

Stop TXDOT I-45 2023 Candidate Questionnaire Responses

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Stop TXDOT I-45 2023 Candidate Questionnaire

In May 2023, we sent out this questionnaire with 5 yes/no questions and 1 open-ended question. The responses are grouped together by campaign (Mayor, Comptroller, City Council), and their responses are highlighted in yellow.

Note: We could not find contact information for every candidate, and not every candidate responded by our September 1 deadline.

1. [Fair for Houston](#) is collecting signatures to put a charter amendment on the ballot, which would compel the Houston-Galveston Area Council to establish a fair voting system based on population size. For more information, visit www.fairforhouston.com.
 - **Do you support the [Fair for Houston](#) Campaign?**
 - i. Yes
 - ii. No
 - iii. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
2. [Induced demand](#) is the scientifically proven phenomenon that more lanes result in [more congestion](#). A local example for induced demand is [Katy Freeway](#).
 - **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of [induced demand](#) (more lanes result in [more congestion](#))?**
 - i. Yes
 - ii. No
 - iii. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
3. Examples of [Transit Oriented Development \(TOD\)](#) include:
 - Enhancing urban land use and promoting alternative modes of transportation
 - Pedestrianized streets to reduce traffic congestion and support small businesses and boost local economy
 - [Mixed-use development](#) to improve walkability and reduce the burden of car ownership (includes "[any combination of housing, office, retail, medical, recreational, commercial or industrial components](#)")
 - **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development ([TOD](#))?**
 - i. Yes
 - ii. No
 - iii. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
4. Currently, minimum parking requirements are codes that require a developer to have a certain amount of parking depending on the land use. Some [areas of Houston have already eliminated](#) these arbitrary requirements. [Eliminating parking requirements](#) will:
 - allow property owners to decide how much parking is necessary
 - free developers to build transit-oriented and mixed-use development
 - reduce cost and space burden when building and developing housing
 - create a safer pedestrian environment and improve air quality

- **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - i. Yes
 - ii. No
 - iii. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
5. Houston's [Vision Zero](#) is an initiative to end traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2030.
- **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - i. Yes
 - ii. No
 - iii. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
6. For the I-45 Expansion, Harris County and the City of Houston recently signed [Memorandums of Understanding](#) (MOUs) with TxDOT, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) signed a [Voluntary Resolution Agreement](#) (VRA) with TxDOT that supports the City and County MOUs. Many Houston residents and advocates still say the project is fundamentally flawed.

Supporting links:

- [TxDOT I-45 Expansion Website](#)
- [Stop TxDOT I-45](#)
- [I-45 Expansion Impacts Website](#)

- **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

Mayoral Candidate, Gilbert Garcia

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

I believe changes that TxDOT should make is to be more transparent with the public especially when it is involving projects that deal with making changes to Houston highways, tollways, roads and neighborhoods. I believe TxDOT should also work more closely with community leaders and more with neighborhood leaders. By incorporating these changes, it will help to improve public safety, public health and relieve traffic congestion. It's also important to continue making changes in order to improve roadway congestion and safety to meet the growing needs of Houston residents.

Mayoral Candidate, Robert Gallegos

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I voted in favor of placing the amendment on the ballot. If approved by voters, it will start the process for population proportional voting in the Houston-Galveston Area Council.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Example, the Katy Freeway was widened and motorists have complained of the congestion with six general purpose lanes in each direction and two high occupancy toll lanes in the median.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Businesses and housing should have incentives such as requiring less parking if operating near LightRail and BRT lines.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Only if near LightRail lines and BRT Lines.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. However, as mayor, I would revisit this to make sure autonomous vehicles have been thoroughly vetted.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

I have attended a number of I-45 realignment meetings as a community leader years ago and as a councilmember these past 10 years. I have asked TxDOT if they will work with METRO to include a BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) lane in the center of the freeway with 3 or 4 stops between downtown and George Bush Airport.

Mayoral Candidate, Naoufal Houjami

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. More voter representation.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Demand is a consumer's desire and willingness to buy a product at a given price. For example, if the price increases, the customer might hesitate, and the willingness to buy decreases.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Target less traffic.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Free market.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Everyone deserves safe, accessible streets and sidewalks.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

I am against Expansion of I45 under the current terms. It will displace thousands of families and businesses.

Mayoral Candidate, Lee Kaplan

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Yes in part. Houston deserves a proportional share of regional dollars. I support strengthening our Democracy and fair districts of equal size are a part of that.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Yes in part. Some additional lanes and expansion are necessary on occasion. We need long term solutions to congestion. So while the long term effect of increased road capacity may increase use, we need to lessen traffic in the short term while we can make critical long term investments into mass transit.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Yes in part. Houston has a 100-year history of over-dependence on automobiles and the transition will have to be made over time. We need to invest in mass transit and we need mixed use development so people can live, work and shop in close proximity to each other. This will make Houston less reliant on car travel and make Houston a more walkable city.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Yes. These rules should not be implemented in a one size fits all manner, but should be decided on a case by case basis.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Yes. We should all work to make our roads safer. One step to achieve this is to increase police visibility on our major roadways so people will drive slower.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

This project has been through many hurdles and analysis. I think it is too late to stop the project. If improvements to the current plan can be made, I would support it to ensure that the project improves public safety, relieves congestion and isn't harmful to the communities impacted.

Mayoral Candidate, Robin Williams (write-in candidate)

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Fair For Houston will provide a voice for the unheard and aid in the recognition of all voices. With more limitations on voting, residents tend to feel disabled. Each resident is entitled to have input on revenue, infrastructure, transportation, and other important matters.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. As the routes widen and can accommodate higher volumes of traffic, the theory of induced demand manifests itself. Additionally, vehicles will appear as drivers are motivated to use the expanded road. The belief is that congestion has decreased as a result of the addition of lanes.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. The fast-growing trend of creating vibrant, livable, and sustainable communities through transit-oriented development is exciting and fast-growing. The development of compact, walkable, pedestrian-oriented, mixed-use communities that revolve around high-quality train systems is what TOD is all about. To live a less stressful life, you don't have to rely completely on a car for transportation and survival.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Homeowners will have the power to determine how much parking is available by allowing them to choose. Furthermore, I aim to offer sidewalks for pedestrians and eliminate the greenhouse gasses generated by vehicles.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. We must change the way we travel in our city to ensure the safety and accessibility of streets for all. People have the right to be safe on our streets, whether it is driving, walking, cycling, moving in a wheelchair or taking public transit. Traveling safely is a requirement, but mistakes do occur. We can ensure that our streets are forgiving, so that these mistakes do not lead to deadly accidents. Our streets are the backbone of our livelihoods and we must commit to making them safer for everyone.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

In my view, TxDOT should maintain the neighborhoods' integrity and, if possible, refrain from demolishing homes during the expansion process. The lives of family members are enriched by the irreplaceable value of those homes. I am of the opinion that many of the homes in that area have a story and legacy that should be safeguarded.

Controller Candidate, Chris Hollins

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Houston and Harris County make up 57% of the population represented on the H-GAC's board of directors, yet the city and county combined only have 11% of the voting power. We saw how unfair that was when H-GAC voted to give Houston only 2% of \$488M in federal flood funds. As a candidate for City Controller and a Houston homeowner, I know that's just plain wrong.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I serve on the METRO Board of Directors for a reason: I am passionate about public transportation. The Katy Freeway expansion was a travesty from a public transportation view. I support more transportation choices for Houstonians, not more traffic lanes.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Our city is slowly but steadily shifting from its historically auto-centric culture. As with many changes, the market is leading the way with residents demanding more pedestrian-friendly and walkable spaces. As City Controller, I can help to provide a sound financial and policy foundation for this shift, including benchmarking our policies against best practices across the nation.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I support softening or eliminating minimum parking requirements on a targeted basis. Buildings located near public transit, for example, such as METRO's light rail lines in Midtown and East Downtown, require less parking. I could support eliminating minimum parking requirements more broadly, if they were coupled with strategies to prevent cars from overflowing into adjacent neighborhoods where residents need street parking.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Vision Zero is working, but we must not let up. One preventable death or serious injury is one too many.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

It will take vigilance and committed local leaders to hold TxDOT accountable to its promises in the agreements. We need fair buyouts, better connectivity for local residents, and quick action when the new air quality monitors sound the alarm. TxDOT should not be allowed to backslide on its commitments to new affordable housing, trails, biking paths, and green space.

City Council At-Large 1, Kendall Baker

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**
Revisit design and make adjustment based on citizen feedback

City Council At-Large 1, Leah Wolfthal

1. Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. It's critical that Houston should be able to obtain through HGAC its fair share of resources, and the scale of efforts to bring attention to this issue and engage Houstonians in advocacy and learning how government impacts our everyday lives is inspiring. I imagine some potential roadblocks or complications to implementing a system that takes into account population size (e.g. governor opposition), and I'd look forward to helping resolve some of these conflicts and build consensus toward solutions, if elected.

2. Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

3. Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Supporting multiple types of transportation options for our residents is critical for a thriving economy and public health, and helps meet the demands of a diverse city with different needs and preferences. If elected, I'd look forward to working with different neighborhoods and population centers within our wider city to support the solutions that work best for them, while developing networks that connect across individual neighborhoods for strong mobility pathways.

4. Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

5. If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

6. What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]

If elected I would seek to engage with those directly impacted by this project, and with other long term advocates and stakeholders, who are more intimately familiar with its challenges as well as some solutions on design. Some broad points:

- Let's invest in mobility in the neighborhoods surrounding, connected to, and impacted by these large freeways, whether that's enhancing pedestrian walkways, bike networks, and METRO service.
- Let's make sure that we're maximizing investments in the freeways to include enhancing transit options (e.g. BRT usage)
- Let's more deeply address the housing displacement catalyzed by this project, i.e. by supporting strategies so that residents can stay in their neighborhoods, if they so choose, in good-quality housing they can afford, instead of relocating farther away from the community or in housing that is not economically feasible. We already have an affordable housing shortage in many of our communities, let's work to make sure that we aren't further losing affordable units to this project.
- Let's invest in strategies to protect against some of the air quality and noise concerns (e.g. tree buffers, air quality monitors).
- Let's work to deeply engage impacted stakeholders in future design decisions, not only in terms of more transparent, regular, and functional opportunities for discussion (e.g. more open meetings, notice

promulgated through communication methods used by residents and other impacted parties, notice early enough, meetings held at times easy for residents to attend, etc.). And, design and resource allocation should more clearly reflect that input.

City Council At-Large 2, Danielle Keys Bess

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I believe in Houston receiving their fair percentage of funding from HGAC.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

I believe that TxDOT should have required community dialogue/input from the communities and municipalities that this development would affect prior to finalizing plans. The displacement of schools, resources, and people in places that were already disenfranchised was morally inconsiderate. The design needs to be redrawn in a way that mitigates the risks for social, public health, environmental and racial justice through the implementation of adding and/or replacing community resources (i.e. schools, grocery stores, clinics, banks, sidewalks, etc.) to prioritize positive community impact.

City Council At-Large 2, Marina Angelica Coryat

1. Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. Currently, smaller cities are amassing a greater percentage of dollars towards them versus the money that is coming to the City of Houston/Harris County, which are more populated and in need than these smaller cities. Over the years there has been a greater divide with more partisan politics to the City of Houston receiving this money. In the past, I would make presentations on behalf of the City of Houston and we would get some money but we could tell that we were not getting as much as what a city our size should be receiving. I definitely support the Fair for Houston Campaign and was an early signer of the petition.

2. Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. The more that streets and highways are expanded to reduce congestion, many will purchase vehicles or use their vehicles on that route to accommodate this new expansion or road. Instead of widening roads or adding more roads, we need to look at other alternatives for transportation such as rail, bicycles, etc.

3. Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. We need to promote alternative modes of transportation such as rail. Also, I would love to see more mixed-use developments especially in areas that are blighted and are urban food deserts.

4. Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

5. If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

6. What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]

I am deeply concerned about the potential disruption to businesses, churches and homes with the I-45 expansion. I am pro-rail and would love to expand rail opportunities along the corridor to the airports and other areas of town. The 45 expansion should not be made to disrupt historical communities of color. I would re-route 45 elsewhere.

Another area of concern is proper signage on freeways to make sure that the public will understand what direction to go in. Lately, the construction projects on Houston freeways have been very confusing and not well illuminated. We need to make sure that adequate signs, barricades, lights and clear markings are made to provide safe transport and relieve congestion.

City Council At-Large 2, Pastor Willie R Davis

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I'm voting to support Fair for Houston because HGAC is made up of municipalities that have smaller populations of citizens and the larger population are out voted.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. It has proven to be factual and I experience it everyday on I-10 Katy Frwy. In my opinion it makes it more difficult for entry and exiting.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Any method to support reducing traffic congestion is beneficial to our city.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I support this process because it saves businesses extra cost of parking codes that they don't have land for and they lose money.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I want to do everything we can to reduce traffic deaths and injuries on our highways.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

I worked for TxDOT in the late 70's and was a part of the contraflow lanes creation. I was assigned to make drawings of the center lanes between the main lanes. I think that TxDOT should consider creating exit lanes miles before drivers exit to reduce accidents of oncoming traffic and drivers making last minute decisions to exit. I suggest that markers on the expressway be made in writing for all 18 wheeler trucks and trucks carrying equipment and service vehicles. I would love to see more concrete walls provided by TxDOT in low income communities where there are more apartments and housing facilities.

City Council At-Large 2, Holly Flynn Vilaseca

1. Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

- i. As a candidate endorsed by Fair for Houston I understand that underrepresentation of major populations in the current voting structure has had a detrimental impact on Houston residents. This has resulted in consistently unfavorable outcomes. It is crucial that Houston receives fair representation to ensure that our needs and concerns are adequately addressed. By achieving fair representation, we will not only have a voice at the table but also gain access to essential funding and infrastructure that is necessary for the growth and development of our city. This commitment to fairness and inclusivity will pave the way for positive changes and meaningful progress for all Houstonians.

2. Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

- i. As we acknowledge the impact of induced demand on congestion, it becomes clear that addressing this issue requires a comprehensive approach. Since the 1960's, we have been well aware of this phenomenon and its implications on our road networks. Recent findings from Texas A&M's Transportation Institute further highlight the urgent need for better road access. Houston's ranking as the third-worst city for traffic underscores the importance of taking immediate action to improve our transportation infrastructure. By implementing population proportional voting in H-GAC, the Fair for Houston charter amendment ensures that every individual in the region has an equitable voice and representation in critical decisions concerning the allocation of billions of dollars towards transportation projects.

3. Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

- i. In addition to reducing the need for driving and energy consumption, transit oriented development also offers the potential for better road access in communities. By creating dense, walkable neighborhoods that prioritize public transportation, residents have easier access to major roads and highways. This not only improves connectivity within the community but also promotes more efficient travel options for those commuting to work or other destinations outside of the immediate area. With transit investment providing double the economic benefit compared to highway investment, it is clear that prioritizing transit oriented development is a wise choice for combating traffic congestion and protecting the environment on a larger scale. As this approach continues to gain traction across the country, we can expect to see even greater improvements in both transportation infrastructure and quality of life for residents.

4. Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

- i. Allowing developers to have the autonomy to determine the required amount of parking spaces is a practical approach that can lead to more livable spaces within communities. By removing rigid regulations, developers have the freedom to construct transit-oriented and mixed-use developments that promote a healthier and more sustainable lifestyle. This not only reduces the cost and space burden associated with housing construction but also fosters a safer pedestrian environment and improves air quality. Embracing smarter policies in parking allocation will enable cities like Houston to create a built

environment that prioritizes the needs of its residents while enhancing the overall livability of the community.

5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**

a. **Yes**

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

- i. The City of Houston Vision Zero has already shown great strides in reducing overall traffic fatalities in 2023. I am committed to reducing traffic accidents and promoting safety. I understand the importance of designing streets that are accessible for people of all ages and abilities, ensuring that everyone can navigate their communities safely. Through a collaborative approach, I will work with community leaders and experts to improve mobility and create a more inclusive environment.

6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

The revised agreement regarding the I-45 expansion in Houston has brought some relief, but concerns about racial discrimination, pollution, displacement, and environmental impact continue to linger among residents. Despite the updates made to the plan, many community members still feel that their concerns have not been adequately addressed. It is crucial that any decisions regarding this expansion are based on genuine community engagement and input. The preservation of historic neighborhoods and communities must be a top priority, as they hold significant cultural and historical value. Additionally, addressing environmental concerns is an absolute necessity. For far too long, black and brown communities have borne the brunt of pollution injustices, further exacerbating existing social inequities. As a committed advocate for the well-being of Houstonians, I will tirelessly work towards implementing policies that ensure equitable allocation of resources and protect our environment for future generations. Together, we can bring about meaningful change and create a more just and sustainable city for all.

City Council At-Large 2, Nick Hellyar

1. Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. The way H-GAC is set up is simply unfair. Houstonians do not get an equitable share of the grant funding the body receives, nor do they get adequate say on vital interregional projects like the NHHIP.

2. Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. We hear the same dogma time and time again: If we simply widen the freeway, they say, our traffic woes will be solved. But never does this claim cease to be false. With each expensive and destructive freeway expansion, rather than receiving a deliverance from congestion, all we get is greater and greater quantities of it. More freeways mean more cars flooding our urban spaces and fundamentally more traffic.

3. Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. METRO Next promises an exciting array of new investments in transit. But these projects won't reach their full potential unless we build the diverse walkable urban spaces needed to support high ridership. The first step in doing this is rolling back the devastating parking mandates which have made walkable communities impossible. Following this change, we also must also invest in building wide sidewalks with tree coverage to attract fronting mixed use development in these areas. With these changes along with an array of others we can make sure our public transit is fully utilized, and begin moving towards a city built around people and not cars.

4. Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. I am emphatically in favor of ending parking mandates. There are few local regulations which have been such an immense barrier to livable, sustainable, and affordable urban communities. In office I will seek to promote proposals that would strip back parking mandates by expanding market based parking zones and exempting areas near transit.

5. If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. I am an avid cyclist, and the experiences I have garnered from this habit have demonstrated to me the many ways in which we are failing to provide a safe transportation experience for Houstonians, especially those outside of cars. In many places, biking or walking is made completely unviable by infrastructure that shows little regard to anyone outside of an automobile.

This has got to stop. As a member of the board of Bike Houston, I have consistently supported efforts to get our local officials to treat micro-mobility users with the respect they deserve, and in office, I will fight for the full achievement of Vision Zero so that never again will another Houstonian fall victim to poor transportation planning.

6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

I would like to see that the NHHIP was not passed at all and that its funds were used to mitigate the preexisting and extremely harmful impacts many of our urban freeways already are having on our communities. Yet, if it is going to go through, we should attempt to shape the project in all possible ways so as to minimize its negative impacts.

For starters, the promised cap spaces must be secured and expanded. The more we are able to remove raised freeways, which are notoriously loud and split our city into pieces, the better.

Furthermore, Right of Way expansions can and should be stripped from the plan where they exist, and additional designated funding for cycling and pedestrian improvements on adjacent streets should be secured as well.

There are a wide variety of ways in which the harms of this project can be contained. On city council, I will be eager to pursue all possible venues for achieving this end.

City Council At-Large 2, Obes Nwabara

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. It's the best thing ever and I endorsed it early. Getting our proper representation on H-GAC is vital and I'm glad we got the signatures we needed.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. This is a major part of my campaign platform
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. We need to encourage ride-sharing and public transit, as well as giving more people the opportunity to own businesses in the space that is currently being used for parking.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

They need to listen to the opinions of the people who live in the areas they're trying to disrupt. Additionally, they need to invest in public transportation, sync our traffic lights, and fix existing roads.

City Council At-Large 3, James Joseph

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

To improve safety and public health, TxDOT should consider implementing the following design changes:

 - Enhanced pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure: Incorporating dedicated sidewalks, bike lanes, and crosswalks can promote active transportation and reduce accidents involving vulnerable road users.
 - Intelligent transportation systems: Deploying advanced technologies like traffic monitoring cameras, smart traffic signals, and real-time traveler information systems can help optimize traffic flow, reduce congestion, and enhance safety by providing timely updates to drivers.
 - Roadway lighting and visibility improvements: Proper illumination along highways and at intersections can improve visibility, especially during nighttime, reducing the risk of accidents.
 - Access management strategies: Implementing measures such as limited driveways, strategic median openings, and improved signage can enhance traffic flow, reduce conflicts, and improve safety on high-volume roads.
 - Improved signage and wayfinding: Clear and consistent signage, including exit signs, lane markings, and directional indicators, can help drivers navigate effectively, reducing the likelihood of wrong turns, sudden lane changes, and subsequent accidents.
 - Proactive maintenance and repair: Regular inspection and maintenance of road infrastructure, including bridges and guardrails, can prevent potential hazards and ensure safe travel for all road users.

To relieve traffic congestion, TxDOT should consider the following measures:

- Expansion of road capacity: Identifying critical bottlenecks and adding lanes or building new roads in congested areas can increase traffic capacity and alleviate congestion.
- Integrated transportation system: Promoting multi-modal transportation options, including public transit, ridesharing, and park-and-ride facilities, can encourage travelers to choose alternatives to driving, reducing the number of vehicles on the road.
- Demand management strategies: Implementing congestion pricing, carpool lanes, and flexible work schedules can help distribute traffic more evenly throughout the day, reducing peak-hour congestion.

To prioritize environmental and racial justice, TxDOT should consider:

-Environmental impact assessments: Conducting thorough assessments of the environmental impact of road projects to identify potential risks and develop mitigation strategies that prioritize the protection of vulnerable communities and ecosystems.

-Community engagement: Actively involving communities in the planning and decision-making processes to ensure their voices are heard and their concerns addressed, particularly in low-income and minority neighborhoods that may be disproportionately affected by road projects.

-Sustainable design practices: Incorporating environmentally friendly design elements such as permeable pavements, green spaces, and noise barriers can help minimize the ecological footprint and enhance the quality of life for nearby residents.

-Equitable distribution of transportation resources: Prioritizing investments in underserved areas, including marginalized communities, to ensure equitable access to transportation options and reduce disparities in mobility.

In summary, by implementing these design changes, TxDOT can improve safety, alleviate traffic congestion, and promote environmental and racial justice in its road projects.

City Council At-Large 4, John Branch Jr

1. Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I support this campaign because we deserve our fair share of the resources that are available

2. Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

3. Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

4. Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

5. If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

6. What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]

I think that TxDOT needs to fully examine all of the environmental impacts on what this project will have on the affected communities. For example the extent of which particulate matter at 2.5 microns will affect the members of the community that suffer from respiratory problems

City Council At-Large 4, Dr. Letitia Plummer

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. As a previous board member of HGAC I saw first hand the way in which funds were distributed in an inequitable manner to the city of Houston and the current unbalanced voting power. The Fair for Houston ordinance would present more equitable opportunities for city of Houston residents.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I have been a supporter of either stopping or revising the I-45 Expansion project and looking at the city's transportation plan from a different perspective since 2019.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Currently our city planners make decisions based on freeway infrastructure vs TOD. In order for the City of Houston to increase our transportation equity we must implement more TOD projects with all departments federal, state and local to work as a team with a vision of multiple modes of transportation for everyone.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I am working with the developers to assist in creating these opportunities for Houston.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Our vision zero plan must align with the way in which we are building Houston.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

We have worked very hard to get TxDOT where we currently are in the process. Our job now is accountability and I'd like to create a NHHIP working group that will oversee the project and ensure that the promises are kept.

City Council District C, Abbie Kamin

1. Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

- i. I always advocate for Houston to get its fair share of infrastructure funding. We've been making headway, but more is needed. While I am prevented from taking a formal position on this ballot measure as I serve on behalf of the City on H-GAC's Transportation Policy Council, I support the efforts of residents to secure our fair share of funds to meet our city's infrastructure needs.

2. Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

- i. We need more transportation choices, not more freeway lanes. The widening of the Katy Freeway was a huge missed opportunity for creating more choices for Houstonians and raises some very serious environmental and greenspace protection concerns.

3. Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

- i. I support policies that lead to walkable communities and help mitigate the impacts of climate change.

4. Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

- i. I support reducing requirements, but we should be careful with a one-size fits all proposal. We also need to provide protections for established neighborhoods that do not want to be overrun by overflow parking from adjacent I areas (including commercial areas).

5. If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

- i. I am a huge fan and vocal proponent of Vision Zero, and have been very active in redesigning and rebuilding dangerous intersections to reduce the dangers to pedestrians and all users on our roads including cyclists. My office has funded sidewalks and ADA ramps all over the district to increase safety and accessibility, and worked to bring safer crossings for students and parents near schools throughout the district.

From improving intersection safety with neighborhood input (like Rice at Sunset), to creating safe trail crossings (like Nicholson at 11th) and protected bike lanes throughout the district, to installing raised crossings (WOW roundabout and pedestrian refuges (like Blossom at Westcott), we're doing a lot – but more is needed.

6. What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]

This is a decades-long project and we must not only hold TxDOT to its promises, but also continually monitor and correct for negative impacts of construction. A large segment of this project is going to impact our district. I did not support the expansion along I-45 that would have pushed residents out of their

homes, but if it moves forward, we must ensure fair buyouts for those who must be displaced, along with 100-percent replacement, at a minimum, of lost affordable housing.

City Council District D, Lloyd Ford

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I believe all residents and citizens should have access to affordable housing solutions.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I believe owners should have the right to choose, but in cases of large developments the city should protect residents and communities that want to set a standard.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

Lower impact of low income communities.

City Council District G, Mary Nan Huffman

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

This is not my area of expertise. I am not an engineer and I have not studied the design, but I am always open to hearing different perspectives and coming up with solutions.

City Council District H, Mario Castillo

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I support and have donated to the Fair for Houston campaign to achieve population-proportional voting at H-GAC so that Houston can get its fair share of federal infrastructure funding for transportation and flood prevention. While I am a strong believer in regional cooperation, the systemic flaws in H-GAC's process require strong action from the city.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. It's just common sense: The more freeway lanes you add, the more cars will drive on them. That's why we need to provide common-sense transportation choices that make sense for Houstonians, depending on where they live: light rail, commuter rail, BRT, buses, park & rides, and safe pathways for bikes.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I am a big fan of transit-oriented development, which will create denser and more walkable areas in the city and provide more sustainable transportation choices. I also like its potential to increase workforce housing. I firmly believe that teachers, fire fighters, restaurant managers, and other working-class Houstonians should have the opportunity to live in the communities they work.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Market based parking has worked well for downtown and the recently expanded areas. I support expanding this to major activity centers throughout the city while exploring the right approach to reducing parking minimum requirements in residential areas. We may need mitigation measures put in place so that residents who depend on street parking in their neighborhoods are not unduly impacted.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I will advocate for a dedicated funding source for Vision Zero and encourage the Planning Commission to leverage the variance process to speed up implementation.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

The North Highway Improvement Project has major implications for District H. Given the size, scope, cost, and impacts to District H, it's crucial that we get this once-in-a-generation infrastructure project right. I support the negotiated settlement with TxDOT, the city and the county – but I will be a strong advocate for my constituents for continued mitigation of the harmful impacts from the construction. For example, there are major connectivity issues for local neighborhoods with the loss of the North Street Bridge, Cottage Street Bridge, and entrances and exits in Segment 2. This, along with the construction of concrete crushing plants and other issues must still be addressed.

City Council District H, Cynthia Reyes Revilla

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. The way that Fair is taking action on this issue is brilliant and should have been handled this from and with more intent and fairness from the beginning. There is no time for inadequacy when it comes to our city.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. We have seen for ourselves how this phenomenon is real and how wider freeways are not and is not the only solution. It's astounding how many of these professionals see this for themselves but yet continue to move forward with projects where they know will not resolve the issue.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Our city is the 4th largest in the nation but we are still far behind in adopting multi-modal transportation like other cities with higher rankings. This adoption will not only give our city more diversity, but help improve air quality, create a better environment, and support the fight against global warming.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. In my personal opinion there are some areas that are seeing a huge impact in communities where this requirement has been lifted. I don't think there is a one size fits all for every area. I believe it should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. Houston should do everything possible to save a life and more needs to be done. As someone who has lost a friend on the streets of Houston due to lack of pedestrian safety lanes, we are just not doing enough. The city also needs to learn to listen to residents who live in these areas where bike lanes are places as they can recommend some alterations to the plans. I don't believe that engineers who design and work on these projects can think that these designs are 100% final. I have learned from past experience that people who live closest to the problem are the residents and they can actually teach the experts a thing or two.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

Essentially, MOUs are just agreements, and we need true accountability from all parties. Many of us would like to see the following included: Enforcement is needed. Rather than another agreement, we need some accountability and responsible partnerships that make sense and respect the communities they are located in. The data surrounding some of the segments are not accurate or enough to support how the areas will be impacted and what will be done to lessen the impact and remediate. I have said this before and from what I have collected, people just want to have some part of projects going on in the

community and the way these projects have been done is the exact opposite. The public usually finds out about these projects once the design has been completed with no input from communities. Air quality is a major concern and a large component that impacts many. In a city where air quality is already a concern from cars, concrete plants, and chemical plants, we cannot afford to allow this project to further negatively impact underserved communities. There are so many other factors not being addressed in the MOU and it is astounding that the issues of flooding, affordable housing, and businesses are being impacted. These are very important factors that should be a priority for the city and county to protect. These are important to the livelihood of families and yet they seem to be taking a back seat where the city and county are concerned.

City Council District H, Sonia Rivera

1. Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. I completely support Fair for Houston, this addresses a long term and prevalent issue across a society that a select few make decisions for the masses. All communities deserve and are entitled to fair and equitable representation.

2. Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. I acknowledge that it exists in many areas however I don't believe that is applicable everywhere. Houston is a very large city, 665 square miles, many people don't live in the areas they work. We will continue to see population growth and with population growth also comes increased car traffic. Even with increased metro options, Houston is too sprawled out to meet all the demands of a populous city that is so spread out. This just means that we have to find a balance in addressing our mobility needs.

3. Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

4. Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. We have increasingly adopted ordinances that reduce parking options for homeowners and businesses. I reiterate that Houston is too sprawled out to eliminate parking to meet the demands of cars. We must continue towards improving mobility. We have several destination areas such as the museum district, hospital district, downtown, mid town, and the galleria as destination areas, and very little connectivity from Houston suburbs. If we want to eventually minimize car traffic we must continue to build our public transportation options.

5. If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

6. What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]

I would need to consult with the engineers and review the updated plans to make this determination. The project is currently on hold for further review, therefore I will have to evaluate the new information once it is presented.

City Council District H, Michelle Stearns

1. **Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
2. **Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
3. **Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
4. **Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
5. **If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.
 - i. I will endeavor to sit down with stakeholders to devise and prioritize a plan that is equitable, safe and easier for the residents of Houston to travel, whether walking, biking, or public transit.
6. **What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]**

Engaging with those who are qualified to recognize the apparatuses of change would be best left to them. However, I do believe we must strongly and authentically engage our constituents in the public decision making. Effective community engagement results in a more equitable distribution. Giving people more control over the decisions that affect their lives and their communities, I believe will have a positive impact.

City Council District I, Joaquin Martinez

1. Do you support the Fair for Houston Campaign (Prop B)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. The City of Houston currently does not have equitable representation in HGAC. We must find a way, as the largest municipality to increase our voice to see more funding and projects in our city.

2. Do you acknowledge the scientifically proven phenomenon of induced demand (more lanes result in more congestion)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. We have seen the result of induced demand with the I-10 corridor. We had high traffic along I-10 and when the corridor increased lanes, we saw an increase of cars along the corridor. This invited new development, both commercial and residential, that helped to increase the demand because of the new lanes built to make it "easier and faster" to traverse.

3. Are you in favor of Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. As our city continues to grow, we must find ways to remove individuals from their cars. Transit Oriented Development supports folks taking public transit, as businesses within blocks of METRO Rail can reduce the number of parking spaces that ultimately promote multimodal transportation to these locations.

4. Are you in favor of eliminating minimum parking requirements city-wide?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. When we allow property owners to make these decisions, we not only invite businesses to do business in Houston, but we also promote multimodal transportation in an ever increasing city.

5. If elected, will you support Houston's Vision Zero initiative?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Please feel free to explain or expand on your answer above.

i. We must work to reimagine and rebuild a city for tomorrow. Vision Zero helps to redesign our streets for multimodal transportation, while making it safer for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. As our city population continues to grow, we must find alternative ways to traverse in our city.

6. What changes, if any, should TxDOT make to the design to improve safety and public health, relieve traffic congestion, and prioritize environmental and racial justice? [250 words max]

We must continue to work to reduce the number of residents displaced by relocating residents within their current community. As we build out I-45, we must continue to push to ensure we build out METRONext plan along the corridor and find ways to reduce and mitigate air quality impacts throughout the project. Finally, the project should promote and build out new greenspaces along the newly built corridor.