

Cincinnati Mayoral and City Council Candidates Questionnaire on Disability Topics

The survey questions below are intended to gauge the mayoral and City Council candidates' interest in and understanding of key issues that impact the lives of Cincinnatians with disabilities. The University of Cincinnati Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCCEDD) developed these questions through dialogue with collaborating partners across the city, professionals who work in the field of disability, and members of Cincinnati's disability community. We aim to collect these results and share them with voters through local media outlets. For purposes of publication, we ask that you keep your responses to around 50 words. We truly appreciate your time in completing this survey and will do our best to share your responses widely so Cincinnatians can learn more about your views related to disability.

Please submit survey responses by the 4:00EST on Friday, October 27 so they can be included in our dissemination of results.



Name of Candidate: *

Brian Garry

Will you support the strategic effort to make all Cincinnati Recreation Centers physically accessible to all people? Only 12 out of the 23 Recreation Centers are accessible (does not include aquatic, athletic, and outdoor facilities)? *

Yes

No

Will you support the expansion of the City's hiring goals for minorities to include an aspirational hiring goal of 7 % for people with disabilities? The current standard for cities that receive federal grants is 7%. *

Yes

No

If you'd like to add more to your responses to the yes/no questions, please do so here:

The City of Cincinnati now has an Office of ADA Compliance, a Coordinator, and an Office of the Chief Advocacy Officer for Aging and Accessibility, as well as a Cincinnati Access Board of Advisors (CABA), which has prominent activists in this field serving on it. One of the first things that should be done is to make this Office and Board of Advisors better known by the larger community. I am glad we have this infrastructure in place, but clearly we need to do much more.

In what ways will you use City resources to create housing options that are affordable AND accessible for Cincinnatians with disabilities? *

Homes should at least be visitable, most should be fitted for Aging in Place, and Universal Design is the best standard for new homes, so they would never have to be retrofitted to be affordable and accessible. Working with the Access Board of Advisors, through the Office of ADA Compliance, we can do so much more. We should mandate affordable and accessible housing in all projects receiving any kind of City financial support, and particularly partner with our many excellent neighborhood CDCs (community development corporations) to increase the number of such units in Cincinnati.

What are your goals for increasing affordable and accessible transportation options for Cincinnatians with disabilities? *

Our entire transit system is a shambles. There is much work to be done. City Council can partner with the Access Board to prioritize the next steps that urgently need to be taken.

In what ways will your office work with the Cincinnati Accessibility Board of Advisors (CABA) to increase ADA compliance in businesses across the city? *

We can bring Cincinnati Neighborhood Business Districts United (CNBDU) together with CABA to work out the details of making sure that funded CNBDU projects create ADA compliance in their communities.

How can the City of Cincinnati be more inclusive of people with disabilities and their families? *

Progress has been made, but so much more needs to be done. Certainly all City public facilities need to be easily and truly accessible. The City can highlight these projects on its website and social media. The various press resources here will also work to bring increased attention to the good that has been done, and the work that remains to be completed. Let's walk the talk!

Please feel free to share any other statements concerning issues affecting Cincinnatians with disabilities.

Cincinnati is striving to be more inclusive. We must make sure that Cincinnatians with disabilities are included. By partnering with highly visible and effective advocates like Robert Harris and Heather Sturgill on CABA, we should be making more progress than we have.

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