



Roy
McCalister, Jr.

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: I believe there are many who are in denial regarding climate change and the effects; this is very apparent when we see currently how the people in Houston, Texas failed to adhere to the warnings of a mass evacuation. These and other disasters are signs of how global warming and climate change can affect our lives. There are also man-made productions which emit emissions into the air which affect our communities. During my term in office, I will work with state and federal legislatures on emission control and regulations, and continue to educate my constituents regarding the effects of climate change and emission violations. I will continue to receive and review updates regarding this issue that threatens not only our communities, but the nation and the world.

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: Economic interests involve employment and economic development. Many discuss jobs and job creation; one of my platforms is the discussion of Careers! I believe this is the mechanism to support economic growth, sustainability, and quality of life. Careers are an avenue for people to not only have a job, but also to become entrepreneurs, creating jobs and incorporating a sustainable quality of life, community and economic growth and development. Revenue is sustained longer within the community. Environmental concerns are paralleling factors when discussing economic development and growth. Elected officials, communities and developers must be cognizant to factors of growth and development, preserving historical landmarks, and the demolition of older buildings which may have substances such as asbestos and other airborne toxicants which are harmful to the environment. These issues must always be taken into consideration and during my tenure in office, I will be cognizant of such factors.

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) Control Emissions from Industrial Sources - Work with other local, state, and federal legislatures regarding emission controls and regulations to regulate air polluting plants such as the Marathon Plant located in Southwest Detroit. (2) Control Emissions from Vehicles and Heavy Equipment - Green Detroit and Southeast Michigan have a highly automotive commuter and industrial base area. I will work with federal and state legislatures to assist automobile and industrial base companies in controlling emissions in their various entities to control emissions without affecting daily operations. (3) Increase Air Quality Monitoring-I pledge to continue to review information which will allow me to understand factors and sources that impact air pollution. (4) Install Filters to Protect Residents - Research measure and equipment which will assist our residents, schools, and buildings with filtering mechanisms to protect indoor and outdoor air pollutants.

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: As President of my Community Association, I advise and educate residents on the importance of recycling options; and during my tenure as an elected official I will utilize additional resources to ensure these measures are continuously addressed and continue to reach out and provide broader education to a larger mass of residents.

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

A: This I admit is a very challenging and complicated process with the number of industrial and commercial industries in this region, but there are means to ensure increase diversions of waste through current and newly developed programs for recycling, renewable and reusable programs similar to local residential levels, but catered toward industrial and commercial endeavors. Such programs will not only increase waste diversion, but also provide opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship. Quality of life endeavors are one of the responsibilities of an elected official — enhancing humanity and commerce to better the lives for all. During my tenure I will be committed to ensure the measures are considered, addressed and adhered to.

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: Work with the Mayor for affordable housing and home ownership. Support developmental initiatives that will not only support our communities, but also make Detroit and Michigan a

global model involving technology and industries like agriculture and energy sources like solar power for the world to look towards when researching and monitoring quality of life improvement. Provide local career opportunities.

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: Fresh fruits and produce are key for healthier living and quality of life. I have encountered many who are becoming interested in farm and agricultural growth. In my roles, I will review the zone codes of Detroit, to assure and assist individuals with agricultural interest with obtaining land to assist their endeavors and provide healthier food products for a healthier community and society.

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: (1) Reduce Negative Impacts- With more commercial industries escalating, I will work towards measures and with industries that are developing and creating ideas that will capture water runoff

entering into our sewage systems causing pollutants to the rivers and lakes. (2) Encourage Sustainable Development Practices- As indicated in the above response I will work with industries, review and study what other cities and states practices are in the use of materials, recyclable measures, efficient appliance, and electrical use in preserving energy. I am also a believer that FRACKING is an issue with regard to water misuse and environmental disruption. These measures will also involve a collaborative effort among other municipal, state and federal legislatures to identify and assist with this process. I am committed to working with other legislatures, groups and organizations for a better environment and a productive, clean water agenda in Detroit.

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: Provide Recommendations for Water- Through continued research, determine and decide measures on various perspectives and educational programs which will assist in the needs for stormwater management. During my term in office, I will continue my research, seek the advice of experts to become more educated in stormwater infrastructure efficiency, pass along such information and knowledge to residents, consumers, schools, buildings of worship, and other building structures where stormwater management can be applied.