



2025 Municipal Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Christopher Chan

Office Sought: Ward 6 City Councilor in Quincy, MA

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(A) Your Candidacy

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

- a. Giving people the time and space to share input and give feedback
- b. Being an accessible representative of the Ward through open communication
- c. Representing all the neighborhoods of Ward 6 fairly

2. What qualifies you to hold this office?

- a. Background in technical and customer support
- b. Listen to people and consult with others
- c. Served in local community before
- d. I ask people questions both for work and in personal life

3. What is the one policy you've seen pioneered in another city that you'd most like to adopt locally?

- a. Bike lane infrastructure to allow for more transit friendly options

(B) Open-Ended Policy Questions

1. Given state law, municipalities in Massachusetts are limited in their taxing power. What opportunities do you see for the city to raise revenue to support essential city services?

- a. It's unpopular but they might have to implement parking meters.
- b. Increase the tax revenue on commercial business, which would lessen the tax burden on residential.

- c. Cut back spending on non-essential projects/developments. I would want to put that to the people for a vote.
 - d. Cut back on tax breaks for developers.
- 2. What are your top priorities for ensuring that all students in your city can receive a high-quality public education?**
- a. Make sure schools are well-funded
 - b. Make sure there's a minimum standard of education
 - c. Allow for smaller class sizes for better learning
 - d. Adopt learning programs for students who may need additional assistance
- 3. What can your city do to help protect immigrant communities under attack from ICE and ensure genuine community safety?**
- a. Declare Quincy a Sanctuary city
 - b. Not bend to Federal pressures, even under threat of loss of funding.
 - c. Designate areas of the city for immigrant populations. This could get tricky to implement politically, but it would be a positive direction toward supporting the immigrant population.
- 4. What are your top three policy priorities for making your city climate-resilient, and how would you ensure that equity is at the center of any such efforts?**
- a. Lower the carbon footprint.
 - b. Be more energy sustainable.
 - c. Create incentives for less energy usage.
- 5. What steps would you take to reduce dependence on cars and better facilitate the ability of city residents to safely get around by walking, biking, or public transit?**
- a. More bike lanes/bike paths.
 - b. Lower the cost of the T.
 - c. Tax incentives for not having a motor vehicle for a certain period.
- 6. What policies will you advocate for to ensure that your city can be a place that is affordable for residents to live at any stage of life?**
- a. Increase the tax revenue from the Commercial, Industrial, and Personal Property categories to lower the tax burden on residents.
 - b. Create more grants/financial assistance for folks who are struggling to pay for rent/resources.
 - c. Offer first-time residents/homebuyers certain rebates or exemptions.
- 7. [If relevant] How would you assess your city's MBTA Communities Act rezoning efforts so far?**

- a. It's slow but it's moving forward. Quincy Center is yet to build more housing for folks.

8. What strategies would you employ to resist federal overreach from the Trump Administration while protecting critical services and funding for residents?

- a. Ignore Trump.
- b. Do the right thing, even under federal overreach.

9. How would you model transparency and accountability if elected?

- a. I share my own thoughts freely.
- b. I share what I can if possible and whatever I can legally share.
- c. I implore people to look at my stances, consider how I vote on measures, look at that voting record, and call me out if I'm doing something bad.

(C) Yes/No Policy Questions

1. Do you oppose the expansion of charter schools? **NO**
2. Do you support the creation of an unarmed, community-based emergency response program, separate from the Police Department, to respond to mental and behavioral health crises? **YES**
3. If your community has not already, do you support adopting the new specialized stretch code, which would require new construction and major renovations to be built to a very high-efficiency standard with all-electric (as opposed to fossil fuel) heating and cooling systems? **YES**
4. Do you support fare-free public transit? **NO**
5. Do you support the expansion of the network of permanent, protected bike lanes in your city? **YES**
6. Would you support a home rule petition to establish a small transfer fee on high-end real estate transactions to create dedicated funding for affordable housing production and preservation? **YES**
7. Would you support a home rule petition to enable the city to stabilize rents? **YES**

8. According to the American Library Association, in 2022 there were at least 45 attempts to restrict access to books in MA schools, disproportionately books that speak to the experiences of LGBTQ students and students of color. Would you oppose such book-banning efforts if they occurred in your city? **YES**

(D) Additional Comments

To clarify question 4, I do not support fare-free public transit. I support low-cost public transit, as the MBTA still has operating costs to fulfill. It would be nice for people to feel they have buy-in to use the MBTA. Also, free resources themselves may be seen as less valuable and less valued by others, resulting in disrespect and disuse of those resources.