

# **District One**

## **Tommy Smith (Incumbent)**

### **Introduction**

Please briefly describe yourself and why you are running for Knoxville City Council.

*I am passionate improving the quality of life for Knoxvilleians. Our town is full of small businesses, connected neighborhoods, and natural resources. When combined with an affordable cost of living, Knoxville is a dream place to live.*

### **Use of Active Transportation**

How often do you walk for transportation or recreation?

*Very frequently*

How often do you ride a bicycle for transportation or recreation?

*Somewhat frequently*

### **Allocation of Resources for Active Transportation**

How do you feel about the allocation of resources to pedestrian infrastructure?

*Needs to be somewhat increased*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*We should invest in community connections for all forms of transportation, particularly those that lessen our road infrastructure burden.*

How do you feel about the allocation of resources to bicycle infrastructure?

*Needs to be somewhat increased*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*No answer provided.*

Please describe what your active transportation priorities would be as a member of the Knoxville City Council.

*Community connections by trail, bike lanes, and sidewalks.*

### **Vision Zero and Active Transportation Safety**

[According to the Knoxville Regional Transportation Organization, it is 11x more likely for a pedestrian or bicyclist to be killed in a traffic crash compared to a motorist. Vision Zero](#) establishes the goal of reducing the number of traffic fatalities and serious injuries down to zero, and provides a framework for accomplishing this while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all.

How likely are you to support Mayor Kincannon in passing a Vision Zero Knoxville resolution, which would convene a working group to develop and implement a Vision Zero Knoxville Action Plan?

*Very likely*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*No answer provided.*

Please describe what your priorities would be as a member of the Knoxville City Council regarding safety for all roadway users, especially vulnerable roadway users such as cyclists and pedestrians.

*No answer provided.*

### **Active Transportation Infrastructure**

Please rank your infrastructure priorities. (1 - Low Priority, 10 - High Priority)

- Vehicle Roadways - 10
- Greenways - 10
- Sidewalks - 10
- Bike Lanes - 10

Please describe your vision for active transportation infrastructure in Knoxville, and how you would use your position on the Knoxville City Council to achieve that vision.

*No answer provided.*

### **Miscellaneous**

In respect to active transportation in Knoxville, what do you think the City has done well and what do you think needs to be done better?

*We must continue to invest in public transportation that connects people to jobs and neighborhoods. That public infrastructure must be multimodal and lower our long-term road maintenance burden.*

Is there anything else you would like to share related to active transportation, safety, and/or infrastructure?

No answer provided.

## **Elizabeth Murphy**

Candidate has not responded to the Active Transportation survey.

## **District Two**

### **Andrew Roberto (Incumbent)**

#### **Introduction**

Please briefly describe yourself and why you are running for Knoxville City Council.

*I am excited to continue to serve you on City Council, because the job isn't finished yet and my experience as an effective member of City Council will allow us to meet the challenges of the next four years. We've been through a lot together. The 2nd district knows me, Knoxville knows me and how hard I work. You know my record as a passionate neighborhood advocate, champion for the environment and a walkable city. In a second term I will continue working to ensure all citizens have equal access to the same great opportunities I accessed growing up in Knoxville.*

#### **Use of Active Transportation**

How often do you walk for transportation or recreation?

*Somewhat frequently*

How often do you ride a bicycle for transportation or recreation?

*Occasionally*

#### **Allocation of Resources for Active Transportation**

How do you feel about the allocation of resources to pedestrian infrastructure?

*Needs to be greatly increased*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*I worked to double the yearly budget for new sidewalk construction from 2017 to 2019. However in the last two budgets there has been no funding for new sidewalk construction.*

*The 2020 sidewalk study is still in draft form and identifies the need for specific new sidewalk projects.*

How do you feel about the allocation of resources to bicycle infrastructure?

*Needs to be greatly increased*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*In the 2nd District we have expanded bike lanes along the southside of Kingston Pike between Golf Club Road and Wesley Road, but more needs to be done to connect and improve bike lanes across the city.*

Please describe what your active transportation priorities would be as a member of the Knoxville City Council.

*Over the four years that I have served on City Council, I have worked to expand bike lanes, sidewalks, parks and greenways. I will continue this work to connect our community and provide multimodal opportunities in Knoxville.*

## **Vision Zero and Active Transportation Safety**

[According to the Knoxville Regional Transportation Organization, it is 11x more likely for a pedestrian or bicyclist to be killed in a traffic crash compared to a motorist. Vision Zero](#) establishes the goal of reducing the number of traffic fatalities and serious injuries down to zero, and provides a framework for accomplishing this while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all.

How likely are you to support Mayor Kincannon in passing a Vision Zero Knoxville resolution, which would convene a working group to develop and implement a Vision Zero Knoxville Action Plan?

*Very likely*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*Council had a work shop in January and learned more about Vision Zero. I support the data-driven approach we discussed and look forward to supporting the final resolution.*

Please describe what your priorities would be as a member of the Knoxville City Council regarding safety for all roadway users, especially vulnerable roadway users such as cyclists and pedestrians.

*My priority is to increase funding for sidewalks, bike lanes, and greenway connections.*

## **Active Transportation Infrastructure**

Please rank your infrastructure priorities. (1 - Low Priority, 10 - High Priority)

- Vehicle Roadways - 8
- Greenways - 8
- Sidewalks - 8
- Bike Lanes - 8

Please describe your vision for active transportation infrastructure in Knoxville, and how you would use your position on the Knoxville City Council to achieve that vision.

*Continued investment in sidewalks, greenway connections, and bike lane expansion will provide opportunities to exercise all over Knoxville. An expanded active transport network not only can improve the health of our city, it can interconnect communities and provide greater freedom to safely travel around Knoxville for everyone at every economic stage in life.*

### **Miscellaneous**

In respect to active transportation in Knoxville, what do you think the City has done well and what do you think needs to be done better?

*The city has done a good job in identifying needs through the Greenway Corridor Feasibility and Assessment study which proposed 24 miles of greenway trails with 13 proposed greenway corridors. Likewise, the draft sidewalk study does a good job of identifying needed sidewalk expansion. Going forward we need to be more intentional about appropriately funding these needed infrastructure projects.*

Is there anything else you would like to share related to active transportation, safety, and/or infrastructure?

*I have a record of promoting and encouraging sidewalks, greenways, and bike lanes in the 2nd District and citywide. I will continue to work to appropriately fund these needed infrastructure improvements as they not only improve the quality of life in our city but also create a healthier environment for all who call Knoxville home.*

### **Kim Smith**

Candidate has not responded to the Active Transportation survey.

## **District Three**

### **Seema Singh (Incumbent)**

#### **Introduction**

Please briefly describe yourself and why you are running for Knoxville City Council.

*Four years ago, I was a political newcomer and an immigrant whose name was usually mispronounced when introduced at candidate forums. The conventional wisdom was that I would not win this City Council seat.*

*The rest is history: I am now running for my second term as Knoxville's 3rd District City Councilwoman.*

*4 years ago I ran for City Council out of a fierce anger at the state of national politics and pervasive injustice.*

*I have quickly learned that anger can be a motivator to work hard, but it is not the most effective tool for long term policy change.*

*One of the most valuable lessons I have learned is that, to move from the status quo to new and better policy that serves us all, requires an ability to listen, to compromise and to work well with others.*

*I have those abilities. I believe they have served all of us well in my first term.*

### **Use of Active Transportation**

How often do you walk for transportation or recreation?

*Very frequently*

How often do you ride a bicycle for transportation or recreation?

*Somewhat infrequently*

### **Allocation of Resources for Active Transportation**

How do you feel about the allocation of resources to pedestrian infrastructure?

*Needs to be greatly increased*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*Knoxville is one of the most pedestrian-unfriendly cities I have ever lived in. This needs to change for health, safety, and environmental reasons.*

How do you feel about the allocation of resources to bicycle infrastructure?

*Needs to be somewhat increased*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*We need to maintain the momentum that began with the creation of the Urban Wilderness and the annual national bike race competitions (Sorry can't remember the formal name of the competition) that we have been hosting.*

Please describe what your active transportation priorities would be as a member of the Knoxville City Council.

*Sidewalks would be my first priority*

## **Vision Zero and Active Transportation Safety**

[According to the Knoxville Regional Transportation Organization, it is 11x more likely for a pedestrian or bicyclist to be killed in a traffic crash compared to a motorist. Vision Zero](#) establishes the goal of reducing the number of traffic fatalities and serious injuries down to zero, and provides a framework for accomplishing this while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all.

How likely are you to support Mayor Kincannon in passing a Vision Zero Knoxville resolution, which would convene a working group to develop and implement a Vision Zero Knoxville Action Plan?

*Very likely*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*The data you provide on pedestrian and bicyclist safety speaks for itself. Thank you.*

Please describe what your priorities would be as a member of the Knoxville City Council regarding safety for all roadway users, especially vulnerable roadway users such as cyclists and pedestrians.

*More sidewalks and bike lanes and signage making motorists more aware of pedestrians and bikers.*

## **Active Transportation Infrastructure**

Please rank your infrastructure priorities. (1 - Low Priority, 10 - High Priority)

- Vehicle Roadways - 4
- Greenways - 9
- Sidewalks - 9
- Bike Lanes - 8

Please describe your vision for active transportation infrastructure in Knoxville, and how you would use your position on the Knoxville City Council to achieve that vision.

*Since this has not previously been a top focus of mine I feel uninformed and I would like to hear your best ideas on this issue.*

## **Miscellaneous**

In respect to active transportation in Knoxville, what do you think the City has done well and what do you think needs to be done better?

*POSITIVE: Urban Wilderness and other greenways NEGATIVE: Forcing pedestrians onto unsafe roads due to not prioritizing funding for more sidewalks.*

Is there anything else you would like to share related to active transportation, safety, and/or infrastructure?

*Thank you for continuing your advocacy on this very important issue.*

## **Nick Ciparro**

Candidate has not responded to the Active Transportation survey.

## **District Four**

### **Lauren Rider (Incumbent)**

#### **Introduction**

Please briefly describe yourself and why you are running for Knoxville City Council.

*Active in North Knoxville, worked with neighbors on traffic calming, zoning issues, and reinvestment to residential and commercial areas.*

#### **Use of Active Transportation**

How often do you walk for transportation or recreation?

*Very frequently*

How often do you ride a bicycle for transportation or recreation?

*Very frequently*

#### **Allocation of Resources for Active Transportation**

How do you feel about the allocation of resources to pedestrian infrastructure?

*Needs to be greatly increased*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*Sidewalks and greenways from neighborhoods to area businesses is a common ask. People want to walk to commercial nodes. We are missing many segments needed to get adults and children to work, shop, or schools. This is a significant infrastructure investment but demand is high.*

How do you feel about the allocation of resources to bicycle infrastructure?

*Needs to be greatly increased*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*We have added bike lanes bc they are less costly, but they only appeal to those with a higher comfort level in traffic. We need protected or dedicated lanes to serve the 8-80 ages - make bike infrastructure that feels safe for kids and the "non-cyclist"*

Please describe what your active transportation priorities would be as a member of the Knoxville City Council.

*Long range planning and including active transportation planning on the front end will make it more affordable. Retro-fitting is way more costly. When we cut out something because we can't afford it now, it's far less likely it will ever be added in. It's important to plan and fund the infrastructure now that we want in 20 years.*

## **Vision Zero and Active Transportation Safety**

[According to the Knoxville Regional Transportation Organization, it is 11x more likely for a pedestrian or bicyclist to be killed in a traffic crash compared to a motorist. Vision Zero](#) establishes the goal of reducing the number of traffic fatalities and serious injuries down to zero, and provides a framework for accomplishing this while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all.

How likely are you to support Mayor Kincannon in passing a Vision Zero Knoxville resolution, which would convene a working group to develop and implement a Vision Zero Knoxville Action Plan?

*Very likely*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*It's important to plan our traffic engineering for all modes of travel, not just autos. Vision Zero provides a framework to identify areas most in need of improvements and prioritizes those to achieve safety for diverse modes of transit. As an example, my 14 yr old bikes to school now, all kids should have that freedom in a safe manner.*

Please describe what your priorities would be as a member of the Knoxville City Council regarding safety for all roadway users, especially vulnerable roadway users such as cyclists and pedestrians.

*Many community members don't feel safe walking or biking in their own neighborhoods. As a current council member, I have worked with community members and city engineering to identify intersections that need better crossing and safety measures, sidewalks in commonly traveled areas between schools, slowing traffic in pedestrian heavy areas with radar speed signs and calming devices. I am a strong advocate for protected bike lanes. I've seen it in other cities and it works well to provide dedicated and protected space for cyclists. We will city more people chose other modes of transit when we provide safer infrastructure.*

### **Active Transportation Infrastructure**

Please rank your infrastructure priorities. (1 - Low Priority, 10 - High Priority)

- Vehicle Roadways - 7
- Greenways - 9
- Sidewalks - 9
- Bike Lanes - 8

Please describe your vision for active transportation infrastructure in Knoxville, and how you would use your position on the Knoxville City Council to achieve that vision.

*There should be a priority to provide better connections within 1.5 miles of all schools, which is the parent responsibility zone that bus service is not provided.*

*We should aim for all neighborhoods to connect to some greenway or a sidewalk safely. We can also consider incentivizes for new development to include connections. The most cost effective means of increasing infrastructure is on the front end of new development. Retrofitting is more expensive and less attainable. We should also set a goal to connect existing greenways through other publicly owned land as possible. There are utility ROWs that can used to connect some existing greenways.*

*I'm am committed to seeing a protected bike lane within Knoxville. I believe once we add that infrastructure, the benefit will be valued by taxpayers and see higher use than our existing bike lanes.*

### **Miscellaneous**

In respect to active transportation in Knoxville, what do you think the City has done well and what do you think needs to be done better?

*There has been a strong effort to provide bike lanes as spokes to the city center on existing roads in a cost effective way. The use isn't high because they serve those most*

*comfortable navigating traffic on a bike. We need to provide more routes/infrastructure that serve a broader population, 8-80. Infrastructure should serve families, able-bodied, and the older generations.*

Is there anything else you would like to share related to active transportation, safety, and/or infrastructure?

*The initial start-up costs of multi-modal transportation may be seen as high, but the long term benefits can offset other auto-centric transportation costs.*

## **Jim Klonaris**

### **Introduction**

Please briefly describe yourself and why you are running for Knoxville City Council.

*A resident of Knoxville for over 48 years, I have owned and operated over 17 companies creating jobs throughout Knoxville. I'm a graduate of Knox County schools went to the University of Tennessee and have mentored younger adults for more than 2 decades. I've been married for almost 35 years I'm a proud father and grandparent of 5 grandsons.*

### **Use of Active Transportation**

How often do you walk for transportation or recreation?

*Very frequently*

How often do you ride a bicycle for transportation or recreation?

*Very frequently*

### **Allocation of Resources for Active Transportation**

How do you feel about the allocation of resources to pedestrian infrastructure?

*Needs to be somewhat increased*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*Currently I believe there are mostly adequate resources being spent on pedestrian infrastructure but as the city continues to grow, we will need to prioritize accordingly.*

How do you feel about the allocation of resources to bicycle infrastructure?

*Needs to be somewhat increased*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*Currently I believe there are mostly adequate resources being spent on bicycle infrastructure but as the city expands and continues to grow, we will need to prioritize accordingly.*

Please describe what your active transportation priorities would be as a member of the Knoxville City Council.

*As a city council representative my active transportation priorities would be mostly based on the needs of the majority of the constituents. Affordability of public transportation as well as alternative transportation is always important for any thriving city.*

## **Vision Zero and Active Transportation Safety**

[According to the Knoxville Regional Transportation Organization, it is 11x more likely for a pedestrian or bicyclist to be killed in a traffic crash compared to a motorist. Vision Zero](#) establishes the goal of reducing the number of traffic fatalities and serious injuries down to zero, and provides a framework for accomplishing this while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all.

How likely are you to support Mayor Kincannon in passing a Vision Zero Knoxville resolution, which would convene a working group to develop and implement a Vision Zero Knoxville Action Plan?

*Undecided*

Please explain the reasoning behind your response.

*I would need to learn a little bit more about it before making any decisions.*

Please describe what your priorities would be as a member of the Knoxville City Council regarding safety for all roadway users, especially vulnerable roadway users such as cyclists and pedestrians.

*I would always prioritize safety for all users on roadways including bicyclists and pedestrians and alternative modalities. The safety and security of all knoxvilians is important.*

## **Active Transportation Infrastructure**

Please rank your infrastructure priorities. (1 - Low Priority, 10 - High Priority)

- Vehicle Roadways - 8
- Greenways - 6
- Sidewalks - 8
- Bike Lanes - 8

Please describe your vision for active transportation infrastructure in Knoxville, and how you would use your position on the Knoxville City Council to achieve that vision.

*No answer provided.*

### **Miscellaneous**

In respect to active transportation in Knoxville, what do you think the City has done well and what do you think needs to be done better?

*I'm very pleased with the amount of greenways, connective bicycling paths, and pedestrian sidewalks that have been installed over the last 15 years. We need to continue to do this but at the same time, we should also prioritize to improve roadways, increase mechanisms to slow down traffic, and prioritize our spending on sensible infrastructure.*

Is there anything else you would like to share related to active transportation, safety, and/or infrastructure?

*No answer provided.*

## **District Six**

### **Gwen McKenzie (Incumbent)**

Candidate has not responded to the Active Transportation survey.

### **Garrett Holt**

Candidate has not responded to the Active Transportation survey.