



Neighborhood Questions for Candidates

Community Council questions for Mayoral and City Council candidates

Community Council members responded to a survey by Invest in Neighborhoods to gather questions specifically about neighborhood concerns or issues they wished to pose to the candidates. These questions were distilled into questions which capture the priority issues for neighborhoods.

Please take a few minutes to answer these questions. We will post each of the candidates' answers on our web site and through social media.

**Thank you,
the team at Invest in Neighborhoods**

1. PUBLIC SAFETY: How will you address the opiate addiction epidemic?

Recognize that we cannot arrest our way out of the problem. We need to expand our quick response teams which provide an easy avenue for overdose survivors to obtain treatment. We need more treatment. We must hold drug companies accountable. We need more federal and state attention to this serious, serious epidemic.

2. NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION: How will your administration help community councils hold property owners accountable for blight?

Continue to enhance and improve our enforcement and tracking efforts. Make sure the city provides a great example as a property owner. Expand collaboration efforts with the state department of transportation with respect to federal and state rights of way, including reimbursement for the cost of city efforts.

3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & EQUITY: How will you invest in neighborhood business districts in a way that bridges the developing equity gap?

Continue to collaborate positively with community councils and business district organizations. The new neighborhood VTICA legislation will provide a stream of revenues for neighborhood projects. We need a larger cadre of city development officers devoted to providing resources and creative support to community initiatives.

4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & EQUITY: What will you do to ensure there is adequate supply of affordable housing in Cincinnati?

I am very excited about the new VTICA program which will provide a stream of revenue for affordable housing projects. In simple terms, a developer who wants the maximum tax abatement for the maximum number of years will be required to make 15% payments in lieu of taxes to a third party organization. Half will be used for any variety of projects in the neighborhood where the development is located. The other one half of 15%, i.e., 7 1/2 % will go to a citywide affordable housing fund. Over time, a considerable stream of revenue for affordable housing projects will be created.

5. GOVERNANCE, REGULATION & INCLUSION: What will you do to increase and provide stability to Neighborhood Support Program funding stream?

Continue my fight to increase funding to at least \$10,000 per year per neighborhood. Carry the message to all council members of the tremendous value to the city of NSP funded activities.

6. GOVERNANCE, REGULATION & INCLUSION: How will you help community councils gain more influence in development decisions?

My recent motion requires the development by the city administration of formal steps by which development, property sale, project visioning, etc. will include community groups early and often as events transpire and possible projects work their way through the city.

7. GOVERNANCE, REGULATION & INCLUSION: What will you do to create a culture at City Hall that promotes civic engagement, and is responsive to neighborhood plans and citizen concerns?

Yes, as I have throughout my career. For me, so much depends on spirit and attitude rather than specific rules and procedures.

8. TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE: What is your plan for improving frequency and reliability of our bus system?

We desperately need a broader funding source. We must at least have a county wide revenue plan; ideally, even a multi-county venture. Bus routes must connect people with jobs.

9. TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE: What will you do to improve multi-modal infrastructure that includes pedestrian and cyclist safety?

I will continue to advocate for pedestrian first attitudes as we change our street and roads. We should have more designated bike lanes and more protected lanes. We must also improve crosswalks compliance and enforcement against speeders. Neighborhoods are not thoroughfares but places where people live.

10. TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE: How will you champion environmental sustainability?

We live on a small planet with limited resources. All of us must recognize this as we live our lives and as governments decide what to regulate, what to consume, what to develop, how to grow, etc. Together and individually we must limit our permanent footprint on this world of ours.

11. NAME

David Mann