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Responses Submitted [April 20, 2018]

Thank you for participating in our voter guide. You should receive an email from us shortly confirming our receipt of your answer. If you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, please contact lwvdc1920@gmail.com.

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Submit Your Responses

Warning:

Please copy and paste your responses from a document that has been saved on your computer.

For questions or problems with this questionnaire, please contact lwvdc1920@gmail.com.

Contact Information

If any of this information is incorrect, please contact lwvdc1920@gmail.com.

Name

David Schwartzman

Party

Statehood Green (GRN)

Contact's Email perryredd@ymail.com

Contact's Name Perry Redd

Candidate Photo Pictures must:

- be JPEG, JPG or PNG format. (File must be converted if it is not in this format; don't just change the filename.)
- be at least 160 pixels wide and 200 pixels high.
- have a file size no larger than 10 MB. (10,240 KB)

In addition, for maximum effectiveness, your picture should be a closely cropped headshot (i.e., do not use a full-body or group shot).

Photo

Drop an image here or click to browse

Biographical Info

Occupation Professor Emeritus, Howard University

This field appears just below your name on the ballot.

Campaign Website

dcsqp.nationbuilder.com/david_schwartzman

Campaign Email dschwartzman@gmail.com

Education B.S., City College of N.Y.; M.S., PhD, Brown University

Qualifications

More than 50 years experience as activist for peace, civil and human rights

Resident in DC since 1976, live in Brightwood neighborhood, Ward 4

Chair, Political Policy and Action Committee, DC Statehood Green Party

Member of: ONE DC, Empower DC, the Fair Budget Coalition, Grassroots Planning Coalition, Green Neighbors, Metro DC Democratic Socialists of America, DC for Democracy
Steering Committee: DC Public Banking Center, DC Human Rights City Committee.

Facebook]

<http://www.facebook.com/david.schwartzman.31>

Twitter

[@DavidSchwartzm1](https://twitter.com/DavidSchwartzm1)

Campaign Questions

What policies would you support to improve the economic prosperity of our city?

DC's very high income inequality and racial wealth disparities must be reduced by progressive taxation, tapping into the sizable tax base of wealthy residents and the corporate sector, using this revenue for funding budgetary programs targeted to the needs of low-income residents. The DC Council should recover the big federal income tax cut for wealthy DC residents in 2019 as revenue for DC by hiking their DC income tax rates, leaving them paying the same overall taxes, generating at least \$250 million to fund these unmet needs (details: <https://www.dctj.org/>). Divest DC's revenue from Wells Fargo/Wall St banks, transferring it to a DC Public Bank; details: <https://www.dcpublicbanking.org/>).

How would you improve Council processes and/or technology to increase public participation?

More public hearings should start in the evening, and on Saturdays to increase participation. Using Skype and Zoom should be an option for submitting testimony and dialoguing with staff of the Mayor and Council.

As an elected Councilmember, my office will be a resource and organizing center for organizations such as the Fair Budget Coalition, ONE DC and Empower DC, which are active in pushing our elected government to fulfill its commitments as the nation's first Human Rights City (see Reports at: <http://afsc.org/resource/report-state-human-rights-dc>, 2017 Update at: <https://www.afsc.org/document/2017-dc-human-rights-city-report>).

What do you see as the pros and cons, if any, of lowering the voting age eligibility to 16 for D.C. local elections?

I support lowering the voting age eligibility to 16 but this must be coupled with civic education in our schools, including the relevance of human rights to DC as the nation's first Human Rights City (December 2008). The youth of DC, especially from the poorest wards, will only make this option successful if they are treated with respect in their educational experience and by District police and security forces (e.g., housing and WMATA). The end of homelessness and child poverty, which greatly impacts our youth must be a priority goal. Curb public deals/subsidies from DC's revenue going to gentrification and displacement of long-term residents.

What do you see as achievable goals for increasing affordable housing?

First, we must work to reverse the current trend of strong erosion of affordability for the majority of residents who now pay more than 30% of their income for housing. Only utilizing mechanisms outside the housing market will achieve this goal, such as financing community land trusts, repairing and expanding public housing, creating social housing, boosting rental assistance and of course implementing stronger rent control. The establishment of a DC Public Bank, partnering with local banks promoting affordable housing, jobs and small business development would be a significant step to make this goal a reality.

The Fair Elections Amendment Act of 2018 provides for some publicly funded political campaigns. How would you assure adequate, continued funding for this program?

This Act already spells out mechanisms to make this possible, further details must be spelled out in the regulations.