters in Boston do not preemptively comply with any trans-exclusive federal directives? YES/ NO**

YES.

**4. What steps would you propose to reduce Boston's income and wealth inequality, especially the racial wealth gap?**

To reduce Boston's income and wealth inequality and close the racial wealth gap, I propose expanding affordable homeownership programs specifically for residents of color to help build generational wealth. I also support implementing recommendations from Boston's Racial Equity and Reparations Task Force, focusing on investments in education, job training, and small business support in marginalized communities. Additionally, increasing access to quality jobs through workforce development and youth employment programs will provide equitable opportunities for economic advancement. This includes by working with unions to hire more students from Madison Park Vocational School and to increase the quality of youth jobs so that our students have access to a broad range of workplaces across the city.

**5. What steps can the Council take to achieve greater diversity in City contracting?**

The number of City contracts awarded to businesses of color is appallingly low. The Council can push for stronger accountability and transparency from the

administration's Supplier Diversity office by regularly reviewing contracting data and outcomes. We can advocate for clear goals and timelines to increase contracts with businesses owned by people of color, women, and other underrepresented groups. Supporting training and capacity-building programs helps prepare diverse businesses to compete for city contracts. The Council can also hold public hearings to hear from community stakeholders and identify barriers in the contracting process. While we don't run the office, the Council plays a critical oversight role to ensure diversity efforts are effective and equitable.

**6. Will you support legislation to protect residents from the discriminatory use of algorithms and AI? YES/ NO**

YES.

**(J) Additional Comments**

*(Use this space to make any final comments you deem important for progressive voters assessing your candidacy.)*