

Dane Dems Endorsement Questionnaire

Thank you for seeking an endorsement from the Dane County Democratic Party. You do not need to answer all of the questions below, but please answer all of the ones you feel are pertinent to your campaign. We will ask more detailed questions and followups during our interview, if we choose to have one, so feel free to answer these questions as briefly or thoroughly as you desire. These answers will be shared in full with our membership before they vote on your endorsement.

Email *

vote@nasrafordistrict7.com

Candidate name *

Nasra

Position you are running for (include municipality) *

Madison Common Council District 7

Campaign website

www.nasrafordistrict7.com

Professional Experience *

Consultant

Political/Service Experience *

I am a proud resident of District 7 and have lived in Madison for the past 34 years. Throughout my professional and volunteer roles, I have gained the experience necessary to organize individuals for collective action, as well as inclusive decision-making that ensures all voices are heard. I am a leader who understands the issues at hand, listens to a constituent's problems, and advocates for them.

Why are you running for this seat? *

I am running for re-election to continue serving District 7 and city of Madison.

What are the three most important issues in your race? *

Public Safety, Affordable Housing and Equitable Transportation

What are the largest environmental concerns you aim to deal with in office?

Addressing environmental concerns such as air quality, environmental hazard and water quality will require a multi-faceted approach, including education, outreach, and community engagement. Collaboration among stakeholders will be critical to finding solutions to these challenges.

How will you use your position to create more equitable opportunities and help those living in poverty?

We, as policy makers need to take the word equity serious. Although Madison is progressive city, it is not for everyone. One way to fight poverty is wealth creation. I will continue supporting minority-owned businesses programs by providing technical assistance and access to capital. Additionally, workforce development programs such as training and job placement services can help those facing barriers to employment.

What will you do to address racial inequality?

Creating opportunities for community members to participate in the policymaking process and providing forums for feedback and input is very important in creating a more equitable and inclusive city. This includes community-based planning processes and community-led initiatives to address issues such as public safety, economic development, transportation, employment, and housing.

How will you promote restorative justice and address racially biased policing?

I support Chief Barnes community policing strategies, where police officers are assigned to neighborhoods to build trust between the police and the community. Additionally, I will recommend de-escalation, cultural competency and implicit bias training.

How will you improve the public health of our community in your position?

Access to healthy food is an important factor in overall health. Increasing funding for programs such as farmers markets and community-supported agriculture programs will provide healthy food options in low-income neighborhoods. Other public health issues include Covid 19. Taking preventive approaches such as vaccination will help contain the pandemic.

What are the largest transportation issues you wish to work on and how will you address them?

Transportation is one of the major barriers for those living in poverty in Madison, especially if they do not have access to a car. I will continue advocating investing in the expansion of public transportation, including creating more frequent and convenient bus routes. Also, expanding BRT to the far West, North and Southside.

How have you elevated diverse voices in government and public discourse? How would you continue to do so if elected to this office?

As a policy maker, it is important we engage, educate, communicate, and collaborate with our Madison residents. During my tenure I have always looked into diverse perspectives on issues affecting our community. I will continue establishing community engagement initiatives that provide opportunities for input and feedback from underrepresented communities. For example, as boards and commissions play an important role in shaping policies and decisions in our city, it is important they are representative of the community. I will recommend increasing recruitment of diverse voices on boards and commissions.

Any other issues/topics you wish to discuss?

Madison, like many other cities in the country, has a shortage of affordable housing. To address this, I would like to see council implementing inclusionary zoning policy, which requires developers to set aside a percentage of units as affordable.

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