
Page 1: Government Affairs Committee - Candidate Selection Survey

Q1

Full Name

LaTrisha Vetaw

Q2

Preferred phone number

8026983454

Q3

Preferred email address

latrisha@latrishafoward4.org

Q4

Office Sought

Ward 4 City Council

Q5

Town of Residence

Minneapolis

Q6

How long have you lived in your community?

I have lived in Minneapolis for over 35 years.

Q7

Are you a Homeowner or Renter?

I am a homeowner.

Q8

Do you own other real property (e.g. Business, Cabin, Investment, or Rental Property)? If so, which?

I do not own any other real property.

Q9

Describe your civic and/or community engagement.

I am very engaged in my community and I am very accessible to my community. I meet with community members every day and respond to emails and calls every day. Constituent services is my priority as a Council Member and it is what takes up the majority of my day. I take it very seriously and am proud of the trust I have been able to build with Ward 4 residents.

Q12

Please list any notable supporters or groups of supporters for your campaign

To date, I have been endorsed by the following organizations:

Minneapolis DFL

Women Winning

Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation, AFL-CIO

LiUNA! Minnesota & North Dakota

AFSCME Council 5

DFL Senior Caucus

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 292

Minneapolis Firefighters Local 82

Sprinkler Fitters Local 417

Q13

What are the most important housing challenges facing your community?

The most important housing challenges that my community faces are increasing homeownership costs, the lack of multi-family and senior units, and rental property that is not well-maintained. I have constituents that are struggling to afford their homes and are afraid of getting priced out. I have constituents that are aging and would like to stay in the ward but are unable to because of the lack of senior housing in the ward. I have people that would like to move into the ward but do not because of the lack of multi-unit housing. And I have constituents that are struggling with their rental properties not being well-maintained.

Q14

The Twin Cities Metro is facing a housing shortage unlike any we have experienced in recent history. What will you do to increase the number of homes available to residents of your community?

I support creating more opportunities for the City to provide assistance to those looking to develop new housing in Minneapolis. This could mean providing financial assistance to new developments and/or selling city-owned vacant lots at a reduced price to developers. Another solution may be to change zoning laws, so that it is easier to develop more homes. I am interested in partnering with experts in the area like Minneapolis Area Realtors to find more solutions.

Q15

Minnesota has one of the largest homeownership gaps between Whites and Blacks, Indigenous, and People of Color. This is one of MAR's primary concerns. What would you propose at the local level to close this home ownership gap?

I am a supporter of programs that provide assistance to people of color looking to buy a home. This could mean expanding down payment and closing cost assistance, homebuyer education, more opportunities for contract for deed models, and loans. I am not an expert in this area, so I would look to partners like Minneapolis Area Realtors to help guide me in this area.

Q16

How do you think the city can best balance the rights of tenants and property owners to effectively manage rental housing?

I support a balanced approach here. For example, I do not support rent control in any form or fashion. However, I do feel that it is important to hold landlords accountable. Properties need to be well-maintained. Poorly maintained rental properties is the number one thing I get calls about. I get calls from both renters and neighbors. My first step is to reach out to the landlord directly to discuss my expectations and to give the landlord a chance to remedy the situation. There is space for both the rights of tenants and property owners in every situation.

Q17

What are your views on property tax rates in your community? Do you have concerns related to the city's property tax rate? If so, how would you address those concerns once elected?

I am very concerned about the property tax rates in my community. I have many people that call my office, especially seniors and others who are on a fixed income, expressing their concern over being able to afford their home with increases to property taxes. I have been an advocate for increasing property taxes as little as possible or not at all. I support sourcing other funding streams outside of property tax increases, so the burden of city programs and services don't fall on those that can barely afford to stay in their home. I am also a supporter of programs that provide financial assistance to those struggling to afford their property tax.

Q18

Please provide links to all social media accounts connected to you or your campaign if any.

FB: @latrishafoward4
