

Would you support increasing the number of officers in the Durham Police Department?

No.

I will support increasing the number of officers in the DPD when it's clear that more officers are needed to respond to calls in a timely manner, investigate incidents, or perform other critical functions. As we already have more officers per capita than most cities our size and calls for service are on the decline, I'm hopeful that more officers won't be needed for at least a few more years.

Is the city doing all it can to reduce gun violence?

No.

We could always do more. We should redouble lobbying efforts at the NCGA for authority to enact strong gun laws and implement programs that facilitate intervention in situations that are likely to become violent. Community-based solutions like violence interrupters are effective at stopping cycles of retaliatory violence, preventing harm before it occurs. We should invest more in crime prevention, re-entry services, and meeting residents' basic needs.

Would you support extending the policies of Expanded Housing Choices to other areas of the city beyond the Urban Tier?

Yes.

Many provisions of Expanding Housing Choices already apply beyond the urban tier including the ability to build larger ADU's by right and build denser housing in cluster and conservation subdivision. I believe it would be reasonable to allow smaller homes on smaller lots and duplexes to be built in any residential zoning district in the city.

Are additional revenue measures needed beyond the proposed bond to help the city address affordable housing?

No.

The bond, along with other measures, will be enough funding for the next 5 years. The housing plan also includes federal funding, as well as funds from the dedicated housing fund and general fund. It relies on robust private sector participation through debt financing and tax credits. We need to continue to provide regular city funding and leverage federal and private dollars to address our housing needs.

Do you support additional city funding to reduce evictions?

Yes.

It is incredibly cost-effective to keep people in their homes by providing lawyers to help them fight unfair evictions. I support the current proposal to fund eviction diversion at \$500k a year for the remaining years of the affordable housing plan.

Would you support a tax increase to help Durham fight climate change by reducing the city's carbon footprint?

Yes.

I am hopeful that we will be able to implement climate initiatives with current staff and funding, or invest some of the revenue we will gain through growth into initiatives to reduce our carbon footprint. That said, climate change is an existential threat to all life on the planet and if additional revenue is needed to move us in the right direction, I would support a tax increase for it.

Is the city adequately considering and fostering equity in its decision making?

No.

The city has increased our focus on equity, but we're at the very beginning of a very long process toward actually being an equitable institution. I believe that investments in our Office of Equity and Inclusion and implementing the recommendations of our Race Equity Task Force will help make significant progress toward our goals regarding equity.

Would you support additional revenue measures to help the city build more parks and provide recreational opportunities?

Yes.

At some point in the next few years, I think it would be reasonable to dedicate another ½ penny to the Parks & Recreation Dept. for deferred maintenance on our parks facilities. Adequate social and recreational opportunities are critical for a healthy and involved community and help children and youth develop into engaged and productive citizens. These quality of life efforts can help us all live safer and healthier lives.

Would you support the repeal of the half-cent sales tax for transportation since the Durham-Orange light-rail project was halted?

No.

The transit tax is for the development of a regional transit system, and the light rail was the proposed vehicle for that system. Even without light rail, we still need regional transit. I support dedicating this tax to creating a regional bus system and expanding our local bus system.