# DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA QUESTIONNAIRE MAYORAL CANDIDATES



# 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

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.

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!

