



Connect with your Neighbors.....Change the World

2023 Council At-Large Questionnaire

Prepared by: _____ Email: _____

Campaign Manager: _____ Phone/Email: _____

Committee Name: _____

Campaign Address: _____

Campaign Email: _____ Website: _____

CANDIDATE CERTIFICATION

Candidate Name

I have read the attached questionnaire responses and certify that the information provided is accurate and the opinions stated accurately reflect my own positions.

Candidate Signature:

Date:

Please complete, sign and return this form via email in Word format to: info@phillynn.org and Gloria Gilman gmgilman@gmail.com. Also mail a copy with the signature page to

**Gloria Gilman
121 S. Broad St., Suite 1710
Philadelphia, PA 19107**

I. INTRODUCTION

Although many of the questions in Section III below call for a simple yes or no answer, please feel free to provide an explanation for any of your choices. If you have not yet come to a final decision, or don't currently have enough information to provide an informed answer, please so state.

II. BACKGROUND

1. What, if any, elected or appointed government office(s) have you held?

2. With respect to your other qualifications for the office of At-Large Council member:
 - a. What community or policy issues have you worked on, and in what capacity? (Please provide the names of two or three individuals who can provide information about your previous work.)

c. What other endorsements have you received?

d. How do you plan to win?

e. How much money have you raised? How much do you expect to raise?

3. What three things would you most want to accomplish if elected?

III. ISSUES

A. Economic Development

What do you see as the current economic picture of Philadelphia and what would you do to make economic development more just, fair, and equitable for all Philadelphians?

Would you back legislation to:

1. Impose an impact fee on businesses failing to pay workers \$15/hr to reimburse the City for the costs of relieving poverty?
2. Take \$200 million of City pension funds now invested in risky securities to invest in neighborhood economic development projects, through a public bank or otherwise?
3. Create a program to provide technical assistance and start-up funding for cooperative, worker-owned businesses and housing?
4. Take whatever steps are needed to create and fund a Bank of Philadelphia to hold all City deposits and invest them locally?
5. Create a system of participatory budgeting that would allow City residents to control allocation of all or a portion of the funds allocated in the City budget?

B. Education

What are the root causes for the current state of Philadelphia Public Schools and what would you do to address these issues?

Specifically, would you back legislation to:

1. Regulate charter schools by making their budgetary practices transparent, ridding them of conflicts of interest, and stopping them from cherry-picking their student bodies? Would you be willing to attach that plan to a budget rider?
2. Make the School Board an elective office, or otherwise deepen community participation in School Board appointments?

3. Compute the cost/benefit ratio for the School District of all proposed KOZ zones before they're approved by Council?
4. Increase direct City funding for the School District? If so, please explain.

C. Criminal Justice

What do you see as the current state of the Criminal Justice System in Philadelphia and what would you do to address any perceived problems/issues?

Would you back legislation to:

1. Fully end the stop and frisk program?
2. Change the Charter to create an oversight board to keep a check on Philadelphia prison conditions?
3. Increase post-release counseling for jobs, housing and other support services?
4. Bar employers from denying jobs to ex-offenders without a specific job-related basis?

D. The Role of Community in the Economic and Political Systems in Philly

What do you see as the role of the community in our political and economic systems and what would you do to make it more fair, just, and equitable for all Philadelphians?

Would you back legislation to:

1. Bar or limit privatization of City property and work done by City employees? More specifically are there any circumstances under which you would sell PGW?
2. Move Pension Fund investment decisions in-house?
3. Reform PIDC, the City's main economic development funding agency, so that its Board has a majority of public and community members, rather than Chamber of Commerce appointed members?
4. Require the City to withdraw subsidies from corporations that fail to provide jobs or other benefits to City residents?
5. Publicly finance City elections?

E. Housing

What are the root causes of the current Housing Crisis in Philadelphia and how would you address these issues?

Would you back legislation to:

1. Create a rent stabilization program?
2. End, limit or curtail Councilmanic prerogative over land disposition?

3. Create or support more affordable housing, both rental and home ownership? Please specify.
4. What would you do to curtail or limit the effects of gentrification in our neighborhoods that is displacing long term and low-income residents?

F. Environmental Justice

What are the major Environmental issues in Philadelphia and what would you do to address them?

Please answer the following specific questions:

1. Would you use the City's power of the purse to prevent SEPTA from continuing to build and use natural-gas fueled power plants in the City?
2. What will you do to support and promote the use of solar and other renewable energy sources in the City?
3. Do you support a plan for City government or the entire City to be fossil-free by a particular date? If so, how would you accomplish that goal?

G. Health Care

What can the City do to provide and support adequate and affordable health care for its residents?

Specially answer the following question:

1. Would you support the construction of a City-owned Northeast Health Center?

H. Taxes

What is your plan for a fair, just and equitable taxing structure for the City of Philadelphia, addressing specifically your position on real estate, corporate, and individual taxing rates?

Specifically answer the following:

1. Would you increase taxes if the programs you wish to fund cannot otherwise be paid for?
2. Which taxes would you propose raising?

I. General Statement

Use this space to provide any further information that you would like us to consider about your candidacy, not covered by the questions above.