



2025 Municipal Candidate Questionnaire

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Office Sought: Worcester City Council, District 2

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(A) Your Candidacy

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

My top three priorities are to create more safe, affordable housing, improve pedestrian safety in our neighborhoods, and support STEM and special education.

-Lowering property taxes for senior homeowners, expanding our first time homebuyer program, and supporting state legislation like Bill S.1447, which enables cities and towns to stabilize rents and protect tenants.

-Improving neighborhood infrastructure; sidewalks, crosswalks, lighting, and signage, and working with state partners on a permanent fare-free WRTA with increased routes and service.

-Our school system needs to provide skills for future technologies and ensure students of all abilities have quality education. I will work with higher education institutions, like UMass, and WPI to increase PILOT contributions for STEM and special education programs. These institutions bring a lot to our city but I believe they should invest more in our public school

2. What qualifies you to hold this office?

As a disability rights and housing advocate, I have extensive experience in coalition building, organizing and outreach, and knowledge of state & local programs, private and non profit organizations. I intend to explore more public / private partnerships and engage with our state delegation to bring resources and solutions to Worcester. At its core, the role of a councilor is to advocate for constituents I intend to advocate locally and regionally for Worcester residents.

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

I would like to see Worcester support a community trust to preserve affordable housing

(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?

I see real estate transfer fees, working with higher ed institutions to leverage more PILOT contributions, as good revenue generating opportunities. Worcester has several large institutions that have historically low PILOT contributions.

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

My top priorities are improving special education programming, providing more opportunities for STEM and vocational education.

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

I believe by providing more information to migrant communities to help them stay informed and know their rights. We also need to center children and families and make sure our schools are safe spaces. City councilors should do more to collaborate with our schools on this issue.

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?

I support expanding the city's tree canopy particularly in environmental justice areas, supporting tax incentives for new construction using green technology and

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 have and will continue to support a fair free WRTA and work with the WRTA to implement micro transit. I would also ensure all road improvements align with the complete streets framework which creates space for all road users. We need to ensure sidewalks and pedestrian crossings are safe and accessible for people with disabilities. This includes turning on audio signals , making sure there's appropriate time to cross.

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 will support rent stabilization legislation and ADUS by right. For senior homeowners I will work to expand Worcester's senior homeowner tax exemption so more households can qualify.

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

I believe Worcester is making progress in this area.

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

I would work closely with Worcester's state and federal delegation to support legislation protecting critical services. And use my role as a councilor to educate constituents about federal overreach in the city and state.

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

I intend to improve transparency and accessibility by holding quarterly open house meetings at different locations in District 2, attending neighborhood watch meetings and engaging with organizations that represent our diverse communities. I intend to listen to, and work with constituents from every

neighborhood. Worcester residents deserve City Councilors that are accountable to them, not special interests.

(C) Yes/No Policy Questions

1. Do you oppose the expansion of charter schools? **YES/ 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/ NO**
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/ NO**
4. Do you support fare-free public transit? **YES / NO**
5. Do you support the expansion of the network of permanent, protected bike lanes in your city? **YES / NO**
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 / NO**
7. Would you support a home rule petition to enable the city to stabilize rents? **YES / NO**
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 / NO**

(D) Additional Comments

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