

Below is the unedited questionnaire response of:

Ivory Young
Atlanta City Council
District 3



2017 Candidate Pre-Interview Questionnaire

Please type response to questions in the field provided. You may also attach a resume or other description to provide us with additional detail

1. Describe briefly your qualifications for this office. In addition, please identify up to 5 organizations or individuals who are actively supporting your candidacy and why you believe their support is important.

QUALIFICATIONS

- I am a 25 year resident of Atlanta City Council District 3
- I have formerly served as secretary of NPU-L for 3 years and Chairperson of NPU-L for 3 years
- Graduate of Hampton University where I earned a Bachelor of Architecture Degree. In my professional practice I am responsible for implementing 100's of units of Affordable Housing, Development of the Westside Village; Sponsored and/or supported legislative efforts to develop West Midtown; managed the construction to reopen schools in District 3.
- I am a 4 term Incumbent of Atlanta City Council District 3
- 2017 Councilmember Ivory Young has successfully engaged new partners to implement positive reforms in Housing, Education, Human Services, Workforce Development and Public Safety for existing residents in District 3 neighborhoods.
- I have implemented policy designed to stop the affects of gentrification which protect the interest existing residents of Atlanta City Council District

ACTIVE SUPPORTERS TO RE-ELECTION

- **National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. Metro Atlanta Chapters**
The National Coalition of 100 Black Women and I are focused on many of the same issues Education, Health, Economic Empowerment. We have and will continue to collaborate on projects these and many other issues.
- **Ms. Joyce Jones:** Lifelong resident of District 3 we are always engaged with each other addressing the needs of District 3. Mrs. Joyce Jones and I work closely establishing policies around workforce development; Youth Development; Senior Citizen Services; and advocacy for affordable housing and economic development.
- **Congressman John Lewis:** United State House of Representatives 5th Congressional District
All 15+ years I've served I have always partnered with Congressman Lewis. He has keep me abreast of the national issues impacting his local district in City Council District 3 . We have collaborated on sending youth to Washington DC during Congressional Black Caucus.
- **Mr. Benjamin Dickerson:** President Urban Villa Chairperson NPU-J
As a former NPU Chairperson my relationship with every neighborhood is unique. But with Mr. Dickerson he is plugged me in to address numerous constituent concerns at a grassroots level that we dialogue which is beneficial to the day to day delivery of city services for many areas throughout City Council District 3.
- **Reverend Anthony Motley:** Pastor Lindsay Street Baptist Church
Reverend is actively engaged in many ministries which we have supported. He engages our office to address critical issues confronting our constituents. Some of efforts have to constructive changes in city ordinances and public policy.

2. What is your vision for the City of Atlanta and how would you implement it? Please be specific.

Introduction

We have spent many months perfecting Community Benefit Plans around the needs of neighborhood that border the new Atlanta Falcon Stadium. I helped through the Westside Future Fund Board of Directors whose Board of Directors I sit to start and complete an "Action Plan": for Vine City, English Avenue, Ashview Heights, Castleberry Hill. But we did not stop there we have funded and kicked off another effort for every neighborhood throughout Atlanta City Council District 3. The exercise is Westside Revive". All of these planning exercises allow for our District 3 Office to engage neighborhoods throughout our district. Established plans which are prioritized by the neighborhoods throughout District 3 have provided the start of a critical path for solutions.

I have successfully engaged existing and new partners to implement positive reforms in Housing, Education, Human Services and Public Safety for existing residents in District 3 neighborhoods.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

I have help to initiate on Atlanta's Westside new projects utilizing existing community developers like Quest Communities led by Leonard Adams off of Joseph Lowery Blvd. in Vine City; City of Refuge led by Pastor Bruce Deel located on Joseph Boone Blvd. Higher Ground Empowerment led by Bishop Dexter Johnson in Vine City for Senior Citizens, Sadie Mays Rehabilitative Health Center New Independent Living Housing in Dixie Hills; As well as a number of Single Family Homes to be built by private sector developers at Grove Park; Hunter Hills; Pine Acres Urban Villa. In addition continue to support new mixed used development in Castleberry Hills; West Midtown; In Vine City and Washington Park Communities.

I also supported and presently are implementing a \$40 Million Bond for loans and grants to renovate the homes of senior citizens & families to build affordable housing throughout District 3 and the City of Atlanta..

I presently the Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Repairer of The Breach International Ministries (R.O.T.B.I.M.) founded and Directed by wife Minister Shalise Steele Young. R.O.T.B.I.M. is a Christian Ministry focused on providing supportive Housing Homeless Families mostly women and women with children along Case Management and a number of other supportive services.

GENTRIFICATION

With the support of my Board members at the Westside Future Fund we have established an "Anti-displacement Tax Fund which will absorb increases in taxes for the next twenty years. We are also pushing now through the beltline Tax Allocation District to expand the Tax Fund to other low income neighborhood around The Beltline.

EDUCATION

I worked very closely with the District 2 Atlanta Public School Member to bring support from the Westside Future Fund Board Members to provide improved support to every student in City Council District 3. So far we have reduced classroom sizes and successfully advocated for expansion of quality early learning programs.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

With our partners we have established "Westside Works" . Westside Works is a Job Training and Career Placement organization. I advocated for the creation of this program and that it be led by a committed community Stakeholder. The Westside Works Headquarters was built on land owned by Quest Community Development and the Program is being managed and directed by Integrity Community Development Corporation led by Reverend Howard Beckham.

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Public Infrastructure is being implemented which I successfully helped to seek and obtain approval through the Re-new Atlanta Bond Referendum. I supported \$250 Million Renew Atlanta Bond Referendum to repair failed infrastructure has provided funding to renovate all the District 3 Fire Houses; and build new and renovate existing Parks throughout District 3. Of course this includes a number of street paving, sidewalk projects and traffic signalization.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Also engaging with our community partners this time the Atlanta Police Foundation are building number of housing units for Atlanta Police Officers as well as residents in the communities of District 3. In addition we have unprecedented numbers of cameras on the street throughout Atlanta City Council District 3. We also have unprecedented support from private donors with the support of the Atlanta Police Foundation to open a new Youth Center in the English Avenue Neighborhood intended to serve youth all over District 3.

3. As a City Council member, how would you manage collaborating with your colleagues on difficult citywide issues versus representing your own constituents?

We have strived for years and continue to have a no nonsense City Council which provides great respect to the neighborhoods and City Council District Impacted by a particular policy or issue. We charge District Councilmember to be a representative of the needs of those impacted by issues. Citywide issues have to always contemplate what is the greater good for all of Atlanta. We have also profited greatly by having a diverse council including diverse racially, economically, sexual orientation and our various professional back grounds. This diversity has been critical to helping the City Council to produce the best results.

4. How do you view the City of Atlanta's financial position? Should the City of Atlanta have additional tools in place to ensure financial management going forward?

Our bond rating from Moody's has never been stronger for Atlanta because we have made good choices that have contributed to Atlanta having a strong economy. Our Cities pension is fully funded. Our Restricted reserves at the city also are presently at its highest are at \$150 million. Most important is that the City of has had 6 years of balanced budgets.

5. Please describe your philosophy regarding property tax assessments and municipal taxation.

We have profited from having great advisors regarding our budget. But it is critical that council knows the decision we make that to provide jobs; to encourage new investment; to continue making improvement with our schools and education; to make this city safe place to live and raise a family; and to continue to create opportunities for the world to enjoy all of our cities amenities. All of these factors impact a stable economy and reduces the burden on individual tax payers. Assessments from year to year have to consider visionary forecasting and transformation in every neighborhood as balanced approach to establish property tax assessment.

6. What is your opinion of Atlanta's MOST, and what approach do you support to fund long-term water and sewer operations?

The MOST was critical to helping spread the burden of Consent Decree for a redeveloped sewer infrastructure. Without the MOST bills would have been much higher. MOST allows for the burden of these infrastructure cost to be spread to those who don't live here but use our infrastructure.

7. Would you change the current procurement process to protect against “pay to play”? If so, what changes would you support?

Our procurement laws sound. We must always support transparency throughout the procurement process.

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

Full disclosure of finances both our individual accounts; Any business interest we have must be fully disclosed; we must disclose potential and real conflicts of interest and recuse ourselves whenever required.

9. What economic development strategies would you prioritize to ensure the City of Atlanta captures its fair share of future job growth?

- We must continue to bolster tourism.
- We must support quality Public Education
- We must enforce our First Source Hiring policy for ALL city contracts

10. What strategies would you implement to ensure an adequate supply of affordable housing?

An Inclusionary Zoning Policy is long over due.
Encourage higher degrees of affordability for ALL development.

11. What workforce development strategies should the next administration prioritize? How will these strategies address and improve economic mobility among low-to-mid skill workers?

We must continue expand Westside Works.

12. What are the three most important transportation/infrastructure projects that should occur in the City of Atlanta? Please rank them by importance and urgency and explain your reasoning.

1. Renew Atlanta Bond Infrastructure Projects
2. Beltline
3. Consent Decree

13. What strategies would you pursue to improve the safety – both real and perceived – of all residents, visitors, and workers in Atlanta? What partnerships are needed to realize these strategies?

Stronger Beat APD Patrols
More Cameras and License Plate Readers
Stronger Community Policing

14. Georgia ranks 49th among states for per-capita arts funding. What actions would you take to ensure our arts and culture organizations have the funding they need to thrive and enrich our city?

We must continue fund Arts an Culture.