

Environmental Questions for Candidates

Approved in 2018, the Evanston Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP) identifies actions our City must take to meaningfully address climate change. The following questions relate to the various elements of CARP and align with the actions featured in the plan. Citizens' Greener Evanston appreciates your participation. Your responses will be shared with the community in advance of the election.

Evanston Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP)

<https://www.cityofevanston.org/home/showdocument?id=45170>

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Select your Ward *

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1. What are the top 3 things you have you done in your personal life to reduce your own, or your family's environmental impact? *

I am just a household of 1, but in an effort to lessen my personal impact, I decided to not own a car. I succeeded for 8 months and then succumbed and purchased a used fiat. I have eliminated all paper products from my kitchen for last 6 years - napkins, papertowels etc. I recycle everything possible, recycle the plastic bags that some how show up at recycle locations, bring my own bags to stores when allowed, use large appliances late at night.

2. List 1-4 steps you would take to help implement the CARP plan incorporating key City departments and decision-making processes. *

I support Fleet service upgrades to electric vehicles, Community Development ongoing review of green building code, Streets and Sanitation addressing - where is our recycling going? Legislation and education is necessary if Zero Waste is not just a catch phrase. We must expand our recycling program, Planning and zoning rethink parking requirements. Sustainability coordinator's work continue to engage com ed and maintain Community commitment to aggregation.

3. What are your top environmental or climate priorities for the City? *

Improve our recycling program so that our solid waste stream is reduced. Phasing out of use of natural gas, save our lake front from erosion.

4. The City just passed an Environmental Justice Resolution. What steps should be taken to ensure that Environmental Justice (EJ) is incorporated into City Code and that all City staff is trained to identify and tackle EJ issues? *

Environmental Justice Resolution (Click Link) - <https://www.cityofevanston.org/home/showpublisheddocument?id=59213>

I think that the resolution sets forth the steps. The resolution orders that staff all be trained to review and analyse all issues through the equity lens to achieve environmental justice, the resolution calls for the City to:

"Incorporate environmental justice into City ordinances, codes, policies and processes in consultation with stakeholders. "Create a meaningful public engagement policy and decision making process in collaboration with the City's Equity and Empowerment Commission. Develop and maintain a geographic information system (GIS) inventory of environmental justice areas in Evanston, defined as regions where there are likely to be disparities in access to environmental assets or exposure to hazards."

5. Building energy consumption is the greatest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Evanston. Assertive action and meaningful behavior change to address building energy consumption are needed to mitigate the gravest impacts of the climate crisis. Would you endorse: *

	Yes	No	Maybe
Updating the building code to require LEED Gold Certification or higher on new construction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Updating the building code to improve overall building energy efficiency beyond the minimum requirements of the State of Illinois Energy Conservation Code?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. List 1-3 of your ideas to engage and educate the public so that Evanstonians have the knowledge and resources to address the climate crisis. *

As an alderman I will take more responsibility for educating residents on why climate mitigating actions are important. We can learn and commit to take those actions those including participating in Electricity Aggregation. Since 2012, program has resulted in a reduction of 445,154 MTCO₂ e of emissions, which is equivalent to 95,322 passenger vehicles driven for one year. Zero Waste - Additionally, as a city a lot more must be done to recycle - we should be doing better. Legislate required recycling commercial and residential. Every single building. We cannot continue to discuss zero waste and be cavelere about our garbage and waste of all kinds Transportation and Mobility Time has come when must STOP demanding developers make their buildings auto friendly. Evanston encourages people to have cars when we do that. If we had conversations about about these issues, there would be a much greater buy in.

7. List 1-3 of your ideas to ensure that our most vulnerable residents are prepared for the challenges of climate change such as extreme heat, flooding, etc. and that they know where to get support when facing such challenges. *

"When looking at the poverty rates of the largest 100 cities, the pattern still follows: The poorer the city, the higher its vulnerability to climate change, and the lower its preparedness for those impacts."

8. Would you endorse: *

	Yes	No	Maybe
A pathway to free beach access for all?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
An affordable pathway to lead pipe replacement?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

9. How would you advance green infrastructure in Evanston? *

Info: <https://www.epa.gov/green-infrastructure/what-green-infrastructure>

Downspout Disconnection Years ago the city ordered most downspouts be disconnected
 Rainwater Harvesting city has issued rain barrels all over town - see them sitting unused, let us get them where they are needed
 Rain Gardens, we have all over and city maintains several
 Planter Boxes, Many of our schools have wonderful programs
 Bioswales frequently utilized Greenbay Road example
 Permeable Pavements, commonplace in Evanston
 Green Streets and Alleys We are using permeable alleys more
 Green Parking we have some
 Green Roofs encouraged
 Urban Tree Canopy sacred
 Land Conservation I am concerned the presevation of our eroding lakefront needs attention.

10. Reducing food waste is a top climate solution. The USDA estimates that 30-40% of food is wasted in the US, while as many as 14% of Evanston residents may be food insecure. List 1-3 ideas to ensure all people in Evanston have enough healthy food to eat. *

The USDA estimates that 30 - 40% of food is wasted in the US. <https://www.usda.gov/foodwaste/faqs> 14% of Evanston residents may be food insecure. <https://icma.org/articles/article/evanston-il-producemobile-continues-provide-fresh-fruits-and-vegetables-community>

Produce mobile must be supported, link card use at farmer's market, grocers such s Valli must be encouraged to advertise and sell bruised but perfectly safe fruits and vegetables

11. List 1-3 ideas to combat food waste in Evanston, including at schools. *

serve better food, allow for more choices at schools for residents, more education. In terms of providing food to those in need, we should enhance the current food pantry service so that residents are able to appear in person and gather items of their choice rather than be provided items that may not be useful. This would decrease waste of items purchased for food boxes that are not needed or wanted.

12. Would you endorse: *

	Yes	No	Maybe
A path to ban all single-use plastics, including shopping bags?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expanding bulk shopping options at stores?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

13. How would you support a circular economy in Evanston? *

Info: <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/circular-economy/concept>

I would really appreciate your letting me study this.

14. List 1-3 ideas you have to advance climate-friendly transportation and mobility in Evanston, either through project investments or big picture changes to urban development planning. *

answer is post covid - wish we had more money - I love the Levy bus that transports seniors all over. I think it would be wonderful if Evanston had a local electric bus program, new motorized scooter are a plus, Feds, state etc need to get serious and provide Evanston with service.

15. Would you endorse: *

Yes

No

Maybe

Preserving large native trees on private land?

More info -

<http://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1635842,00.html>



Requiring bird-friendly construction on new buildings and renovations, like Chicago and New York City? More info -

<https://studiogang.com/publication/Chicago-tribune-safer-migration-chicago-birds>



Leaving leaves to decompose on city properties, rather than hauling them? More info - <https://awaytogarden.com/fall-cleanup-with-ecology-in-mind-with-doug-tallamy/>



Expanding the city ban on gas, propane and electric leaf blowers? More info - https://library.municode.com/il/evanston/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT9PUSA_CH5GEOF_9-5-20NOPR

and <https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/109428.html>



Additional Comments

The ban on leaf blowers is complicated and we are in the midst of trying to but together fair legislation.

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