

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.

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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.

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

It's time to act. Inform your vote for the **Tuesday, November 5, 2013** general elections.

Find your voting station at www.publius.org. It's as easy as entering your name!