

# 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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First Name \*

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Candidate type \*

Alderman

Ward Information

Select your Ward \*

## Environmental Questions for Candidates

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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? \*

Our family of 6 has two raised garden beds that (ideally) provide many of vegetables, all the compost etc. that goes along with that and have upgrade all the windows/insulation/mechanicals in our 100 or so year old bungalow

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

CARP goals need to be clear and measurable. This is true across city policy objectives, but particularly here. The city needs to set measurable goals with timelines, transparently display progress and be held accountable by the public when we come up short. I also advocate the inclusion of equity and CARP impact notes (separate notes) on ordinances and purchases.

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

Lakefront protection and preservation, CARP implementation

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>

Increased public engagement

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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?




Updating the building code to improve overall building energy efficiency beyond the minimum requirements of the State of Illinois Energy Conservation Code?




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. \*

Turn Kumar Jensen loose on the community more often

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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. \*

Prioritize retrofitting of structures

8. Would you endorse: \*

Yes

No

Maybe

A pathway to free beach access for all?

An affordable pathway to lead pipe replacement?

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

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

Along the same lines as the notes above. Make this a part of all capital infrastructure projects specifically and measurably.

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>

Make zero food waste a school board priority

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

Make zero food waste a school board priority

12. Would you endorse: \*

Yes

No

Maybe

A path to ban all single-use plastics, including shopping bags?




Expanding bulk shopping options at stores?




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

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

easier recycling and reuse, we should pursue textile recycling again

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. \*

sidewalk analysis, there are too many incomplete streets in Evanston

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](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

I am very likely to support updating the building code to require LEED Gold Certification or higher on new construction and preserving large native trees on private land, but need to better understand if this would conflict with affordability goals and how we could mitigate that.

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