



Below is the unedited questionnaire response of:

**Mike Russell**  
Atlanta City Council President



### 2021 Candidate Pre-Interview Questionnaire

*Please type your response to questions in the field provided. **Please limit answers to 300 words or less.***

**1. Briefly describe your qualifications for this office and why you have chosen to run. In addition, please identify up to 5 organizations or individuals who are actively supporting your candidacy and why you believe their support is important.**

**2. Please identify the three greatest issues or problems facing the City of Atlanta and specifically how you would work to solve them.**

**3. Describe your leadership style and an example of a strategy you have used to motivate others and deliver results. *[For Mayoral Only]* As Mayor, what will your process be in vetting and selecting your staff and Cabinet leadership?**

**4. Trust in the City's service delivery and responsiveness is waning. What improvements would you make to these core service functions to restore public trust and improve quality of life for citizens and businesses in Atlanta?**

**5. What are your views on the Buckhead cityhood movement? What actions will you take related to this issue?**

**6. What is your philosophy on taxation in the City of Atlanta? What future funding streams do you believe are needed to pay for the things we need to grow? How should these opportunities be evaluated?**

**7. If elected, describe your role in ensuring ethical and transparent management of City resources by City employees.**

**8. Describe your philosophy as to the City of Atlanta's role in implementing public safety reform. Which strategies should be prioritized, and if elected, how will you work to advance them? What partnerships are necessary to achieving success?**

**9. What role should diversion and policing alternatives play in the City's broader public safety strategy? How are these programs evaluated and funded?**

**10. What role should the City of Atlanta play in economic development? What is your perspective on urban redevelopment tools as the City competes for jobs, talent, and its share of economic growth?**

**11. What role should the City of Atlanta play in addressing economic mobility and the racial wealth gap? Which tools and strategies would your office advance, if elected?**

**12. As we emerge from the pandemic, what are the major challenges facing the City for economic recovery? How will your candidacy address them?**

**13. What strategies would you implement to improve the City's supply of affordable housing? What are the barriers to succeeding on this front and how will you work to overcome them?**

**14. What strategies would you implement to protect residents from being displaced from their communities, as housing prices continue to rise and eviction moratoriums expire?**

**15. What improvements, if any, need to be made to transparency and oversight on the More MARTA program? How should candidates for city appointments to the MARTA board be vetted and approved?**

**16. Describe your philosophy on the City's current infrastructure backlog. If elected, what strategies will you pursue to ensure forward progress is made? How would you expedite project delivery in the City?**

**17. How important is sustainability to Atlanta's continued growth and vitality? What sustainability initiatives have been most successful in Atlanta to-date and how build you upon them?**