

QUESTION #1 - GENERAL BELIEF When you hear the term “SUSTAINABILITY,” what does it mean to you? How would you implement sustainable measures in your jurisdiction?

Sustainability means making choices today that don't harm the ability of future generations to meet their needs. To do this in our community, we'd focus on using resources wisely, reducing waste, and protecting the environment. This includes using clean energy, saving water, and promoting eco-friendly practices in businesses and neighborhoods.

QUESTION #2 - LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT In a 2022 study funded by the City of Covington, the consulting firm Urban3 performed an "Economic MRI" of the city's tax revenues and cost of services to determine which types of development produce a positive cash flow for the city, vs. those costing more to service than the revenues generated. They found the best economic performance in areas with multi-story, more compact, mixed-use development. However, city residents often raise concerns about the impacts of density. As an elected official, what would be your philosophy for balancing those interests/perspectives in your municipality?

My approach as a newly elected official would be to prioritize strategic and sustainable development that boosts our local economy while addressing environmental concerns by supporting mix-use development plans for Porterdale. Also, I would engage with residents to hear their feedback and opinion of how mix-use developments can align with our values while preserving Porterdale's unique character.

QUESTION #3 - SOLID WASTE Businesses and educational institutions in our community are implementing "Zero Waste" programs to dramatically reduce the volume of waste reaching the landfill from their operations. What investments, if any, would you support your government making to pursue similar objectives?

As a newly elected official, I recognize the importance of environmental sustainability, including the goal of not wasting water. I would support investments in initiatives that promote waste reduction. I would look into funding for recycling infrastructure, education and outreach programs, and incentives for businesses and institutions to adopt sustainable practices. These investments can have long-term benefits for our community by reducing waste disposal costs, conserving resources, and minimizing our environmental footprint.

QUESTION #4 - CLEAN ENERGY In our area, the governments of Athens-Clarke County, Atlanta, Augusta, Clarkston, DeKalb County, Decatur, Savannah, and Winterville have all set clean energy targets for 2050 or earlier. Would you be willing to propose/support clean energy targets in your jurisdiction?

Absolutely, I would be willing to propose and support clean energy targets in our jurisdiction. By setting clean energy targets, we can reduce our carbon footprint, improve air quality, create green jobs, and enhance the overall quality of life for our residents. I believe it's our responsibility as elected officials to prioritize clean energy initiatives that benefit both the environment and our community's well-being.

QUESTION #5 – CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION The state of Georgia and the Atlanta Regional Commission have received EPA grants for \$3 million and \$1 million, respectively, to develop collaborating climate pollution reduction plans. These plans will open grant opportunities for municipalities in the 29-county metro Atlanta area to reduce their climate pollution. Drawdown Georgia, a statewide initiative led by researchers from UGA, Georgia Tech and Emory University, identifies 20 Georgia-specific climate solutions that provide a roadmap for reducing climate emissions across the state. What climate pollution reduction actions would you prioritize and seek funding for in your city?

In our city, I would prioritize climate pollution reduction actions that align with the specific needs and resources of our community. I would seek funding to invest in renewable energy sources, establish public transportation with clean emission in mind, promoting energy-efficient building practices, expanding green spaces, and supporting local businesses that prioritize sustainability. The goal would be to create a comprehensive plan that not only reduces climate emissions but also enhances our community's resilience and quality of life.