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Please complete, sign and return this form via email in Word format to: shapsj@comcast.net and mail a copy with the signature page to

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INTRODUCTION

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.

BACKGROUND

- 1. What, if any, elected or appointed government office(s) have you held? I have not held a position in a government office
- 2. Background and viability questions:
- 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.)

I started the non profit PMA Bike Ride and organize events and volunteers to feed people in need across the city. Going directly to where the hungry are, like Kensington, Suburban Station, under the convention center, and many other places as well. I also give my time attending events with Tenants Union, Bicycle Coalition, and other groups. I have also attended council meetings every week since I announced my candidacy. I have been to Harrisburg three times since i announced my run for council. The first time was lobbying for governor wolf to shut down berks detention center. The second time I biked there with my dogs for a protected bike lane bill lobbying with bicycle coalition. The third time I went there with March on Harrisburg to looby for a ban on bribes bill. I'm planning to join Power soon lobbying for fair funding for schools. Planning to go with Philly Thrive for green new deal initiatives and also planning to join bicycle coalition again soon.

b. What about your background or experience do you think most qualifies you to be elected? Please attach a brief bio.

My background is years of activism fighting for working class struggling people. I started Pma Bike Ride three years ago 'feeding thousands of hungry people in philadelphia. When I see a problem I act loudly, my strong passion for creating change shows.

c. What other endorsements have you received?

Tim from Our Revolution, Toby Morse from h20 many groups have said likely closer to the general election.

d. How do you plan to win?

I plan to win by listening to the community and showing them how hard im fighting for them. I plan to win by using a lot of gorilla advertising.

I plan to win by directly influencing independents to come to the polls and by influencing democrats to vote for at least 1 independent to spoil the republicans in the race.

- e. How much money have you raised? How much do you expect to raise?
- I have raised \$4000 and plan to raise at least another \$20000
- 3. What three things would you most want to accomplish if elected?

End Stop and Frisk, More public restrooms, and increased funding for vision zero.

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.

II. 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?
- Yes, I want to raise the wage to \$15 an hour directly. Instead of fining people I think we should tax incentives business that want to pay living wages but struggle to do so. Something that i would like to do for public bathrooms, wich DC passed last year.
- 2. Take \$200 million of City pension funds now invested in the stock market to invest in neighborhood economic development projects?

That is a great idea, we should be investing in our communities.

- 3. Require City-funded or tax-abated projects to employ a high percentage of City resident workers, especially low and moderate income City residents?
- Yes, we should not be providing tax breaks to people unless the programs are directly making a positive impact on our residents. We cannot fiscally afford to just throw money away to developers when there will be no economic benefit for those who are in need of it.
- 4. Create a program to provide technical assistance and start-up funding for cooperative, worker-owned businesses?
- Yes, I will sponsor a program to provide these types of businesses technical and financial assistance. Worker owned businesses often spend their money in the local economy. It wouldn't just assist their workers, but also help the rest of the city flourish too.
- 5. Increase taxes to support City and/or School District services, and if so, which ones? Yes. I will sponsor a bill to end the real estate tax abatement and put the money directly back into the School District of Philadelphia. I will also create a plan to implement a more progressive

tax system, increasing taxes on high income citizens and multi-property owners. This funding will go towards repairing our cities roads, and to the school district of Philadelphia.

- 6. Reduce taxes as an economic development strategy, and, if so, which ones? Yes. I want to decrease the personal income tax on low income citizens. Low income citizens spend almost all of their money in the local economy which will go right back to the city. Giving them more spending power will boost spending for most of the population.
- 7. Sponsor and sign legislation to create a Philadelphia Public Bank? Yes. I am strongly for a public bank, I believe it will be impossible to have a green new deal without a public bank.

III. Education High school graduate Would you:

- 1. 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? Yes. I have been advocating for Penn to pay pilots, I was at a protest about this in the cold rain months ago.
- 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 cherrypicking their student bodies? If so, what would that plan look like? Absolutely. The plan is to sponsor a bill requiring all spending and funding by charter schools be available to the public. I also would like to research a bill placing a hard salary capacity a charter school may pay administration. Often charter schools have too much flexibility in their budgeting, allowing school administrators to abuse the system while their students suffer. A great example is the case that happened with PA Cyber and their CEO Dr. Nick Trombetta who siphoned \$8 million from the school to pay for personal luxuries including housing and a plane. I have a friend who teaches first grade at a charter school in West Philadelphia, but isn't certified in early childhood education. He is certified in secondary music education. He is teaching 1st grade because the school didn't hire enough early childhood teachers. I want to sponsor a bill increasing the education standards starting at making sure the proper teachers are teaching our kids, making sure our children don't have to change schools by the end of the year because of the schools bankruptcy, to making sure that administrators aren't using public funding for personal use with better transparency practices.
- 3. Provide universal pre-k to all 3 and 4 year olds in the City? Yes and I will pay for it by ending the real estate tax abatement. Children who attend pre-k are better prepared for grade school and have lower dropout rates.
- 4. Compute the cost/benefit ratio for the School District of all proposed KOZ zones before they're approved by Council? Yes.
- 5. 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.

I would like to require that all charter schools budgeting be approved by the School District of Philadelphia and city council. Elected officials have a duty to make sure that our children are being properly educated.

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?

Yes. We need to hold our police much more accountable.

- 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? Yes. Definitely we should be rehabilitated people, we need to end the pipelines to prison.
- 3. Bar employers from denying jobs to ex-offenders without a specific job-related basis? Yes.
- 4. End the stop and frisk program?

Yes. This is something im strongly in favor of and im sure its known.

V. Reducing Corporate Power Over Our Politics and Economy

Yes. Real estate developers and comcast have too much control over our ordinances. Would you:

- 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? I will bar the privatization of city property. There are no circumstances that we should sell PGW. I will do everything in my power to ensure our resources are used for helping our citizens who need them most. That includes preventing city property from getting into the hands of corporations.
- 2. Move Pension Fund investment decisions in-house? Yes.
- 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?

Yes.

4. Require the City to withdraw subsidies from corporations that fail to provide jobs or other benefits to City residents?

Yes. There should be quotas placed for job growth/benefits to earn a subsidy. I will do everything in my power to do that.

5. Publicly finance City elections?

Yes, I want a true democracy.

VI. 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?

Philadelphia is facing more of a eviction, gentrification crisis. We have thousands of abandoned building that should be fixed and given to street citizens. We need rent control in philadelphia and right to counsel.

- 2. Would you:
- a. Enact a rent stabilization program?Yes.
- b. Enact inclusionary zoning requirements to compel inclusion of affordable units in all market rate developments?

Yes including a price ceiling based on the average wage of that community to make sure that the affordable housing stays affordable.

c. Support a dedicated fund to provide technical assistance and start up funding for land trusts and housing co-ops?

Yes.

- d. End, limit or curtail Councilmanic prerogative over land disposition? I will limit Councilmanic prerogative so that public property can only be used for public use and provide the rest of council the right to veto any use of councilmanic prerogative with a majority vote.
- e. Require the land bank to prioritize the disposition of properties for low-income and cooperatively owned developments?

Yes.

VII. Climate Justice

- 1. What is your position on the proposal to build a new Liquified Natural Gas Plant in Southwest Philadelphia?
- I am against the proposal. We need to choose renewable energy resources and jobs over fossil fuels. I spoke out against this in a recent council meeting and I was at a protest yesterday about the gas plants. Also I plan to join Philly Thrive in Harrisburg soon.
- 2. What is the fundamental factor causing climate change? How should we address it? 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?

Humans are the dominant cause of climate change since at least the early 20th century. I support a Green New Deal. The city needs to address it by continuing to make our city 100% clean and renewable energy. We can also make a big impact by opening a recycling plant in the city limits. The majority of our recycling is being incinerated in Chester. We need to open a plant and subsidize manufacturers who use these recycled materials. I also think we can make an impact on our waterways by placing trash cans and recycle bins in non touristy neighborhoods and designing more street cleaning programs. Once you leave center city, trash is everywhere. This trash ends up in our waterways, increasing the salinity of our oceans, and affecting microorganisms that consume CO2. I want to build more protected bike lanes. Create more initiatives to improve and expand SEPTA and NJ transit access to our city and different neighborhoods. I ride my bike everywhere, including very recently to Harrisburg and I do everything in my ability to live a clean and green life. I am also one of the only candidates to sign the pledge to take no oil donations and no big corp funding. I believe every council member should sign the pledge to take no oil donations and do no new oil deals. How can we say we want to go green when we are doing new oil contracts?!