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# 2019 Council Questionnaire – Incumbent

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Manager: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

## CANDIDATE CERTIFICATION

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Office Sought \_\_\_\_\_

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:**

**[gmgilman@igc.org](mailto:gmgilman@igc.org) and mail a copy with the signature page to**

**Gloria Gilman**

**121 S Broad St, Suite 1720**

**Philadelphia, PA 19107**

### BACKGROUND

1. What, if any, elected or appointed government office(s) have you held, in addition to Council member?
2. What do you consider your three greatest achievements while serving in Council?
3. Background and viability questions:
  - a. What other endorsements have you received?
  - b. How do you plan to win?

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

4. What three things would you most want to accomplish if elected to another term?

## **ISSUES**

Although many of the questions 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, please state which way you are leaning and what additional information you would need before deciding, if any.

### **I. Economic Development**

Would you:

1. Raise the City minimum wage to \$15 an hour, either directly or by imposing an impact fee on businesses paying less than \$15?
2. Take \$200 million of City pension funds now invested in the stock market to invest in neighborhood economic development projects?
3. Require City-funded or tax-abated projects to employ a high percentage of City resident workers, especially low and moderate income city residents?
4. Create a program to provide technical assistance and start-up funding for cooperative, worker-owned businesses?
5. 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?
6. Require the City to withdraw subsidies from corporations that fail to provide jobs or other benefits to City residents?
7. 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?
8. Sponsor and sign legislation to create a Philadelphia Public Bank?

### **II. Taxation**

Would you:

1. Increase taxes to support City and/or School District services, and if so, which ones?
2. Reduce taxes as an economic development strategy, and, if so, which ones?
3. Support the Soda Tax? Please explain your answer.
4. Support the 10-year Tax Abatement Program for new development as it currently exists? If not, what specific changes would you make?

5. Bring suit to challenge the nonprofit status of the University of PA and other huge non-profits if they don't agree to make payments in lieu of taxes to the City?

### **III. Education**

Would you:

1. Enact a plan that would help regulate charter schools by making their budgetary practices transparent, ridding them of conflicts of interest, and stopping them from cherry-picking their student bodies? If so, what would that plan look like?
2. Provide universal pre-k to all 3 and 4 year olds in the City?
3. Compute the cost/benefit ratio for the School District of all proposed KOZ zones before they're approved by Council?
4. Develop a plan to deal with the bankruptcy facing the School District due to the growth in the number of charter schools in the City, all of whose expenses must by law be paid by the District? Please explain.

### **IV. Criminal Justice**

Would you:

1. Grant the civilian police review board subpoena power with the ability to suspend or fire police officers found to engage in misconduct?
2. Use savings from closing the House of Corrections to invest in job training programs and opportunities for formerly incarcerated people, in an effort to combat mass incarceration?
3. Bar employers from denying jobs to ex-offenders without a specific job-related basis?
4. End the stop and frisk program?

### **V. Housing**

1. Do you think Philadelphia is facing a housing crisis? If so, why? If not, why not? What changes would you make to bring housing policy more in line with your vision?

2. Would you:

- a. Enact a rent stabilization program?
- b. Enact inclusionary zoning requirements to compel inclusion of affordable units in all market rate developments?
- c. Support a dedicated fund to provide technical assistance and start up funding for land trusts and housing co-ops?
- d. End, limit or curtail Councilmanic prerogative over land disposition?

- e. Require the land bank to prioritize the disposition of properties for low-income and cooperatively owned developments?

## **VI. Climate Justice**

1. What, if anything, can the city do to address the fundamental factors driving climate change?
2. Do you support a Green New Deal for Philadelphia and, if so, what does that mean to you and what will you do if elected to City Council to implement it?
3. What is your position on the proposal to build a new Liquefied Natural Gas Plant in Southwest Philadelphia?

## **VII. Money In Politics**

In light of the recent indictments involving elected officials, what is your position on:

- a. Accepting gifts or services
- b. Accepting donations from corporate PACs that do work for the city
- c. Public financing of city elections

## **VIII. 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.