



Andre
Spivey

Climate Resilience Ordinance

The DEA supports passing the Climate Resilience Ordinance, a municipal law that will help the City reduce greenhouse gas emissions incrementally through 2050. This law will help protect residents, especially our low-income communities of color, from impacts of climate change (e.g. extreme weather).

Q: What are your priorities to reduce emissions and lessen the impacts of climate change in Detroit during your term in office?

A: No response provided.

Sustainability & Equity

Sustainable and equitable development requires our City officials to balance public health and environmental needs with economic growth and job creation. When new projects and developments are under consideration, all too often economic interests may outweigh critical environmental concerns, that are likely to decrease the quality of life for residents, especially low-income, people of color, and other vulnerable communities.

Q: As you consider development proposals in your role as an elected official, how would you balance economic interests and environmental concerns?

A: As I have the past seven years, my staff and I thoroughly research all details within a development deal which comes before the Council. The balance for me is what makes sense for the economic development of the city and the specific area where the development will take place along with the environmental concerns if there are any. Every proposal does not have environmental issues as a major concern, however I will address those that do accordingly. I also know to refer to those professionals or community groups who work on environmental issues on a daily basis to offer counsel where my experience is limited.

Air

The DEA supports the air quality improvements recommended in the Community Action to Promote Healthy Environments (CA-PHE) Detroit Air Quality Public Health Action Plan:.

Q: Share up to three air quality improvements you will work to enact during your term in office. Explain how.

A: I am interested in working with my City Council colleagues whose interests are to improve air quality around waste treatment facilities, remediate truck emissions and find solutions to contain emissions, or runoff from products manufactured in the industrial areas of our city. If the aforementioned list is able to be enacted into an ordinance I look forward to gathering the information to make an informed decision.

Waste

Recycling brings value back into the waste stream, reduces negative effects of disposal (including toxic emissions, leakages, and lost resources and energy), and creates the potential for new markets. Detroit has an opt-in curbside recycling program limited to single households and residences up to four units. Given your role, share the strategies and policies for waste reduction and reuse you will support in response to the question below.

Q: How will you work to increase recycling options for all residents, including people who live in apartments?

A: The option to recycle is available to all city residents. Regarding apartments, having the city and its trash vendor provide additional blue curbside containers would be a start. My office has an app, district website, and sends a newsletter to our district. Included in those communication mediums can be a push for greater recycling in our community.

Q: How will you work to increase diversion of waste from the incinerator, for use in industry and commerce?

A: I would need to work within the commitments the City already has and receive information from those in this industry and environment groups as to the process of diverting waste from the incinerator.

Land Use and Food Access

The City of Detroit owns 24 square miles of structure-free, vacant land that can be put into private hands for productive use.

Q: What is your top priority for publicly-owned land in Detroit?

A: My priority is to make sure we first maintain the land owned by the city to decrease the blight. When the opportunity arises to develop the land, make sure there is involvement and input from the community as to what projects will come.

Healthy food and urban agriculture are surely connected in Detroit. Accessing healthy, culturally-appropriate food can be a challenge. Residents depend upon the network of gardens and farms that exist throughout Detroit for sustenance.

Q: Given your role, what would you do to ensure that residents have access to healthy, culturally-appropriate food?

A: The Council is often given roles that fall out of our purview which confuses the public as to what we've been elected to do. Therefore, in my role as a Councilperson I believe I can work with groups in our community who work on a daily basis to educate and advocate for healthy and culturally appropriate food.

Water

Detroit is a Great Lakes city. The DEA supports the Detroit Water Agenda, which provides recommendations for ensuring all Detroiters will have access to affordable, clean, safe water to drink and use. It encourages water conservation and endorses effective models of resilient water management, which embrace a basin-wide perspective and integrated planning of urban development, green and gray water infrastructure.

Q: Share up to three Detroit Water Agenda recommendations you will work to enact during your term in office. Explain how.

A: I have and will work to educate on green infrastructure to decrease the drainage fee, advocate for retention ponds to capture water runoff and improve those assistance programs already in place to provide affordable water.

Green stormwater infrastructure helps manage sewage overflows, reduces basement flooding and builds healthier, more attractive neighborhoods. Residents, businesses, and places of worship can receive stormwater/drainage credits from the City to help build green stormwater infrastructure.

Q: How would you help people build green stormwater infrastructure and access to these credits during your term of office?

A: Work with DWSD (Detroit Water and Sewerage Department), GLWA (Great Lakes Water Authority), and other community groups to find resources to build the necessary infrastructure.

