

Answers from Michelle Dillingham

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

I have shared very publicly on my campaign for city council this time that I am a person in long term recovery, and for me that means I have been clean since Oct. 29th, 1997. I received lifesaving care for my heroin addiction from Chaney Allen, Talbert House, the CCAT, and several other social service agencies that helped get me to where I am today. As a member of city council I will be unwavering in my quest to ensure our city has the resources it needs to lessen the negative impacts of this epidemic. This includes but is not limited to supporting the collaborative work already being done with the Hamilton County Heroin Task Force. This issue is very personal to me, and to the recovery community I am a part of. As a neighborhood leader having served as President of my Community Council in Kennedy Heights, it is also a top priority as it is devastating our neighborhoods. I will release a full plan of action at a campaign event on Oct 29th which can be found on my website at votedillingham.com at that time. It is a comprehensive plan of action I will work to implement upon my election to City Hall.

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

I will support city inspectors so they can have adequate staffing to hold property owners accountable for the upkeep of their property. I will work to improve the lines of communication between the city and community councils. I will support the work of partner agencies like People Working Cooperatively and Keep Cincinnati Beautiful so they can help our low income and senior residents keep up their properties.

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

I will work with INN to identify best practices to implement a more equitable policy in how NBD grants are administered.

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

My professional career shows that I have been a years-long advocate for affordable housing. I worked for the Affordable Housing Advocates (AHA) where I wrote a regular column on affordable housing policy and edited the first ever "State of Affordable Housing in Hamilton County" report. Later I served as the Director of Education for the Greater Cincinnati Coalition for the Homeless where I edited the report, "How to Overcome Local Opposition to

Affordable Housing". If I am elected I will continue my policy advocacy for proven, best practices solutions to the affordable housing crisis in our city. This includes supporting a variety of funding allocations for affordable housing such as CDGB and HOME, the Local Affordable Housing Trust Fund, supporting applications for affordable housing tax credits, and other funding "tools" that are available such as rapid rehousing funds. Other strategies include working collaboratively with CHMA and other affordable housing developers, and building in "inclusionary zoning" where possible.

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

I pledge to increase and ensure stability for the NSP program in the budget.

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

I will help community councils gain more influence in development decisions by requiring a position statement submitted by community councils along with all development requests. I am sensitive to the fact that community councils do not always represent the majority or the full position of the neighborhood, and this statement should be considered in the context of that reality.

- 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?**

I will support the implementation of the recommendations that were unanimously passed by City Council by the "Citizen Engagement Action Team". This includes a full menu of policy recommendations for better citizen engagement.

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

As a city council member I will take leadership on this critical issue by requesting to be appointed to council committees that handles transportation legislative items. I will serve as an active member to address the METRO shortfall. I will advocate from a place of personal experience, as I used METRO for school and work and our son is a lifelong wheelchair user who uses public para-transit. I will work with my peers on council, Hamilton County leaders, METRO, and community groups to work towards funding solutions.

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

I am a fan of the new CROWN project, and will support multi-modal infrastructure in the budget. This include implementing the already passed Bike Transportation Plan.

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

I worked for former Vice Mayor Crowley during the original passage of the Environmental Justice Ordinance, and the Green Cincinnati Plan, as well as staffed the Health, Environment, and Education Committee for his office. I am a strong supporter of environmental sustainability practices and will do everything in my power to implement those practices as a member of city council.