



2025 Municipal Candidate Questionnaire

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Office Sought: reelection Councilor District C

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(A) Your Candidacy

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

Improving Infrastructure and Public Safety

I will continue investing in the repair of streets, sidewalks, and parks while enhancing lighting, traffic safety, and other measures that keep our neighborhoods safe and accessible for everyone.

Addressing Parking and Traffic Challenges

I will work to implement fair and effective parking regulations, improve traffic flow, and create solutions that balance the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors.

Expanding Community Programs and Opportunities

I will support educational, sports, and youth programs, as well as resources for seniors and working families, so every resident in our community can thrive and feel connected.

2. What qualifies you to hold this office?

I am qualified to hold this office because I have a proven record of delivering results for District C. As your councilor, I have improved our streets, repaired sidewalks, renovated parks, strengthened public safety, and supported youth and educational programs. I work closely with city and state leaders to bring resources to our community and address the needs of our residents. My

experience, dedication, and strong connection to the people I serve ensure that I can continue representing District C effectively and making a positive difference for our city.

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

One policy I'd like to adopt locally is a **Complete Streets program**. This would ensure our streets are designed for safety and accessibility for all pedestrians, cyclists, public transit riders, and drivers. For District C, it would mean safer crosswalks, improved sidewalks, better lighting, and greener streets, building on the work I've already done to repair sidewalks, pave streets, and enhance public spaces.

(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?

We must be creative. I would focus on securing more state and federal grants, attracting and growing businesses to expand our tax base, redeveloping underused city properties, and building public private partnerships. We can also modernize licensing and permit fees in a fair way. These steps will help fund essential services without raising the burden on residents.

2. What are your top priorities for ensuring that all students in your city can receive a high-quality public education?

Every student deserves a high quality education.

My priorities are:

1. **Better Resources** Modern facilities, updated technology, and safe schools.
2. **Support for Teachers** Fair pay, training, and classroom resources.
3. **More Opportunities** Strong after-school, sports, arts, and tutoring programs.

I will work with parents, educators, and the community to make sure every child can thrive.

3. What can your city do to help protect immigrant communities under attack from ICE and ensure genuine community safety?

Our city must protect immigrant communities by refusing to cooperate with ICE and keeping local law enforcement focused on public safety not immigration enforcement. We'll expand language access and support trusted community groups to ensure everyone feels safe and included. True safety happens when all residents can live without fear and trust their city leaders to stand with them.

4. What are your top three policy priorities for making your city climate-resilient?

My top three climate resilience priorities for Lawrence are:

1. Expanding green infrastructure like parks and rain gardens to reduce flooding and heat.
2. Upgrading roads, sidewalks, and public buildings in vulnerable neighborhoods to withstand extreme weather.
3. Increasing access to clean, affordable energy for low-income families to lower emissions and costs.
4. **To keep equity at the center**, I'll engage directly with frontline communities, focus investments where they're needed most, and maintain transparency so everyone has a voice and sees real results.

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?

I would:

1. Invest in safe, connected sidewalks and protected bike lanes to encourage active transportation.
2. Expand and improve public transit options with more frequent, reliable service and better routes.
3. Implement Complete Streets policies that prioritize pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users in all road designs.

4. Promote transit-oriented development to make neighborhoods more walkable and close to transit stops.
5. Launch education and outreach programs to encourage residents to try alternative transportation modes.

These steps make getting around safer, more convenient, and more sustainable for everyone.

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?

To ensure our city remains affordable for residents at every stage of life, I will advocate for these key policies:

1. **Expand affordable housing options** by supporting incentives for developers to build mixed-income and affordable units, and preserving existing affordable housing stock.
2. **Protect renters** through stronger tenant rights, rent control measures where possible, and assistance programs to prevent displacement.
3. **Increase homeownership opportunities** by promoting down payment assistance, first-time homebuyer programs, and affordable financing options.
4. **Support diverse housing types** such as accessory dwelling units (ADUs), co-housing, and senior-friendly housing to meet different needs.
5. **Promote inclusive zoning and land use reforms** that encourage affordable, transit-accessible neighborhoods to reduce living costs.
6. **Invest in community services and infrastructure** to lower overall living expenses, including reliable public transit, affordable childcare, and local job opportunities.

These policies together create a balanced approach to keep our city affordable for young people, families, seniors, and everyone in between.

7. [If relevant] How would you assess your city's MBTA Communities Act rezoning efforts so far?

I would advocate for the city to:

- Strengthen affordable housing requirements within rezoned areas.
- Enhance infrastructure investment to support growth.
- Ensure community voices, especially from lower income and longtime residents, are central in planning processes.

Overall, the rezoning efforts show promise but must be paired with equity-focused policies to truly benefit District C and the entire city.

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

I would focus on several key strategies:

1. **Legal Advocacy:** Collaborate with city attorneys and state officials to challenge any federal actions that unfairly threaten local autonomy or funding through lawsuits or legal challenges.
2. **Building Coalitions:** Partner with other municipalities, community organizations, and advocacy groups to amplify local voices and present a united front against harmful federal policies.
3. **Engaging Federal Representatives:** Work closely with supportive members of Congress and the state delegation to advocate for the city's needs and seek federal support that respects local priorities.
4. **Maximizing Alternative Funding:** Identify and pursue state, private, and philanthropic funding sources to supplement or replace any federal funding that might be reduced or withheld.
5. **Community Education and Mobilization:** Inform residents about potential federal threats to local services and encourage civic engagement, including contacting elected officials and participating in public advocacy.
6. **Transparency and Communication:** Maintain clear communication with residents about challenges and steps being taken to safeguard essential services, building trust and community resilience.

These combined efforts help protect the city's ability to serve residents effectively despite federal challenges.

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

For me, transparency means keeping neighbors informed and explaining the decisions I make. Accountability means following through on my promises and being available when you need me. I'll always be honest, approachable, and focused on putting our community first.

(C) Yes/No Policy Questions Yes

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? **NO**
4. Do you support fare-free public transit? **YES**
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? **NO**

(D) Additional Comments

Thank you for considering my candidacy. I am deeply committed to serving our community with transparency, integrity, and a focus on equity. My record shows tangible progress in improving infrastructure, public safety, and education, but I recognize there is still much work to be done. I pledge to listen closely to the voices of all residents, especially those who have historically been underrepresented, and to champion policies that create opportunity and justice for everyone. Together, we can build a more inclusive, sustainable, and thriving city for current and future generations.