



## 2025 Municipal Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Richard Aldrich

Office Sought: Marlborough Councilor At-Large

Website:

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1725035448372658/?ref=share&mibextid=NSMWB>  
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### (A) Your Candidacy

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

Stop overdevelopment  
Minimize taxing of residents  
Public safety

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

My life experience in long-term care , military and all other aspects of life. I am a citizen of the citizens.

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

Worcester speed limit of 24 mph

### (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?

Development should focus on tax generating projects and the tax burden should be higher on businesses not the citizens.

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

Focus on the individual and provide a better system to assist and monitor each student. Also family support is critical to their education so we must help families in need.

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

Enforce laws at the border and make sure the bad players are not ruining the American dream for others.

**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?**

Generate less garbage

Generate clean fuel

Minimize all emissions

We must spread the cost equally and ensure other states are in line or we are fighting a losing battle.

**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?**

safe

Currently prices make it difficult for most to drive. Any other modes must be studied and allowed safe and equal access.

**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?**

I would work with the council and rental units to ensure there is a proper mix of affordable rental units for all residents.

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

Too much of a burden on local economies with minimal State assistance.

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

I would encourage the State and Federal governments to work together so the local economy and its residents do not suffer because they disagree.

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

Just be transparent and accountable to the voters.

**(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? **NO**
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? **NO**

**(D) Additional Comments**

**Please remember yes and no questions are difficult because they do not cover all scenarios.**

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