

WARD Candidates

How will you represent the variety of residents in your ward and make sure everyone's concerns are heard? (ie, families, students, young professionals, renters, landlords, homeowners, etc). WARD 2

There is a belief that the city council has recently acted as a rubber stamp to the agenda of the mayor and city administrator. What do you believe the balance of power should be between the city council and the mayor's office and which entity should be guiding the council's meeting agenda? WARD 1

Prior to 2021, in what ways have you involved yourself and become active in the Urbana City government? WARD 2

There have been many citizens vocalizing significant concerns and asking for change at council meetings for many months now. What two local issues are of the highest concern to you in the upcoming year? WARD 1

What, if anything, would you do to improve transparency and the hurdles to requests for public records from the city?

What are your thoughts on how to make neighborhoods safe?

Many residents of ward 1 are very informed about sustainable, appropriate preservation and redevelopment that is compatible with the older homes in the neighborhood. How can the neighbors be more involved in the process of attracting and approving contextually appropriate preservation and development?

During the Urbana City as a Whole Committee meeting recently, there was a discussion regarding what qualifications a citizen has to have to be appointed to a board or commission. What qualifications did you have before you first held (was elected to) a public office?

The City of Urbana has recently lost one Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit, and is facing Open Meeting Act and FOIA lawsuits. How do you feel about the City's actions that have resulted in these lawsuits and how can these types of lawsuits be avoided in the future?

Mayor Marlin has spoken recently about the difficulties filling board and commission seats. Are there any problems with the way board and commission seats are currently being filled and how do you think the process can be improved?

What is your motivation for running for this position? What past experiences have helped prepare you for this responsibility?

Why have you decided to run as an alderman, have you ran for a previous political position?

How do you feel regarding the current events occurring at our capitol? Do you feel it will have an effect on our local government?

What are some of your priorities with helping to implement change in Urbana?

Do you support defunding the police. Not simply reducing its budget.

How do you feel about money in local politics?

How have you been involved with city of Urbana politics in the past, either formally or informally (attending/speaking out at meetings)? Ward 5

1. Why Is Urbana important to you? How will ward 7 and the city as a whole be made better from your survey on city council?
2. What unaddressed issues in Ward 7 are priorities for you and the community as a whole?
3. What do you think will be your biggest challenge if you are elected to represent Ward 7?

4. Like most cities in the US, Urbana is facing serious financial issues. What kind of unpleasant decisions will you have to make in the next several years as council member?
5. How does the city define problem properties and what does the city do to deal with them? Are there any properties designated “problem properties” in Ward 7? How can problem landlords be held accountable?
6. How will you help to make Ward 7 (and all of Urbana) safe and affordable for long-term renters?
7. Ward 7 is really two different micro-societies: one, middle income groups living in single family homes, the other a lower socio-economic population living in multiple-unit apartments. Do you feel it is important to communicate with your constituents and, if so, how will you do it?
8. Ward 7 Has diverse neighborhoods. How do you handle competing interests? What about conflicting interests? How will you prioritize the needs of individual neighbors with that of the ward in the city?