



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, 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: Ray Abram

Position Sought: Atlanta City Council District 11

Address: P.O. Box 42761

City, State, ZIP: Atlanta, GA 30311

Telephone: 678-427-8679 Cell phone: [Click here to enter text.](#)

E-mail address: ray@rayabram.com

Campaign Web site address: www.rayabram.com

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

Name: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Relationship to candidate: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(e.g. Administrative assistant, campaign manager, etc.)

Address: [Click here to enter text.](#)

City, State, ZIP: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Telephone: [Click here to enter text.](#) Cell phone: [Click here to enter text.](#)

E-mail address: [Click here to enter text.](#)



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?

Public Safety – Without confidence in our ability to make people feel safe and to deliver emergency services such as Fire and Ambulance, we lose the confidence of our citizens and businesses. As the population of the City of Atlanta has changed the level of public safety service has not met the needs. We must have a multipronged approach to public safety.

- a) **More police – commitment contracts with officers moving from our training academy to the force. Officers who go through the Atlanta Training Academy must be required to be a member of the City of Atlanta Police Force for a period of x years after we have made that investment in their training.**

911 Response – No delay in call response. We must be able to meet the emergency requests of our citizens.

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.)**

I'm a 12 year resident of the City of Atlanta and I've lived in District 11 for the past 10 years and I'm a passionate and active member of my community. To be active you must be involve and to be involve you must serve. This is my stance and desire .



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

The recent escalation of break-in's in my neighborhood in which I was a victim-
Neighborhood Policing – Evaluate the distribution of officers compared to the impact of
crime and ensure there is a police presence in neighborhoods that have significant crime
impacts. Evaluate the distribution of police at Atlanta Airport compared to neighborhoods
where we live work and play.

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

- 1) None
- 2) Click here to enter text
- 3) Click here to enter text.
- 4) Click here to enter text.
- 5) Click here to enter text.

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

- 1. Great efficiency in government
- 2. Collecting money due to the city
- 3. Economic development – small business need assistance to thrive



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 this goal but I think the present officers can be used more effiecently , we can use the sitimulus money to come and continue to use greater effiecentcy within the department

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 support giving business tax incentives in under-developed areas



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.

We have to provide additional transportation options – other cities have this problem and resolved it with other options. The Key is to give people options that are convent, safe and reliable

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) Roads
- 2) Old buildings with outdated codes
- 3) Sewer line completion