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2013 VOTER GUIDE

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Detroit Environmental Agenda
FALL 2013

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

STEERING & WORKING COMMITTEE



Detroiters Working for
Environmental Justice



Eco Works (formerly
WARM Training Center)



Michigan
Environmental Council



Michigan Trails &
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Recycle Here!



Southwest Detroit Community
Benefits Coalition



Southwest Detroit
Environmental Vision



Zero Waste Detroit

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This voter guide is meant to be informative. The Detroit Environmental Agenda does not endorse any candidate for any office. The candidates listed here are the ones who responded. All of the candidate responses are printed in this guide as submitted, with corrections only for spelling and capitalization. Please visit www.detroitenv.org for more information about the Detroit Environmental Agenda.

Sincerely,

Detroit Environmental Agenda Steering & Working Committee

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 1 CANDIDATE



WANDA JAN HILL

DISTRICT 1 CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: Press to ensure that ordinances that relate to the environment and the cleanliness of such is being complied. Through research, if necessary, revise ordinances that may conflict with a clean environment and equally important, introduce ordinances to improve our environment. If there are impediments, have all appropriate entities come together to discuss ways to deal with adverse conditions, enhance laws that may be available, seek out best practices, etc.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: One of my major concerns, which will receive attention if funds allow, is to reintroduce and/or improve on the model of "Keep Detroit Beautiful." This concept was an active and viable activity some 30 years ago that received funding from businesses to provide stipends and/or cleaning supplies to groups to remove debris or spruce up areas of the city. There was even a component for youth involvement. It should be revisited and given proper attention. I'm a firm believer that the image of a community and a neighborhood is defined by its aesthetics, and image is everything.

DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 1 CANDIDATE

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: As the legislative branch of city government, laws/ordinance must be in place to deal with all environmental concerns. However, there are several environmental-oriented city departments that can be of assistance. As a council person, I can push for attention to adversities relative to some sections of the city being overburdened with environmental imbalances.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: Cooperation between Council, relative city departments and/or other agencies is the key to collaborating and improving our environmental issues. As mentioned in an earlier question, our involvement comes into being through the laws we introduce or the ordinances that exist. Further, there are ordinances on the books that need to be enforced by either our law enforcement agency or by other sources.

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 2 CANDIDATE



RICK BOWERS, JR.
DISTRICT 2 CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: I would encourage the enforcement of the current lead ordinance properly—it is one of the most stringent in the country, but not enforced. I will work with residents to find solutions to air pollution regarding factories as well as GDRRA. If I am elected, I will ensure that the Green Task Force (which I helped create) will continue to exist and help improve our community. I will encourage remediation of contaminated sites and improving environmental concerns that involve health risks of various types.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: I will be a voice for residents of District 2 that will demand quality of life improvements! I will work with non-profits, community groups, and corporations to promote quality of life initiatives such as park improvements, blight removal, grass cutting, abandoned home removal and/or deconstruction, transportation improvement, and pollution remediation. I will work with the community to find creative ways to fund quality of life improvements.

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: I will fight for the environmentally burdened people, whether in District 2 or not. Blight removal, environmental regulation and stewardship will be a requirement in my mind.

DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 2 CANDIDATE

Currently there are many violations of current laws and the violators have largely gone unpunished. I will work to enforce current laws and create new ones where necessary. I believe that NO Detroit resident shall live in fear of his or her life because of pollution.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: The Detroit Environmental Agenda is crucial to the rebuilding of the City of Detroit. I will support City Council's Green Task Force, I will advocate for the highest environmental standards in City Council from DWSD to GDRRA to enforcing the lead ordinance, to advocating for transportation reform, energy savings in city buildings, to creating a complete bike trail system. I will use the Detroit Environmental Agenda

to help mold Detroit into a healthy, safer, better place to live. I will engage community leaders that created the agenda and others to make sure the city has benchmarks that are reached and that the goals are achieved. This is a quality agenda that is obtainable. Many are aware of my years of commitment to environmental issues in Detroit, and I will continue to fight for environmental justice in Detroit.

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 2 CANDIDATE



GEORGE CUSHINGBERRY, JR.

DISTRICT 2 CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: Organize a single voice among elected officials at all levels of government. Promote understanding and action for the unfortunate voiceless citizens. Introduction of appropriate resolutions and ordinances.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: Educate all segments of community to the need to develop alternative green energy uses and to advocate for alternative techniques in commerce and energy.

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: Advocate green solutions like planting trees and shrubs, use of alternative energy, and implement recycling programs.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: Improve testing and treatment of environmental related ailments through intergovernmental contracts.

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATE



SCOTT BENSON

DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: Work with environmental experts and advocates to ensure Detroit policies are not contributing to increased levels of pollution.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: I will work with environmental advocates to ID a plan of action for the City of Detroit to follow in an effort to improve Detroit's environmental standards.

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: Work to set policies that improve environmental quality standards and ensure that no area of Detroit is burdened with activities that create hazardous environmental situations.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: Use the DEA to help set environmental policies at the City Council table.

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATE



FRANCINE ADAMS, L.M.S.W.
DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: I am an advocate for the deconstruction, recycling, and repurposing of our abandoned properties. I encourage community clean-up projects. I encourage families to relocate from homes that present health and safety risks, especially if they are lead filled rental properties. As an elected official I will continue to do these things and encourage the enforcement of ordinances that provide for cleaner, safer communities.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: City residents have always played a major part in the maintenance of our communities. The neighbors as individuals or block clubs have assisted with the maintenance of landscapes, street lighting, clean-up projects, and crime prevention. Over the last generation this manner of self-sufficiency has waned. I am an advocate for block clubs and neighborhood associations. They really do make a difference in the quality of life. As I go about the community and have conversations with my fellow Detroiters I let them know that we will have to be responsible for the maintenance of our parks and vacant land. We have to help law enforcement by reporting crimes in progress and sharing with them information we have about crimes and criminals. We have to help one another by starting where we are with what we have and doing the best we can until we can do better. We, as Detroiters, have to restore our sense of community.

DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATE

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: The city has to make the adjustment from its population height of the 1950s to our current population by clearing out the residential and commercial properties that were left behind. That land needs to be converted to green spaces that can produce food for the community, become a habitat for wildlife, absorb rain water to provide relief for our storm system, and help provide cleaner air. We have to revive the neighborhood, re-establish businesses to meet the needs of the community, and create jobs which will reduce the dependence on individual modes of motorized transportation. The city also needs to adapt a recycling/ repurposing program for household and construction waste including the vast amount of technology products.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: The environmental agenda mirrors my vision for the city in several aspects. I look forward to city-wide recycling, deconstruction of blighted properties, mass transit that is both affordable and reliable, air that is not thick with industrial and truck fumes, more green space, and a better use of our water resources. This can all be accomplished with the enforcement of existing legislation and citizen participation.

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 4 CANDIDATE



ANDRE L. SPIVEY

DISTRICT 4 CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: One of the major aggravators of pollution in the city of Detroit is the numerous amount of automobiles. Because we are the motor capital of the world, the carbon gas emissions are considerably high. I support and advocate for cars and public transportation that run on alternative energy sources. I am also in support in holding fossil fuel and waste production and management companies in the city responsible for their maintenance and disposal of their toxic waste—not granting tax abatements to those corporations whose pollution jeopardizes the health of citizens and our river with destructive

methods of waste management. I commend organizations such as those that created the Detroit Environmental Agenda, and intend to support initiatives from these organizations that create a more sustainable and healthier future for Detroit.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: This question offers numerous answers; however to name a few, our neighborhoods, we need to institute a program similar to the former “nuisance abatement” or “repair-to-own” programs where citizens can acquire abandoned dwellings with clear titles, rehabilitate these dwellings and live in them. This along with tax incentives such as the Neighborhood Enterprise Zones will place thousands of properties back on the tax rolls. The remaining structures which cannot be repaired should be demolished, making room for new development. Council should explore benchmarks in other cities that provide incentives for city employees, families, recent graduates and immigrants.

DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 4 CANDIDATE

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: To alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city, I will work towards bringing harmonized environmental efforts that will improve the quality of life in Detroit's neighborhoods. I support urban gardening in vacant lots, eco-friendly architecture in the construction of new houses and businesses, and increasing the access to recycling throughout the city. In the past, I have supported organizations that show a commitment to environmentally sustainable and social equitable initiatives, such as the climate action plan formulated by the Detroit Climate Action Collaborative, and Team 313, a group of outstanding young people who volunteer weekly to clean up areas of Detroit's east side. I encourage training for green energy jobs, education, awareness, and policy reform around environmental justice in the city of Detroit.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: The Detroit Environmental Agenda can be a tool for my colleagues and I to write resolutions and ordinances to improve our city. The DEA can also be a tool that connects Detroit's legislative body to similar bodies at the county, state and federal levels. The DEA can also be used as we move into the Council District system to engage residents and businesses to become more aware of our environmental issues.

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATE



ADAM HOLLIER
DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: I would focus on developing urban forestry, complete streets, and emphasizing blue infrastructure. As a councilperson, I would like to replant street trees and plant trees to clean the air and absorb storm water. Complete streets that provide cycling options and non-motorized transit access will continue to reduce our carbon footprint. As a cyclist, I will promote developing an infrastructure that will make others feel comfortable cycling in the city. The continued storm water challenges the Detroit Water and Sewerage Dept. faces should be dealt with by developing more blue infrastructure systems. I would like to

unearth creeks as part of the natural storm water management. Overall, I will continue to be an advocate for developing cleaner safer communities. In the Mayor's office I took a leading role in handling the Pet Coke situation, resulting in one of the facilities shutting down.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: Neighborhood quality of life stems from our neighbors themselves and making our communities more livable. As a councilman with a background in public service, I understand that collaboration and empowerment are key when addressing neighborhood concerns. I would work with neighborhood associations and block clubs to help them leverage the non-profit and small business communities. I would also work to be District 5's biggest recruiter, attracting more residents to fill our vacant homes and more businesses to invest in our neighborhoods. By helping residents

DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATE

negotiate city government and connecting them to the resources they need, we can work towards improving the quality of life for all Detroiters.

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: Working with residents to educate each other about the inequalities that exist would be my first step. With informed neighbors and relationships that can span all over the city, best practices can be shared, adapted, and implemented towards addressing the environmental concerns in District 5.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: I think using the Detroit Environmental Agenda in conjunction with the relationships I've made at the state and local level will help to ensure that environmental needs are met. Promoting environmental justice not only improves the health of our city, but

it also provides opportunities for economic innovation. I was instrumental in getting the Regional Transit Authority legislation through and will continue to champion an improved public transit system for our city. Also, I recognize that District 5 has varied needs in regards to the environment, so I would ensure that neighborhood voice is present when addressing those needs. "Communitized" care for spaces in District 5 is happening organically by residents tending to vacant lots on their blocks. As a councilperson, I'll support these efforts and unlock the resources residents need to grow their neighborhoods.

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATE



MARY SHEFFIELD

DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: First, I would work to establish an Environmental Services committee/subcommittee on City Council. I would also work to ensure that community-benefits agreements (CBAs) are created when the City of Detroit contracts with corporations/developers, and that there are concrete environmental remediation requirements included. In addition, I would advocate for the City to improve its processes and reduce its own negative impact on the environment first and then request the business community to become more responsible corporate citizens. I would push for higher standards in moving towards clean and renewable

energy, commission a study to develop blue/green initiatives for waste from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, and purchase alternative buses with lower emissions for the Detroit Department of Transportation.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: First, I would empower residents and neighborhood associations to develop their blocks home-by-home by working to reduce foreclosures and assist with home improvements and repairs to stabilize neighborhoods. I would also work to provide tax incentives for residents who maintain their property, remediate blight and demonstrate a commitment to improving the environment through recycling efforts, community clean-up, and utilizing green technology. Those incentives would also include offering City-owned property and resources to help with initiatives which improve the quality of life in neighborhoods.

DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATE

I would look to support an environmentally conscious candidate for a position on the Community Advisory Council in District 5 which will be created by the new City Council. Lastly, I would utilize my position as a City Council member to bring business and neighborhoods together to develop an environmental agenda in specific areas and identify funding for public/private partnerships to accomplish goals set forth by the residents.

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: I would like to establish an ordinance that calls for higher standards for clean air, renewable energy, blue/green initiatives and livable communities. This ordinance would direct the City to expend resources in communities with the highest environmental burdens in the City, many of which are in District 5. I would work to direct resources to residents who need remediation to remove and eliminate lead paint and mold in their homes while addressing the underlying factors which led to the conditions. Lastly, I would ensure that City Inspectors and other code enforcement officers are enforcing the current laws to ensure that our neighborhoods which experience high levels of illegal dumping and scrapping as well as poorly kept rental properties are given the attention necessary to reduce the negative

environmental impact and ultimately improve the quality of life for low-income and impoverished families.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: I would utilize the Detroit Environmental Agenda (DEA) as a blueprint for the work of the City Council Committee/Subcommittee I would like to create. Through that committee, or taskforce if there isn't enough support to create the committee, I would work to direct and prioritize the City's efforts to improve the environment and the quality of life for residents. I would use the DEA to develop standards for an Environmental Impact ordinance and prioritize enforcement. Lastly, I would utilize the DEA to help make decisions with respect to how the City makes capital expenditures as prescribed by the new charter. I would ensure those expenditures are in line with goals set forth in the DEA.

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATE



RAQUEL CASTAÑEDA-LOPEZ

DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: Environmental health problems plague District 6, with the District containing some of the most polluted zip codes in the Midwest. My goal is to mitigate these problems through the following strategies:

- Ensure that companies such as Marathon, the Detroit Salt Mining Company and other large industries in the District are in compliance with existing ordinances.
- Limit the amount of trucks driving in residential communities in the District by working with MDOT to re-route traffic.
- Aggressively pursue illegal dumping in the District and ensure violators are charged

by enforcing local ordinances and creating stricter ones.

- Convert empty lots into community spaces and urban gardens to provide access to healthy food and increase tree canopy to improve air quality.
- Increase education and disseminate information about recycling and provide greater access to recycling facilities.
- Increase funding to the City's Lead Abatement program for families in the city.
- Work with community leaders and churches to identify the most dangerous structures in their communities and advocate for their removal.
- Partner with local health clinics to inform residents about the symptoms and causes of asthma.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: As a lifelong resident of the District who grew up in poverty, I understand the

DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATE

challenges that most of the families in the District face. As I've gone door knocking throughout the District I have listened to residents speak about their quality of life. Residents' top concerns are related to vacant lots and uncut grass, abandoned houses and broken street lights. Addressing these matters will be my top priority on city council. I have met community leaders, block clubs and community organizations doing work around these issues and will partner with these groups as a public official.

My hope is to have a mobile office which visits communities in the district on a bi-weekly basis, helping residents cut through the red tape and bureaucracy to increase access to resources and services.

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: I am committed to working with civic, city and state leaders to advocate for policies that promote environmental justice and increase the quality of life in our communities. Having worked with former Majority Floor Leader Steve Tobocman and State Representative Rashida Tlaib, I understand what it takes to improve our neighborhoods. I am also a strong believer in partnering with residents to create community benefits agreements that mitigate environmental health issues.

In addition, awareness and education play a key role in a community's ability to understand and mobilize around these issues. As such, I will work with residents to make sure they understand that environmental health issues impact the entire District and city, not just certain zip codes.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: My first step would be to reach out to the leadership team that created the Detroit Environmental Agenda (DEA). I am by no means an expert in this field and believe it's important to reach out to the leaders in the field to create sound policy. I would work in partnership with the DEA to move the agenda forward, championing issues such as engaging youth and residents in becoming part of the solution and supporting community leadership in local development.

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATE



ISAAC ROBINSON

DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: People are looking for tangible results as the DEA points out on page 10. When the EPA called for public comment in 2011 on the re-opening of the toxic deep-injection waste well in Romulus that threatens our region, I organized Detroit elected officials, pastors and community leaders from Detroit to submit comments opposing the re-issuing of permits.

I understand that fighting for environmental justice can also promote economic justice. As I opposed the re-opening of the Romulus Waste-Well, I recognize it as an opportunity for us to support Detroit based companies that treat waste in safer and cleaner ways.

We can take real steps to address the very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning if we demand a legislative process that is inclusive and has meaningful participation from the DEA coalition partners, labor and the community.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: The DEA is special in that it brings together a diverse coalition of organizations and citizens committed to economic and environmental justice. I will support the coalition's efforts to educate the community about issues impacting Detroit and fight hard for policy solutions that create jobs, improves public safety and makes Detroit cleaner. I will rely on my years of legal, legislative, and community organizing experience to be a strong advocate for the DEA at the council table.

DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATE

The same passion and energy that I have put into past fights for Detroit jobs, the disability community and improved transportation, I will put into current efforts to improve quality of life.

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: We cannot continue to support big governmental projects that do not include community benefits programs that creates jobs for Detroiters and improves the quality of life of our residents. As your council member, you will have an attorney with years of legislative experience making sure that the DEA is on the table early and often. Our community is suffering and it is important that we elect candidates who have the political and real-world experiences to get things done.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: The DEA will be a great tool because it was created with input from the community. The survey also shows where the community needs more information and education about issues impacting them. Before we can successfully move a policy agenda, it is important that we engage and educate the community.

I envision using the DEA as a major tool in holding corporate polluters accountable in District 6. In 2009, as political director of the 14th District Democratic Party, I co-founded the 14th District Democratic Party Environmental Caucus to push my political party to stand up for environmental justice. As a council member, I will continue these efforts relying heavily on the coalition who tirelessly worked to develop the DEA using a bottom-up approach.

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 7 CANDIDATE



GABE LELAND

DISTRICT 7 CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: We have to start with basics. The first consideration is to increase the bulk pick up schedule. They used to be scheduled once a month which allowed residents to clean up dump sites and abandoned properties on their block and have a schedule to see the debris removed regularly. We can't ask residents to help fight the blight if there aren't more collections. The next action would be to step up ordinance enforcement for commercial and residential properties, particularly on lead paint. Additionally, we need to implement a stronger city-wide

recycling program which would include an educational component to teach about environmental impact.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: I have already helped to organize neighborhood clean ups and have recruited volunteers to work with me. If we don't clean up and maintain abandoned properties, vacant lots and parks, we have no hope of improving the quality of life in any neighborhood. We must increase demolition/deconstruction efforts immediately.



DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 7 CANDIDATE

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: We must hold owners and mortgage holders responsible for vacant properties. Too often, banks and finance companies delay mortgage foreclosure leaving homes and businesses vacant for three or four years until they are foreclosed for unpaid property taxes. This delay leads to stripping, vandalism, squatters and fires, leaving the property uninhabitable. Part of the solution is ordinance enforcement. More important is the aggressive collection of property taxes and fines. We must reach out to the state for assistance with demolition and the re-purposing of vacant land. We must make the best use possible of the federal funds we already receive, such as weatherization, and continue to seek additional federal dollars as well.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: The Agenda you have prepared is a strong framework for the creation of new, powerful policies to improve our City's environment and it deserves serious consideration by the new administration. I look forward to hearing your concerns and working to improve the policies that have gotten us to this point.

Read the full Detroit Environmental Agenda report at www.detroitenv.org.

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

DISTRICT 7 CANDIDATE



JOHN K. BENNETT
DISTRICT 7 CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: I think it's important that we put in place ordinances that require individuals and businesses adhere to environmental codes. We have to work at making Detroit a clean and healthy city, which would enhance the quality of living for our residents. Dumping, littering and polluting will not be tolerated and ordinances against it will be strictly enforced.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: As I stated above making business adhere to codes. In my district there are

industrial areas, we have to ensure that these businesses aren't polluting the air or the soil through illegal actions.

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: Strict city code enforcement, fines and court action if necessary.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: I would have to read the agenda first before making an informed comment about it but in general those things that will protect the quality of life in my district and the city of Detroit I do support.

DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

AT-LARGE CANDIDATE



ROY MCCALISTER, JR.

AT-LARGE CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: Airborne environmental "pollution" is very common with the Detroit area, especially in Southwest Detroit. I will work with Federal and State legislatures, as well as OSHA to ensure companies that are involved with toxic and pollutant substances are inspected and regulated on a regular basis (especially companies, businesses or agencies with historical environment violations) with fine, shut and legal consequences if necessary.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: As stated in answer 1, I will ensure environmental regulations are adhered to within our communities/neighborhoods. I

will also ensure there is a regulating team to inspect older residence and structures to ensure asbestos and lead poisoning substances are corrected. To pay for such teams I would seek the assistance of grant writers, for cost effective funding. I would also extend such measures to neighborhood grocery outlets to ensure good quality foods, produce and products are stocked with legible and updated expirations. I will have a constant commitment to good neighborhood infrastructure and quality of life for the residents within Detroit.

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: As related in both answers 1 & 2.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: I would like to be invited to and take part in DEA meetings and hopefully become a member of DEA advisory committee and/or board.

DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

AT-LARGE CANDIDATE



DAVID BULLOCK
AT-LARGE CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: As an elected official I would champion the need for the city of Detroit to lower its carbon footprint, promote green technologies and renewable energies, and push for policies that not only address the need for remediation but also environmentally friendly development that increase efficiencies and improve health.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: As an elected official, I completely support community benefit agreements as a way of ensuring that residents have a voice and a means of holding developers accountable. I also would champion the use of trainings, community organizing and other resources to support citizen based advocacy. I will support community mechanisms and tools for residents to develop neighborhood plans, care for land, help monitor and enforce laws that address illegal dumping and code violations.



DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

AT-LARGE CANDIDATE

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: In the interests of environmental justice, I will take a holistic approach to creating healthy, sustainable and equitable communities. Additionally, I will uphold the highest standards for air, water, soil, neighborhood and indoor environmental quality by strengthening the necessary regulations and laws. I will advocate and push for forward thinking investments to encourage complete neighborhoods, produce a clean economy and prioritize social equity.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: I believe the principles of the Detroit Environmental Agenda are great tools for framing the discussion and goals of an environmentally sound Detroit. We must ensure environmental justice, protect our natural resources and create jobs for Detroiters - this is an amazing vision.

Read the full Detroit Environmental Agenda report at www.detroitenv.org.

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

AT-LARGE CANDIDATE



BRENDA JONES

AT-LARGE CANDIDATE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: As the former vice-chair and the current chair of the Public Health and Safety Standing Committee, I have and will continue to advocate on behalf of the citizens of Detroit to improve our heavily polluted environment. I was the citizen's voice with the Fire Department and other key players during discussions after the Marathon Explosion. I advocated for effective and efficient policies that would protect all Detroit citizens in case of an explosion or environmental emergency. I will continue to listen to the concerns of the citizens of Detroit and represent them in discussions concerning the environment and implement policies and procedures through ordinance to regulate environmental concerns.

Furthermore, I did not and do not support the current Detroit Incinerator or any other incinerator located in the City of Detroit that pollutes the environment. I will also work with all environmental groups regarding any environmental concerns.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: As an elected official, I feel that transparency is important and I am willing to address all concerns openly and get any and all departments involved as well any state and/or federal officials, departments, and agencies. The most recent discussion that has been before the committee is the storage of Petroleum Coke near the Detroit River that is hazardous to all of the residents in the area. I requested that City Council Staff and the Law Department begin developing an amendment to the zoning ordinance that would regulate the petroleum coke storage in the area. The amendment would address the community concerns with the storage of petroleum coke in the Detroit area. My office has been working very closely with the

DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

AT-LARGE CANDIDATE

development of the ordinance amendment and I look forward to introducing the ordinance and others like it to protect the neighborhood quality of life.

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: I would continue to investigate ways to amend and implement amendments to the City of Detroit's current zoning ordinance. There are areas in the City of Detroit that do not properly address zoning requirements that reflect the neighborhood. If an area has a dense residential population they should not be forced to endure industrial zoning requirements.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: I recently toured a home that utilizes a large amount of green technology and resources. Before the tour, I was not aware of the many ways a home could be energy efficient. This home can be utilized for community meetings and community discussion. I offered to host seminars and meetings with communities around the city in order to implement greener policies around the City of Detroit. I will continue

to educate the citizens as well as be educated on ways that the community can become more efficient at protecting the environment. Another fact learned while touring the green hub was that there are federal grants to support green job training. It is important that all community groups are knowledgeable of all opportunities to employ their residents to make their community more environmentally efficient. I will also work with the Building, Safety, Engineering, and Environmental Department to apply for environmental grants that would employ Detroit residents and make our city more environmentally efficient. All children and citizens in the City of Detroit deserve to breathe clean air and drink clean water. Contractors and business owners that do not adhere to Environmental Protection standards should be penalized for their lack of consideration for the residents in their area. I will continue to communicate with the Building, Safety, Engineering, and Environmental Department to ensure regular monitoring and penalizing of contractors and business owners that are violating Environmental Protection Standards.

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MIKE DUGGAN

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER:

- Enforce existing laws and City ordinances with respect to lead and other environmental hazards which have a negative impact on the health and vitality of Detroit residents, particularly our children.
- Solicit grant resources to augment and improve existing health services available to children and families in Detroit.
- Support the Detroit Future City planning framework for "blue/green infrastructure" development in neighborhoods across the city.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A:

- Promote increased access to education, job training and placement services to enable every Detroit resident who wants to work to find gainful employment to support themselves and their families.
- Promote greater access to quality healthcare services for all Detroiters, especially our children.
- Increase parks and recreation services in all of Detroit's neighborhoods.
- Promote grassroots, community-based planning efforts for all neighborhoods who are willing to organize and develop Quality of Life plans for their own communities based on their respective strengths and needs.
- Detroit must better leverage the natural resources we have including the Detroit



DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

MAYORAL CANDIDATES

River and our parks and greenways systems throughout the city. Vacant property can and should be put into productive re-use through a combination of redevelopment into built structures (housing and commercial) as well as a vital part of our natural environment.

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A:

- Assign an executive level point person to address environmental concerns and/or create an Office of Sustainability.
- Raise public awareness of the dangers and causes of environmental hazards such as lead, arsenic, and asbestos and the resources available to minimize their negative physical and mental side effects.
- Improve access to public transportation and other services which are not readily accessible to low-income Detroit residents.
- Advocate for increased financial resources at the state level to provide weatherization and heating assistance to low-income Detroit residents.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: In my administration I would at the very least appoint an executive level point person to address environmental concerns and am open to exploring the creation of an Office of Sustainability.

My administration would embrace the “blue/green infrastructure” outlined in the Detroit Future City framework as well as promote clean, alternative energy resources.

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

MAYORAL CANDIDATES



BENNY N. NAPOLEON

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

QUESTION: Detroit suffers from very high rates of asthma, cancer, and lead poisoning, all influenced by our heavily polluted environment. These problems impact children's ability to learn and adults' ability to work. What would you, as an elected official, do to improve Detroit's environment?

ANSWER: As Mayor, my Neighborhood Growth Strategy calls for improved energy, environmental, conservation and sustainability. We believe that it is imperative to include environmental controls in our infrastructure and neighborhood developments, as well as green space and buffers throughout.

Like the DEA, my green plan is also a living document requiring updating and adjusting over time. In order to remain on the cutting edge of innovations in green technology, my administration will engage in regular outreach strategies to simply solicit the public's input and to pursue best practices.

We will perform an administrative review and assessment of Detroit's compliance, oversight, deadlines, mandates, outstanding issues, ordinances, obligations, grants, and emergency preparedness.

Detroit has a unique role in the Great Lakes Region. Our city is absent from far too many international, federal, regional and statewide green discussions – particularly when resources are being allocated. That will change. We will become a leader in: city systems; combined sewer overflow; pristine municipal water supply and infrastructure; and the cost benefits of aged infrastructure and architecture; air quality; vacant land use, and oil refineries.

Q: How would you, as an elected official, be an advocate for resident efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life?

A: The success of my green plan requires resident and neighborhood involvement. As mayor, my administration will encourage and welcome active and opposing views before final decisions are made.



DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE

MAYORAL CANDIDATES

We will encourage all sectors of the community to help in neighborhood beautification, neighborhood and green efforts, and work with the courts and the criminal justice system to explore opportunities for inmate and offender programs and projects that can jointly assist the city.

Additionally, my plan includes coordinated emergency planning, training and disaster preparedness for volunteers, organized groups and city employees. It also includes multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary networks of government agencies and community stakeholders in order to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from major disruptive events.

Q: In the interests of environmental justice, how would you work to alleviate disproportionate environmental burdens in the city?

A: Using the Detroit Future City's Plan as a model for existing and emerging industries, my administration will be charged with tracking public policy at the federal, state and local level in order to predict, mitigate or alleviate further despaired impact for city residents.

Q: The City needs to be an advocate for higher environmental standards. If you are elected, how do you envision using the Detroit Environmental Agenda as a tool to create policies that improve the city's environment?

A: In Detroit's current fiscal situation, adding a new and fully-staffed office will be a challenge. However, we will enlist other post-industrial urban center mayors in the region to pursue best practices in this regard. Leaders such as Mayor Mark Mallory of Cincinnati explore the roles and responsibilities of his sustainability office; Mayor Frank Jackson of Cleveland and his Sustainability 2019 Plan; and Mayor Tom Barrett of Milwaukee and his recently released ReFresh Milwaukee the city's sustainability plan 2013-2023. We will explore the successes and challenges they've had in this area and decide on how to move forward.

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Yes

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DID YOU VOTE IN THE PRIMARIES?

Yes - at polls

Absentee

Did not vote

DID YOU VOTE IN THE GENERAL ELECTION?

Yes - at polls

Absentee

Did not vote

IS THIS YOUR FIRST YEAR VOTING?

Yes

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RACE/ETHNICITY

Black/African American

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SEX: M F

AGE: 17 & Under

18-29

30-54

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DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA COMMITS TO:

- Sharing the Detroit Environmental Agenda with mayoral and council candidates and asking them to respond
- Sharing these responses with you so that as informed citizens, you can help elect leaders who will take action for a cleaner, safer, healthier Detroit

WE ASK YOU TO COMMIT TO:

- Reading the Detroit Environmental Agenda and signing on as a supporter
- Sharing the Detroit Environmental Agenda and this Voter Guide with five friends
- **VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2013**

Sincerely,

The Detroit Environmental Agenda
Steering & Working Committee

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