

# Candidate Questionnaire: People-centered Streets

## Basic Information

If you would like to review a PDF of the entire questionnaire, you may find it here:

[https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/livablestreetsalliance/pages/1689/attachments/original/1503520440/Candidate\\_Questionnaire\\_Cambridge\\_-\\_People-centered\\_streets.pdf?1503520440](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/livablestreetsalliance/pages/1689/attachments/original/1503520440/Candidate_Questionnaire_Cambridge_-_People-centered_streets.pdf?1503520440)

Candidate name (first and last) \*

Olivia D'Ambrosio

Office that the candidate is seeking (include district number if applicable) \*

City Council

Name of person completing the questionnaire (first and last) \*

Olivia D'Ambrosio

Name and EIN of the committee (if applicable)

Campaign email address \*

olivia@vote-o.com

---

Campaign address

---

Campaign phone number

---

Campaign website

www.vote-o.com

---

Campaign Twitter

@\_playmaker\_\_

---

Campaign Facebook

www.facebook.com/oliviaforcambridgecitycouncil/

---

## About You

1. Do you personally walk to destinations in your community? If yes, how often do you do so?

Yes

No

### Comments

I do not own a car and walk literally every single day. Today, I just walked from a meeting in Central to my new home in Porter. Until recently, I lived within walking distance of work. Having just moved, I'll now take the Red Line and / or Lyft Line.

---

2. Do you personally travel by/ use public transit to get around? If yes, which trains and buses do you routinely use?

Yes

No

### Comments

Red Line

---

3. Do you personally bike in your community or commute by bike to other communities? If no, would you be willing to give it a try periodically, e.g. once or twice per month?

Yes

No

## Comments

I have never been entirely comfortable on equipment with wheels, including bikes, rollerblades and skateboards, and especially in conjunction with city streets. Given the opportunity to go for a ride with a skilled guide, however, I would sign up as the first-hand experience would help me better understand the conditions our bike community currently faces.

---

## Policy proposals

Please articulate concrete and feasible policy and budgetary proposals to advance the following goals. If you would like to submit supporting materials, please submit them on page 6 at the end of the questionnaire or email your proposals to [info@visionzerocoalition.org](mailto:info@visionzerocoalition.org).

Note that there is a glossary available at [www.visionzerocoalition.org/glossary\\_for\\_2017\\_candidate\\_questionnaire](http://www.visionzerocoalition.org/glossary_for_2017_candidate_questionnaire)

\*indicates a definition available in the glossary

1. How will you work to establish funding for the infrastructure changes needed to slow traffic on your community's streets, and improve crosswalks and intersections to make them safer for people who are walking and using mobility assistive devices?

---

2. How will you improve the reach, frequency, and quality of public transit in Cambridge?

3. How will you ensure fast-tracked implementation of a city-wide network of off-street paths and protected bike lanes\* on major thoroughfares and connecting streets that are comfortable for people of all ages and abilities?

---

4. How will you increase access to biking in every neighborhood equally? What do you see as the major obstacles to encouraging ridership, and how will you address them?

---

5. How will you increase funding for biking infrastructure?

---

## Yes/no questions

Note that explanations for your responses are not required, but provide useful context and are strongly encouraged.

\*indicates a definition available in the glossary (available here:

[http://www.visionzerocoalition.org/glossary\\_for\\_2017\\_candidate\\_questionnaire](http://www.visionzerocoalition.org/glossary_for_2017_candidate_questionnaire))

1. Do you support the adoption of Vision Zero\* and funding for its rapid implementation? Vision Zero is an approach which aims to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2030 and has been adopted by several communities, including Boston and Cambridge. \*

Yes

No

Please explain your choice

---

2. Do you support lowering design speeds\* through traffic calming measures\* on downtown and neighborhood streets as a means of enhancing the safety of people walking, using mobility assistive devices, biking, and driving? This may involve the expansion and enhancement of programs like Neighborhood Slow Streets\* (Boston) and Neighborways\* (Somerville). \*

Yes

No

Please explain your choice

---

3. One key strategy that has been proven to effectively reduce speeding, improve safety, and remove racial bias in traffic enforcement in other states and countries is automated enforcement (i.e. speed cameras and red light cameras). Do you support state legislation that authorizes the use of automated enforcement in Massachusetts, per the July 2017 recommendation of the National Transportation Safety Board\*? \*

Yes

No

Please explain your choice

---

4. Do you support redesigning space on the street in order to improve safety for people biking by creating protected bike lanes? \*

Yes

No

Please explain your choice

---

5. Do you support the increased use of curb extensions\* to improve safety and visibility at intersections, even if it requires the removal of one to two parking spaces? \*

Yes

No

Please explain your choice

---

6. Do you support full implementation of the City's Bike Plan in all current and future road reconstruction projects, including but not limited to the five year street and sidewalk plan? \*

Yes

No

Please explain your choice

---

7. Do you support the creation of the joint biking-pedestrian Grand Junction Path and Somerville Community Path through mandates, resolutions or zoning ordinances targeted at adjacent property owners? \*

Yes

No

Please explain your choice

---

8. Will you address age-friendly walking in your community -- an issue raised by many seniors as critical to their ability to "age in community"? If yes, how? \*

Yes

No



## Please explain your choice

As with all community organizing, the role of allies is important. As a young person, I would use my voice to advocate for our seniors.

---

9. Do you support the restriction of on-street parking during rush hour on major thoroughfares in order to provide lanes for the exclusive use of buses? \*

Yes

No

## Please explain your choice

10. Do you support exploring new ways of raising revenue to provide the City of Cambridge with more tools to improve conditions for people walking, using mobility assistive devices, and biking (e.g. congestion pricing)? If yes, please give examples that interest you. \*

Yes

No

## Please explain your choice

It would interesting to explore a Cambridge owned-and-operated fleet of cars to serve as a competitor to Lyft and Uber, and to generate additional municipal funds.

11. Do you support raising the annual fee for residential parking permits? \*

Yes

No

Please explain your choice

12. Do you support the rollout of dynamic parking meter pricing\* (i.e. increasing meter rates during periods of increased demand) in business districts to free up on-street parking and reduce cars “cruising” for open spaces? \*

Yes

No

Please explain your choice

With regard to many of these questions -- I think we should pursue all sensible policies that discourage the use of cars and encourage the use of bikes and feet, while also ensuring we have adequate parking available for the vehicles that are and will continue to be part of our community. The latter issue can be tackled through the former -- each car we eliminate in effect "creates" a parking space, or at the very least, less competition for the spaces we already have.

---

## Supporting materials

If you would like to submit supporting materials, please include them in the answer field below or email them to [info@visionzerocoalition.org](mailto:info@visionzerocoalition.org)

Thanks for reaching out with this questionnaire. I am aware that my answers are sparse, as I am a first-time candidate with a background in nonprofit arts, and little-to-no expertise in transportation / infrastructure. While I lack the specific policy background to say how exactly we could maneuver within our budget and means to create revenues to best support our transportation / infrastructure needs, my values are aligned with yours -- I believe in a Cambridge that pursues a sensible plan to discourage the use of cars and encourage the safe use of bikes and feet.

This form was created inside of LivableStreets Alliance.

Google Forms