

## #4

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Email Invitation 1 (Email)  
**Started:** Monday, October 23, 2017 7:00:52 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, October 23, 2017 8:01:22 AM  
**Time Spent:** 01:00:30  
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## Page 1: Community Council questions for Mayoral and City Council candidates

**Q1 PUBLIC SAFETY:** How will you address the opiate addiction epidemic?

Promote compassion with accountability. That being said we need a comprehensive plan that brings all the resources of our city together. Engaging the heroin epidemic means support for first responders, wrap around services for those in addiction, family support, more in-patient services, expanded mental health access, and post recovery support to prevent relapses. We need a continuum of care and wrap around service model that gets to the heart of addiction while holding both recovering persons and providers accountable for results.

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**Q2 NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION:** How will your administration help community councils hold property owners accountable for blight?

When a community council has an issue with a blighted property I will listen to the community council and ensure the City Manager is aware of the issue. We as a City should first understand why the property is suffering from blight. Is the homeowner handicap and unable to afford repairs? If so, we should work with groups like People Working Cooperatively to help that homeowner resolve the issue. If the property owner is non-responsive then we should follow up with fines in order to entice action. I will also support the creation of a housing court.

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**Q3 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & EQUITY:** How will you invest in neighborhood business districts in a way that bridges the developing equity gap?

According to the City, there are 33 recognized business districts within the City. According to CNBDU's website, there are 37 business districts from 33 neighborhoods. Our first step is work with the remaining 19 neighborhoods which do not have a recognized business district. We need to clearly understand which of these 19 neighborhoods actually have a business district that the City could help support. Then we need to help the residents complete the paperwork to create an official business district which will allow them to collect the \$4,600 in funds to help their district. Secondly, I will incentivize growth via more lucrative abatements to bring development to struggling districts.

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**Q4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & EQUITY:** What will you do to ensure there is adequate supply of affordable housing in Cincinnati?

I will ensure existing affordable housing is livable housing. We need to hold property owners accountable for code violations to ensure all our people have a safe and healthy place to live. I will work with the City Planning Department to ensure affordable housing is discussed when working with neighborhood groups to create neighborhood improvement plans. Then, when a developer of a housing development asks for a property tax abatement, the City can point at the neighborhood's plan and require a certain percentage of affordable housing to be included in the housing development.

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**Q5 GOVERNANCE, REGULATION & INCLUSION: What will you do to increase and provide stability to Neighborhood Support Program funding stream?**

I do support increasing NSP funding. Each neighborhood gets a base amount of funding - say \$8,000 (this can be increased every year per a published schedule). Then the neighborhood council receives an additional \$1.00 (or some agreeable amount) per resident of that neighborhood (from the most recent census). Maybe this starts at an additional \$0.25 per resident and increases to the \$1.00 over a 5-10 year period. This would be a equitable, fair, and fiscally responsible way to handle NSP funding. An even more equitable method would be to also consider per-capita income as a multiplier to give poorer neighborhoods a stepping stool. The NSP needs more funding but it needs to be done so in the most equitable fashion possible.

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**Q6 GOVERNANCE, REGULATION & INCLUSION: How will you help community councils gain more influence in development decisions ?**

Each neighborhood needs an improvement plan or a development plan which is approved by City Council. That way, when a development comes to a neighborhood, the community council can simply point to their plan that City Council already approved. This at a minimum starts a conversation and should disallow the quick push through of some development deals.

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**Q7 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?**

I will push to have City Council meetings moved from 2pm to 6pm to allow for greater civic engagement. A cultural change will require the voters to elect Councilmembers who are active in their neighborhood councils and who actually understand issues on a neighborhood level. As the First Vice President of Westwood Civic Association, the facilitator of Westwood Coalition, and the Founder of the Cincinnati Neighborhood Games, I understand what issues neighborhoods are facing and I will be responsive to neighborhood issues.

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**Q8 TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE: What is your plan for improving frequency and reliability of our bus system?**

I will listen to the existing bus riders to hear their needs and their thoughts on what can be done to improve the bus system. Then I will ask those who currently do not ride the bus and listen why. As transportation is a regional issue I will also work with the 49 municipalities in the County and the County Commissioners to work out the best resolution to provide the correct amount of funding to improve our bus system.

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**Q9 TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE: What will you do to improve multi-modal infrastructure that includes pedestrian and cyclist safety?**

Protected bike lanes are extremely important to the growth of our City. Protected lanes add a sense of security that encourages people to put down their car keys and hop on a bike, thereby cutting down on pollution and traffic in general. When the City plans new infrastructure projects I will always ensure that pedestrians, cyclists, and light rail is always included when possible. I am involved in Westwood's traffic calming team and understand how important it is to have safe streets. Growth of neighborhood business districts depend on pedestrians feeling safe.

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**Q10 TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE:** How will you champion environmental sustainability?

I am a LEED AP (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional). I understand the role green building can play in improving the health of our residents and our City as a whole. I will promote the continued property tax abatement policy for green buildings. I will also promote using renewable energy to power our public buildings.

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**Q11 Name of candidate**

Henry Frondorf

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