



## 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 the 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 5 p.m., July 31, 2009**. Questionnaires can be filled out electronically and emailed to [cwatkins@macoc.com](mailto: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 Johnny Dixon  
Position Sought Atlanta City Council - District 11  
Address 2110 Southwood Lane Apt. 432  
City, State, ZIP Atlanta, GA 30331  
Telephone 678-851-3782 Cell phone 678-851-3782  
E-mail address johnny@johnnydixon.org  
Campaign Web site address www.johnnydixon.org

**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 \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

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?

Crime

Delivery of Inefficient City Services

Lack of Economic Development In Underserved Communities

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.)

Emory Graduate

Former Employee of CBS Radio

Former Employee of GA Dept. Juvenile Justice

Former Employee of GA Board of Pardons & Paroles

Former Chief of Staff of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church

Business Owner

President of Greerhriar Campbell ~~for~~ Local Business Assoc.

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

Serving as President of the Greenbriar Campbellton Road Business Association and Chief of Staff of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church caused me to hear first hand the frustration of residents and business owners in Southwest Atlanta as it relates to high crime, inefficient city services, and the lack of economic development. Being actively involved in the community allowed me to see first hand the city's neglect and poor response to the needs of residents and business owners of Southwest Atlanta. Once determining that there was no vision or comprehensive plan to address these issues, I felt obligated to provide leadership and become an advocate for this community.

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

- 1) Greenbriar Campbellton Road Business Assoc.
- 2) Rev. Timothy Flemming, Sr. - Mt. Carmel Baptist Church
- 3) Rev. Leland Jones, Sr. - Greater New Light Baptist Church
- 4) Rev. Eric Thomas - St. Peter Baptist Church
- 5) Ben Hill Merchants Assoc.

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

- 1 - Complete a Comprehensive Audit of All City Revenues And Expenses By An Outside Firm.
- 2 - Identify Wasteful Expenses And Inefficient Services
- 3 - Cut Non-essential Staff, Services, and Overlapping and Duplicating Processes.
- 4 - Consider Outsourcing Those Services The City Does Not Carry Out In the Most Effective And Inefficient Manner.

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?

- 1 - Using Current Stimulus Dollars
- 2 - Continuing To Cut Wasteful Spending in the Budget
- 3 - Reducing othe Department Budgets and Redireckng More Money To Public Safety

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?

I would continue TADS, but seek to include more organizations with varying perspectives so Development would not be one-sided and more Atlanta Communities could benefit from Redevelopment Projects. In Addition, I would seek more incentives And Rewards For Developers who Develop Projects in less Attractive Communities.

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's ability to implement.

I would initiate a campaign to educate citizens outside immediate Metro Atlanta on how allowing the expansion of Marta into their counties would improve their quality of life.

9. In your opinion, what are the three greatest infrastructure problems facing Atlanta over the next four years? Please rank them in terms of importance and urgency.

1) Continuing To Repair Our Water and  
Sewer System.

2) Maintaining our Streets And Roads

3) Preserving Our Green Space