

## 2022 Primary Election Candidate Questionnaire for Chair and At-Large Race

Dear Candidate,

We ask that you complete our questionnaire so we understand your views on the pressing transportation issues facing DC. Your answers will be given to our membership and shared on social media for strictly education purposes only.

The questions are yes or no as well as questions that require you to elaborate for your response. We ask that you return the questionnaire by COB 4/18. Please email the questionnaire responses to [advocacy@waba.org](mailto:advocacy@waba.org). If you have any questions please email us. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to complete the questionnaire.

WABA **does not endorse** candidates for any political office.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah Lowery  
Advocacy Director  
Washington Area Bicyclist Association

### **Bike Network**

Despite the Mayor's pledge to eliminate all traffic deaths on DC streets, fatalities from car crashes reached its highest levels since 2017, even while other Vision Zero cities are saving dozens of lives every year.

Question: Do you support [DDOT's plan](#) to expand the protected bike lane network by 10 miles every year for the next 3 years?

Yes  No

Question: What will you do to hold DDOT accountable and ensure protected bike lane projects in the District get completed in a timely manner?

As Councilmember, I will make the implementation of DDOT's plan to expand protected bike lanes in the District one of my highest priorities. This project is slated through FY 2024 and will need funding each fiscal year until then. I will prioritize ensuring that the expansion of protected bike lanes is fully funded during every budget cycle. I will also advocate for increased oversight over the progress of protected bike lane construction. When this project ends in FY 2024, I will

advocate for its extension recognizing that there will still be a need for new protected bike lanes after this project is completed.

## Budget

Bike lanes are an incentive for District residents who choose to travel in ways that conserve land, energy, and fuel and they also fight climate change. DDOT's long-range plan envisions miles of protected bicycle lanes – which makes bicycling safer, easier and more popular and also reduces fuel use.

Question: Will you press DDOT to accelerate plans for more protected bike lanes (which may repurpose driving lanes and street parking) and budget adequate money for DDOT to build these bike lanes? Including ensuring DDOT has the staff and resources in the budget to complete the projects at a rapid pace?

Yes  No

Question: What other budgetary biking and transportation items will you fight for and prioritize?

Recognizing that the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists is intertwined, I will fight for raised pedestrian crosswalks. Raised pedestrian crosswalks protect pedestrians by making them more visible to motorists, and they also protect bicyclists by lowering motorist speed. I will also support transportation equity measures that ensure that all DC residents regardless of race, income, gender, zip code, or any other characteristic, can access efficient and affordable transit via bicycles, buses, trains, and walking.

## Trails Network

The Capital Trails Coalition seeks to create a world-class network of multi-use trails that are equitably distributed throughout the Washington DC region. The Coalition is in the process of finding funding to complete 800 miles of planned trails into pavement that people can walk and bike on. Trails are an economic boost for local economies and improve the health and well being of communities, would you support DC, alongside MD and VA, dedicating funding to complete our regional trail network?

Yes  No

Further explain how you would advocate for the completion of the DC's portion of the Trail Network?

Multi-use trails are important components of community development because they provide DC residents with opportunities for exercise, recreation, and spending time in nature. As

Councilmember, I will establish a close relationship with the Capital Trails Coalition to monitor DC's progress on completing its share of the 800 miles of trails slated for the DC, MD, and VA metropolitan area. I will also ensure funding is available in every year's budget to finance the construction of trails. Importantly, my focus will also be on transportation equity and ensuring that trails and bicycles are available and accessible especially to the most disadvantaged residents living in the lowest income neighborhoods in the District.

## **Vision Zero**

Do you support the recent bills before the Transportation Committee, that would ban right turn on reds and permit the so-called Idaho stop?

Yes  No

Vision Zero - is it working and if not, what needs to be done by the District to achieve the goal of zero deaths due to traffic crashes?

As of April 14, 2022, traffic fatalities in the District are up by 8% compared to last year according to the Metropolitan Police Department with fourteen lives already lost in 2022. This is an indication that more needs to be done to achieve the goal of zero deaths due to traffic crashes. For this reason, I support banning right turns on reds and permitting the so-called Idaho stop for bicyclists. The idea that cars should be able to turn right at red lights is outdated in light of new evidence that shows that banning right turns on red reduces traffic fatalities. Similarly, a recent study in Delaware found that allowing bicyclists to use stop signs as yield signs reduced injuries at stop signs by 23%. In order to achieve the goal of zero deaths due to traffic crashes, we need to follow the evidence and rethink our previous conceptions about traffic safety.

## **Transportation Equity Priorities**

If elected or re-elected this year, what policie(s) or legislation will you pursue in your upcoming term to ensure our transportation system is equitably moving forward?

I will support policies and legislative initiatives that advance safety on our roads in an equitable manner. These policies include ensuring that bus and rail networks are fully funded and operating efficiently, completing the National Capital Trail network, and supporting policies like banning right turns on red lights that help move us closer to zero traffic deaths. Guiding my policy agenda on transportation will be my commitment to equity, which means that I will support affordable housing policies that allow residents with lower incomes to remain close to accessible and efficient transportation options. I will stand by the commitment I made by signing the Transportation Equity Pledge.

## **Transportation Equity Pledge**

[Will you sign our transportation equity pledge?](#)

Link to sign: <https://waba.org/blog/2022/01/transportation-equity-pledge-for-2022-candidates/>