



2025 Municipal Candidate Questionnaire

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(A) Your Candidacy

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

Continue to push for the new high school building; Improve communication on Constituent Services and events and increase awareness about decisions made at the local level that affect residents; Coastal Resilience and climate mitigation.

2. What qualifies you to hold this office?

My background at NECA Boston where I am the Director of Education and Outreach, I represent the voices of 90 plus company members that employ thousands across New England on a local and state level. Here in Salem, I am an active member of the community, the Salem Bike Committee and a former Community Garden Captain.

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

Green Corridors. We should look at ways to connect our neighborhoods through parks and green space to help with heat islands that we see in The Point Neighborhood and other areas of Salem.

It gives residents access to shade and better livable 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?**

I would raise revenue through the 800,000 tourists we see annually. For many years, we have rolled out the red carpet for tourists and visitors. I would like to start rolling out the red carpet for our residents. Venice Italy has taken a stance against over tourism, and I believe we can learn something from the global movement and come up with a strategy that works for Salem.

For example, let's charge tour bus companies \$500 to park for the day. That cost would be divided by the 55 seats costing less than \$10 per person on that bus. That won't deter visitors from shopping at our local shops or eating at our food establishments.

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

Build the new high school, teacher retention through good wages and benefits, and grow our technical education programs.

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

We need to continue to be a welcoming community for everyone. Everyone that calls Salem their home should be comfortable being who they are.

- 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?**

Promote the Crowley offshore wind project, help speed up permitting for coastal resilience efforts like the Collins Cove project that took four years to permit, educate on renewable energy and its benefits.

To ensure equity is at the center of these efforts I would ensure all projects have a PLA in place and the community is brought in during the design phase not after bids have gone out.

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 continue the work I do on the Bicycle and Shared Paths Committee where we advocate for a city that works 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?

We need to continue to offer subsidized housing to our residents. Affordable housing should be spread throughout the city and not confined to a single ward. We need to continue to retrofit defunct existing buildings into living spaces like the Hawthorne Lofts in Downtown Salem.

We also need to ensure good paying jobs are available in our community that allow people to get a step on the housing ladder.

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

Good, we as a city have been onboard since 2023 but we can always push to do more.

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

We can continue to create sanctuary policies and enact legislation for environment and social issues to protect our coastline and people.

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

Communication is a top priority of mine and one that will continue as a city councilor.

Constituent Services is a huge part of the job and can only be done when a councilor listens, learns and acts on the needs and requests of residents. I will ensure we are getting information out to everyone via all social media channels. We will also hold quarterly meetings for all ward 1 community members. I will hold drop-in office hours monthly and continue to be highly visible in the neighborhood.

(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? **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? **YES**

(D) Additional Comments

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

As a new father, I can say without hesitation; there's nowhere I'd rather live, work, and raise a family than right here in Salem. This city has a spirit; it's creative, resilient, and welcoming and you don't find that just anywhere. It's from my deep love for this community that I'm running for City Council. Because, while I believe in all that Salem is, I also see the challenges we face in transportation and development, climate, education and housing. I believe we need fresh ideas and the courage to tackle them head-on. I want to work closely with the community to be part of the solution.