



Candidate Pre-Interview Questionnaire

The Committee for a Better Atlanta (CBA) is a coalition of business organizations concerned about Atlanta. In 2009, CBA is interviewing candidates for mayor, City Council president and City Council with the intent of publishing a voter's guide of candidate evaluations. The evaluations will be based on the answers to questions in this document, plus in-person interviews to be held this summer.

Your answers to these questions are very important to the CBA interview and evaluation process. **Candidates who do not complete this questionnaire will not be scheduled for an interview with CBA.**

Please complete this questionnaire and deliver it to the Committee for a Better Atlanta so it arrives **no later than 5p.m. July 31, 2009.** Questionnaires can be filled out electronically and emailed to cwatkins@macoc.com or mailed to:

Committee for a Better Atlanta
235 International Blvd. NW
Atlanta, GA 30303
Attn: Che Watkins

If you have any questions about completing the questionnaire - or about the CBA process - please contact Che Watkins at (404) 586-8468

Candidate Information

Name Ivory Lee Young Jr.

Position Sought Atlanta City Council District Three

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City, State ZIP Atlanta, GA 30314

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E-mail address ivoryyoung@yahoo.com

Campaign Web site address _____

Secondary contact information (If you prefer that CBA direct scheduling inquiries to someone other than the candidate, check here ____.)

Name _____

Relationship to candidate _____
(e.g. Administrative assistant campaign manager, etc.)

Address _____

City, State ZIP _____

Telephone _____

E-mail address _____

Please answer the questions in the space provided on this questionnaire.

1. In your opinion, what are the three greatest issues (problems or opportunities) facing Atlanta?

a. PUBLIC SAFETY - Housing Code Compliance should get as much attention as APD/AFD. We have to establish a policy of balanced growth with development that's meant to complement every census tract (decentralize poverty). Increase the availability of Affordable Housing. The quality of life must be improved and neighborhoods should be made livable. Livable means we have to have an impact on our youth. Young people continue to drop out of school at alarming rates we have failed to provide them at an early enough age a love for education. This should occur at the ages of 0 to 4 years of age. The results are we prepare our youth to be good citizens in the classroom and thus good citizens in the community. After operating an early learning child care center for 8 years we cared and educated for infants and toddlers from at risk families and discovered by giving them a love for education they matriculated to public school life excited about school. Most kids consider education punitive. Our kids will stay in school if we give them the tools to compete.

b. STRENGTHEN OUR FISCAL POLICY - Pursue a policy that the millions that use Atlanta's infrastructure help to pay for it (a commuter tax). Forecast outcomes in every City of Atlanta Department that improve morale, productivity for cost efficient delivery of city services while improving service delivery. Establish a position (Certified Public Accountant) in the Independent Auditors Office which is separate from the CFO that only responds to the City Council. This enable the council to be the check and balance we are elected to be.

c. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - We must improve our demographic by census tract to implement meaningful opportunities for Economic Development. The future of downtown and Westside Neighborhoods is connected. Its District Three and other residents of neighborhoods that border downtown that benefit from downtown growth. Improved household incomes will represent larger investment in our District. Provide on going support to the hospitality and tourism industry. The revenue and jobs they provide are critical to both our quality of life and economics. Provide support to innovative approaches to strengthen the Convention and Trade Industry. Continue to support strengthening the relationship between Downtown, District Three neighborhoods.

2. Describe briefly your qualifications for holding this office. (Please answer in the space below, but you may also attach a resume or other description to provide us with additional detail.)

Since graduating from Hampton University with a degree in Architectural Design and Planning in 1986 I have planned, designed, and managed millions of dollars of redevelopment throughout Atlanta.

Before I was elected, (as a volunteer) I served as an officer in my Neighborhood Planning Unit. I served three years as secretary and three years of chairperson of NPU-L.

Before is was elected I directed (as a volunteer) for four years tutorial and mentoring programs in John Hope Homes. This provided unique insight to the challenges of our youth.

For fourteen years I served as an Ordained Deacon at Providence Missionary Baptist Church. Supporting many of the church's ministries.

My combination 24 years professional experience and decades of volunteerism has provided a unique insight around issues related to infrastructure and redevelopment but human services as well.

3. What events experiences caused you to decide to run for this office?

Witnessing the unfair treatment of citizens in their attempt to access City of Atlanta Services

4. Please identify up to five organizations or individuals who are actively supporting your candidacy.

- 1) Michael Koblentz - President, Northwest Community Alliance
- 2) Dr. Pearlie Dove - Resident, Washington Park
- 3) Suzanne Bair - President/Resident, Marietta Street Artery Association
- 4) Reverend Cameron M. Alexander - Senior Pastor, Antioch North Baptist Church
- 5) Herman J. Russell - Owner, H.J. Russell Co.

5. The city government faces a \$50 million budget shortfall this fiscal year. How would you close the budget gap.

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6. Since 2004, the city's official goal has been to have 2,000 police officers. The Police Department is now at 1,615 officers. Do you support the goal? If so, how would you pay for the additional officers given the city's budget problems.

Yes! I support the additional officers. This could be paid for with Creation of additional Community Improvement Districts.

The increase police officers would only serve as a short term fix. Without responding to the issues that negatively impact the quality of life in communities. Until those stressors are removed meaningful sustained change will not be possible. Some of those stresses are:

- Estate Planning for our Senior Citizens to properly transition their properties at their demise to responsible ownership/rental property.
- Adequate program response to early childhood education and after school programs. Adequate for support to move our youth from high school to college or a logical career path.
- Strict enforcement of the housing code regulations. Meaning support to our seniors and low income families for owner occupied rehabilitation.
- A comprehensive program which acquires land affordably through the City of Atlanta to support a city-wide housing initiative that strengthens our demographics from census tract to census tract with new development meant to complement the existing residents and not push them out of the community.
- Statewide regulations with proper check balances on slum lords.

7. Mayor Franklin has used tax-allocation districts and tax abatements to support redevelopment projects. What would you have the city government do to support desirable redevelopment projects in the years ahead?

We must support the implementation of housing strategically implemented to complement Atlanta's diverse demographic. Concentrated poverty in many of our neighborhoods has blocked the possibility investment. Institutions have to feel confident they will get a return their investment. Supporting housing that complements the demographic with balanced growth will stimulate our burgeoning commercial nodes.

8. Traffic congestion is a major problem in Atlanta. If you could implement only one initiative enhancement or management change to reduce congestion in Atlanta in the next four years, what would it be? Note: This should be something within the city government ability to implement..

The transportation initiative first needs to consider a planning process to establishing a Vision that outlines what the future transportation system should look like not just for Atlanta but for the Atlanta Region. The Vision leads to more specific statements of desired actions to achieve real solutions. The Vision is also an opportunity to educate all stakeholders on the nature of congestion in the Atlanta Region and the importance of mitigating it. This regional Vision may include many of these concepts:

Completion of regional and multimodal systems, beltline and other transportation systems

Programs that encourage transit use and ridesharing;

Expand development opportunities around transit park and ride lots

Pricing fees for the use of travel lanes by the number of persons in the vehicle and the time of day

Pricing fees for parking spaces by the number of persons in the vehicle, the time of day or location

Implementing Creative Employment Trends throughout the Atlanta Region;

Flexible work hours

Telecommuting programs

Developments that are sensitive to the needs of Pedestrians throughout the Atlanta Region;

Bikeways and other strategies that promote non-motorized travel;

Land use controls or zoning that support development policies that support transit-oriented designs for homes, jobsites, and shops

Incentives for high-density development, such as tax incentives.

One of the main actions that existing regional and transportation agencies can contribute is the tracking of congestion trends and the effect of improvements over time. Trends provide a basis for determining how well your actions are working and can identify changes in the underlying congestion problem. The Atlanta Regional Commission is best equipped to take the lead to define a process, planning and implementation to address congestion.