

Dane Dems Endorsement Questionnaire

Thank you for seeking an endorsement from the Dane County Democratic Party. **This questionnaire is due by no later than Friday, January 24, at 11:59 PM.**

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 and mark the questions you do not feel are pertinent N/A. 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 *

reigstadforfitchburg@gmail.com

Candidate name *

Logan Reigstad

Position you are running for (include municipality) *

Fitchburg Alderperson, District 3, Seat 5

Campaign website

loganreigstad.com

Professional Experience *

1.25 years as a communications specialist for an office at UW-Madison; ~8 years in local TV newsrooms around the country (see my LinkedIn profile for more details: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/logan-reigstad-5b503aa1/>)

Political/Service Experience *

Current service roles: Member of the Fitchburg Transportation & Transit Commission; secretary of the Prairie Park at Swan Creek Condo Association's Board of Directors

Why are you running for this seat? *

I'm a collaborative, next-generation leader who embodies the change our district has seen in recent years. Our district needs a pragmatic problem-solver dedicated to working tirelessly to make our city a better place, not a pontificator who is hung up on the arguments of the past.

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

1. Housing affordability and availability; 2. Smart growth that is fiscally and environmentally sustainable; 3. Building a more connected, informed, engaged, and unified community

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

As Fitchburg grows rapidly, we need to ensure our neighborhoods are built and upgraded in ways that reduce runoff into our lakes, capture increasing volumes of water from larger weather events, and support multiple ways of getting around -- not just single-occupancy vehicle trips.

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

Housing is most people's single largest monthly expense. We need to quickly put our affordable housing fund into action to create additional affordable units, require developers who receive city support for projects to include workforce units, and collaborate with nonprofits to support homeownership and stable housing opportunities. We also need to bolster our transit system so those who cannot afford a vehicle or choose not to own one can get to work and enjoy the amenities that make our city special.

What will you do to address racial inequality, promote restorative justice, and/or address racially biased policing?

I would like to see Fitchburg explore either partnering with Madison to expand the existing CARES program to our city or create a similar local program. As a city, we need to work proactively to provide neighborhood-driven resources and opportunities that allow people to feel connected to their community and invested in its success. I believe that people who feel a strong sense of belonging are less likely to fall into a cycle of incarceration and will help hold their friends and neighbors accountable, lessening the need for law enforcement intervention. We also need to prioritize data-driven approaches to community investment, since we know the loudest voices at city council meetings are often those of older, whiter, and more affluent community members who can more easily navigate the complex systems of local government. If elected, I will prioritize regular communication with residents that breaks down the "government-ese," and I will hold listening sessions around the district to solicit regular input and meet people where they are rather than require them to find a way to get to City Hall.

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

I will support continued investment in our parks and trails, encourage people to reduce their reliance on their vehicles, and promote events that bring people together and build a sense of unity and belonging.

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

Parts of our community are quite disconnected and not easy to navigate for those without vehicles. Expanding our existing transit service to connect our city from east to west and enhance paratransit service is something I will prioritize, as is making our streets safer for all users. I will advocate for implementing traffic calming tools -- even temporary ones -- to improve safety, and I will back our forthcoming Vision Zero proposal.

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

As an elected official, I will use my platform to elevate the voices of my constituents by providing space and resources to weigh in on important issues, and I'll help them navigate our local government systems to make sure their input gets to the right place at the right time. As a journalist, I used my platform in a similar way, striving to find people who were directly affected by an issue and taking their concerns directly to those in power. I also know when my voice is not the best one to take up the verbal space in a room; rather than speaking on someone's behalf, I want to empower and equip individuals of all backgrounds to share their perspectives.

Any other issues/topics you wish to discuss?

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