

2025 Charlotte City Council & Mayoral Candidate Survey

Hosted by Sustain Charlotte

As a 501c3 organization, Sustain Charlotte does not endorse candidates. The survey was sent to all Charlotte City Council and Mayoral candidates prior to the general election. We are sharing the answers we received verbatim from candidates who responded. Several of the seats this year are uncontested.

Viola Lyles, Democrat Candidate for Mayor

1. Transportation Sales Tax

Do you support the proposed one-cent sales tax referendum for transportation?\

Answer: Yes, strongly support

2. Transportation Investments (Choose 2)

Which TWO transportation investments should be the city's highest priority?*

Answer:

- ✓ Expanding bus and rail service
- ✓ Making streets safer for walking & biking / Improving accessibility for people with disabilities
- Reducing traffic congestion for drivers

3. Safer Streets

Do you support traffic calming measures such as lowering speed limits, adding crosswalks, and building protected bike lanes?

Answer: Yes

4. Parking Minimums

Do you support eliminating parking minimums for new development?

Answer: Unsure

5. Affordable Housing (Scale 1–5, 5 = strongly support)

How strongly do you support policies that expand affordable housing near transit and job centers?

Answer: 5

6. Equity Investments

Do you believe Charlotte's transportation and land use investments should prioritize historically underinvested communities?

Answer: Yes

7. Public Engagement

How would you increase opportunities for residents to have meaningful input in city planning and decision-making?

"Meetings in neighborhoods, using online tools for feedback, and partnering with community groups."

8. Environmental Priorities (Choose 2)

Which TWO environmental investments do you most support?

Answer:

Expanding parks, nature preserves, and greenways (in coordination w/ Mecklenburg Park and Recreation)

- ✓ Preserving and expanding tree canopy
- ✓ Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation
- Supporting policies to incentivize redevelopment
- ✓ Other (write-in): supporting native plants

9. Climate Leadership

How should City Council align its policy and budget decisions with Charlotte's Strategic Energy Action Plan (SEAP+) to work towards meeting Charlotte's adopted goal of becoming a net zero carbon city by 2050?

Answer: "City Council should fund projects that reduce emissions and make sure every department is working toward sustainability in its daily operations. "

10. Accountability

Should City Council hold departments accountable for implementing adopted plans and ordinances (e.g Strategic Mobility Plan, Unified Development Ordinance, Strategic Energy Action Plan)?

Answer: Yes

11. Candidate Statement

Why should voters who care about sustainability, equity, and livability support your candidacy?

Answer: "They should support my candidacy because these efforts will make our city more accessible for everyone. "