

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: *

P.G. Sittenfeld

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:

If you look at our Council records, no one currently running for a seat at City Hall has been more actively involved in efforts and conversation related to the first two questions than I have.

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

I was one of the co-sponsors and co-architects of legislation passed in conjunction with renewing our CRA program that 1) created a VTICA for neighborhoods that will put aside money into an affordable housing trust fund to support affordable housing projects in our neighborhoods and 2) expanded the incentives for building housing in Cincinnati in accordance with visitable and universally-designed standards.

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

As part of my research for my Golden Cincinnati Initiative, I visited with many seniors and persons with disabilities across the city and learned how much of a challenge this is - our ACCESS program is woefully limited and inflexible, as well as costly - and our other public transportation options are limited. This is one of our biggest priorities - expanding transit and transportation options for everyone in Cincinnati. We need to prioritize fixing ACCESS, while also bringing additional options like affordable ride-sharing to the market. I also support exploring the opportunity to expand the fleet of our recreation centers to provide better and more transportation to programming provided by the CRC.

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

I have a close relationship with the CABA who have been advisors to us as part of our Golden Cincinnati Initiative, and in my role as the Chair of the committee of City Council that has jurisdiction over aging and accessibility issues, including ADA compliance. As part of the Golden Cincinnati Initiative, I championed the legislation that created the new position of Chief Advocacy Officer for Aging and Accessibility, who also is in charge of addressing and working on our ADA compliance.

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

The biggest focus is addressing transportation and housing - these continue to be the two biggest buckets of work we have to do. In addition, however, part of the creation of the Chief Advocacy Officer for Aging and Accessibility, and of the Golden Cincinnati Initiative was to ensure that it isn't just the big problems that are looked at with this lens; we need to review everything from parking meter technology to crosswalk light timing to snow plowing to 911 reporting through the experience of every Cincinnati. The work of the Initiative and of the Chief Advocacy Officer, as created by legislation I championed, all revolves around this level of inclusivity.

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

I look forward to continuing to work together closely and collaboratively so that can accelerate our progress on these issues.

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