



Candidate Questionnaire

Why are you running for election?

I am running for City Council because I care deeply about the future of Lexington and the community my family has called home for nearly 20 years. I have watched District 6 grow from a largely undeveloped area into one of the fastest-growing parts of the city. That growth has brought opportunities, but it has also raised important concerns about traffic, public safety, infrastructure, housing, flooding, and preserving the character of our neighborhoods.

Throughout my career in communications, public service, and nonprofit leadership, I have worked to bring people together, listen to different perspectives, and help solve complex problems. I believe local government works best when residents are informed, engaged, and have a voice in the decisions that affect their daily lives.

I am running because I want to help ensure Lexington grows responsibly, that infrastructure and public services keep pace with development, and that we continue to invest in the things that make our community a great place to live, work, and raise a family. Most importantly, I want residents of District 6 to know they have a council member who listens, communicates openly, and works collaboratively to address the challenges and opportunities facing our city. What are your three most important issues?

First is public safety. Nothing is more important than ensuring residents feel safe in their homes, neighborhoods, parks, and businesses. Public safety starts with supporting our police officers, firefighters, and emergency responders, while making sure they have the staffing, equipment, and resources needed to serve a growing city. It also means addressing traffic safety, improving pedestrian infrastructure, and working with neighborhoods to identify and respond to community concerns.

Public safety is also connected to some of the broader challenges facing our community, including homelessness, mental health, and substance use disorders. We need approaches that protect neighborhoods while also recognizing the dignity of individuals who are struggling.

That means supporting partnerships among first responders, mental health professionals, service providers, and community organizations to connect people with the help they need while maintaining safe public spaces for everyone.

I believe we can improve public safety by combining strong emergency services with practical, compassionate solutions that address the root causes of many challenges facing our community.

Second is smart, sustainable growth. District 6 is experiencing significant growth, and we need to make sure infrastructure keeps pace. We cannot continue adding new housing, commercial development, and expanded service areas without considering the impact on roads, traffic, schools, utilities, stormwater management, and public safety services. I support responsible growth that protects neighborhoods, preserves green space, and ensures development contributes to the infrastructure and services our community needs.

Third is quality, affordable housing. Lexington needs housing options for people at every stage of life and income level. That includes workforce housing for teachers, firefighters, nurses, and young professionals, as well as opportunities for seniors and families who want to remain in the communities they call home. My goal is to support housing solutions that increase affordability while maintaining quality, strengthening neighborhoods, and protecting residents from being priced out of Lexington.

Together, these priorities are about protecting our quality of life while ensuring Lexington remains a safe, vibrant, and affordable place to live, work, and raise a family.

Concerning public safety, what are your most important issues?

When I talk with residents across District 6, some of the most common concerns I hear are speeding through neighborhoods, aggressive driving, pedestrian safety, and the growing use of motorized scooters on roads and sidewalks. Nothing is more important than ensuring residents feel safe in their homes, neighborhoods, parks, and businesses.

For me, public safety includes making investments in the infrastructure that helps prevent accidents before they happen. That means better sidewalks, safer crosswalks, improved bicycle and pedestrian connections, traffic calming measures where appropriate, and thoughtful planning that protects both drivers and those who walk, bike, or use mobility devices.

Public safety also means supporting our police officers, firefighters, and emergency responders and ensuring they have the staffing, equipment, and resources needed to serve a growing city. As Lexington continues to grow, we must make sure public safety services keep pace with that growth.

I also believe public safety is connected to challenges such as homelessness, mental health, and substance use disorders. Residents deserve safe neighborhoods, and individuals facing

these challenges deserve access to services and support. Addressing these issues requires collaboration between public safety agencies, mental health professionals, service providers, and community organizations. By combining strong public safety services with practical, compassionate solutions, we can create a safer and healthier community for everyone.

What is your experience with organized labor?

My experience with organized labor is not as a union member. But I am someone who recognizes that many of the workplace protections and benefits I have were secured through the efforts of organized labor. I understand that fair wages, safe working conditions, benefits, and workplace protections did not happen by accident. So, I have consistently supported candidates and policies that respect workers and their right to organize. I believe organized labor plays an important role in giving working people a voice and helping build stronger communities and a stronger middle class.

Will you support collective bargaining for firefighters?

Yes I do. Firefighters show up for our community on some of our worst days. They put themselves in harm's way to keep the rest of us safe. In Lexington, the Fire Department responded to more than 70,000 calls for service in 2024, averaging about 200 calls every day.

I believe firefighters deserve a voice in decisions that affect their pay, benefits, working conditions, and safety. Collective bargaining provides a fair way for firefighters and local government to work through issues together. I support firefighters because I support employees and I want to make sure we can recruit and retain the dedicated professionals we need. As Lexington continues to grow, it is critical that we maintain and support the Lexington Fire Department to keep communities safe.

Do you support fully staffing your fire department?

Yes, I support fully staffing the Lexington Fire Department. Our firefighters respond to more than 70,000 calls a year and play a critical role in keeping our community safe.

And, I also believe staffing decisions should be guided by data and the expertise of Fire Department leadership. If there are documented staffing shortages that affect response times, firefighter safety, or service to residents, I would support addressing those needs as part of the budget process. As for cost, I would want to review the department's current staffing levels, vacancies, anticipated retirements, and budget projections before committing to a specific number. The recently approved budget includes funding for fire recruit classes and significant public safety investments. Any proposal for additional staffing should come with a clear understanding of both the costs and long-term financial impact.

Would you be committed to growing the fire department's response capability to catch up to, and keep up with, the growth of Lexington-Fayette County?

Yes. I am committed to ensuring that the Lexington Fire Department has the personnel,

equipment, and facilities needed to keep pace with Lexington's growth. Our investment in public safety must grow as Lexington continues to grow.

This is one reason I have consistently emphasized responsible and sustainable growth. We cannot continue expanding the Urban Service Boundary, approving new housing developments, and adding commercial corridors without also accounting for the cost of the services those developments require, including fire protection, emergency medical response, roads, utilities, and schools.

I believe staffing and facility decisions should be guided by the Lexington Fire Department's operational data, strategic planning, and response-time standards. If those analyses show that additional firefighters, equipment, or stations are needed to maintain service levels and public safety, I would support making those investments. Growth should pay for growth, and residents should be confident that public safety infrastructure keeps pace with development.

Do you support fully funding pensions?

I support honoring the pension commitments that have been made to firefighters and other public employees. When men and women dedicate their careers to public service, they deserve confidence that the retirement benefits they have earned will be there when they retire.

I believe the city should continue meeting its pension obligations and making responsible financial decisions that keep the system strong for current and future retirees. As a council member, I would support efforts that protect the retirement security of our firefighters while maintaining the city's overall financial stability.

Compare/Contrast yourself with your opponent(s).

Elections are an opportunity for voters to learn about the candidates and decide whose approach best reflects their values and priorities. Rather than focusing on differences with my opponent, I have focused on introducing myself to voters, sharing my positions, and being accessible and transparent throughout this campaign.

From the beginning, I launched a website and social media platforms so neighbors could learn about me, understand the issues that matter most to me, and stay connected throughout the campaign. More importantly, I see these tools as the foundation for how I would serve if elected. I want neighbors to know what is happening in the 6th District and City Council in general, understand how decisions are made, and feel comfortable reaching out with their questions, concerns, and ideas.

My experience is rooted in a career in communications, including nonprofit leadership, government, and higher education. Throughout my career, I have learned the importance of listening first, sharing information openly, building partnerships, finding common ground, and bringing people together to solve problems. Those are the same values I would bring to the

City Council including transparency, collaboration, responsiveness, and a commitment to serving the people of the 6th District.

Describe your campaign plan.

Our campaign is focused on direct voter engagement, community visibility, and consistent communication. We are maintaining an active website that outlines my background, priorities, and positions on key issues, while also using social media to engage voters and share timely information about the campaign. We are attending neighborhood association meetings, community volunteer opportunities, and other local gatherings to listen to residents and discuss the issues that matter most to District 6.

Residents will have opportunities to demonstrate their support through yard signs and other visible campaign activities throughout the district. Volunteers and supporters will also play an important role in voter outreach, community engagement, and get-out-the-vote efforts. Our goal is to run a grassroots, community-centered campaign that emphasizes accessibility, transparency, and meaningful engagement with voters.