

Springfield City Council Candidate Survey

Bruce Adib-Yazdi, Him / His – City Council General D

I believe in a community where our economy and democracy work for all of us, not just the wealthy few.

Strongly Agree

It seems like the further move into the future, the more wealthy folks have influence on democratic decisions and the less influence people of low to moderate income have. And that since positions like city council are largely unpaid it makes it more difficult for those with less means to be engaged in that level of governance.

Public transportation should be expanded to meet the needs of the community.

Slightly Agree

I believe public transportation is dependent on density of community. So cities that implement smart growth strategies create more accessible, less single occupant car dependent neighborhoods and communities. I also believe that personal transportation such as bicycles, scooters, and pedestrian oriented travel needs to be considered. Lastly we need to look ahead at the trends in work location, and other transportation options that are just emerging.

Public transportation should be free at the point of service (i.e., on the bus).

Moderately Disagree

Transportation costs significant money to create and operate. Access to free personal transportation infrastructure makes sense (ie bicycle or pedestrian) but not necessarily mass transit. It should be accessible, dependable, and affordable for sure.

The right of workers to join unions to negotiate fair wages, benefits, and working conditions without employer interference should be protected.

Slightly Disagree

The work environment has changed over time and ultimately its a personal choice to get up every day and go to a place of employment. I understand however that some employers make it very difficult for people to endure, and sometimes it makes sense in cases for the employees to organize and collectively bargain for better conditions. And that certain project findings require specific wage rates. But I do believe we should be doing more to track and incentivize using local / regional labor on construction projects.

All workers should earn a living wage of at least \$15 per hour.

Slightly Disagree

I agree in creating an environment that allows employers to pay a living wage. It will take small adjustments over time to allow business models and the market to adjust. I think \$15 per hour is an arbitrary and the number needs to be adjusted relative to the cost of living, and average median income of the region.

Workers should have access to earned sick time and family leave to care for loved ones in times of crisis.

Strongly Agree

There should be a federal employment law that mandates this kind of benefit for all full time workers.

Every Springfield resident should have a safe, accessible, and truly affordable place to call home.

Strongly Agree

Agree - and there is no one size fits all for housing solutions. The choice of the individual to accept housing solutions, and their will become a contributing member of a neighborhood or community is another factor.

The city of Springfield should contract with businesses who pay at or above prevailing wage rates and have a proven track record of respecting and protecting workers on the job.

Slightly Agree

Depends on what you mean by prevailing wage, and what kinds of contracts. There is no one size fits all approach for this statement.

The city of Springfield should prioritize contracts with businesses that employ local workers who have access to apprenticeship training.

Slightly Agree

Depends on the kind of contract and expertise and skills required for the apprentice training. There is no one size fits all approach for this.

City leaders should champion policies that eliminate racial disparities and racial injustice in traffic stops and other police interactions, as well as in income, housing options, and public health and safety.

Moderately Agree

This a very complicated statement. I'm not sure policies are always the right approach. I agree we should champion a culture that helps achieve those results.

Would you be willing to sign a pledge based on the items you indicated agreement with? This pledge would be shared publicly. Candidates who choose not to sign the pledge may also be made public.

Yes

Is there anything else you would like for us to know?

(no answer provided)