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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: My priorities to reduce emissions and lessen the impacts of climate change in Detroit will be to continue to follow the City of Detroit ordinance to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. I will actively be involved in reviewing and gathering data from residents, universities, businesses, and non-profits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Expanding the Environmental Justice Advisory Committee will be a plus. Also, providing citizens with data and opportunities to join in protecting our community will be a continued effort on my part.

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: I would balance economic interests and environmental concerns as equal as possible. Meaning, environmental concerns have to be brought up on the scale. As a nation we cannot afford to decrease the quality of life and certainly as a City the quality of life cannot decrease any lower than it is now. Unfortunately, economic interests usually outweigh vulnerable/low-income citizens. Being aware of this problem, I will bring equity to balance both.

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: (1) I will work to Control Emissions from Industrial sources and Enforce Air Quality Rules. These emissions release gasses into the atmosphere, which then pollutes our air. (2) I will hold companies accountable that pollute our air. I will hold agencies that regulate the air quality rules to be more transparent about the regulation process. (3) Lastly, I will continue investing in Renewable Energy.

Renewable Energy is a plus that can be used again and again. Renewable Energy is beneficial because it causes less pollution and harm to our earth. I will promote the usage of solar power to the community and demonstrate its value to saving the earth and it is cost effective.

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: I will promote recycling through radio and television public service announcements and create workshops and publications on recycling.

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

A: I will promote recycling in larger units and public service announcements.

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: Providing food, green land, job creation, natural compost, gardens, and solar energy, among others.

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: Healthy foods, including snacks can be challenging to locate in many parts of the City. I will develop a campaign focusing on the value and benefits of residents having access to healthy 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: Workshops and providing people with knowledge.

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: Yes, green storm water infrastructure is needed.