

<b>Candidate name (first and last):</b>	James "Reggie" Reginald Colimon
<b>Office the candidate is seeking:</b>	At-large City Councilor
<b>Transportation, housing, and climate issues are currently siloed in City Hall. How do you see these issues connecting and how will you work to align them if elected? [600 character limit]</b>	<p>Transportation, housing, and climate issues are interconnected and will be at the forefront of the issues that I'll work on as an elected official.</p> <p>Transportation, should be safe, affordable, and reliable for all road users, but too often residents don't see safety improvements until after a tragedy occurs.</p> <p>Housing is the foundation of health, equity and and economic stability.</p> <p>Climate It's needless to say that climate change is one of the greatest issues of our time. The Northeast is projected to be 3.6°F warmer than preindustrial times.</p>
<b>1a. Which of the following modes of transportation do you use regularly in Boston? (Check the top 3.)</b>	Car, Subway, Bike (bike-share or personal bicycle)
<b>1b. What types of housing have you lived in or owned throughout your life? (Check all that apply.)</b>	As a renter, Single-family home
<b>1. While the MBTA controls bus service, the City of Boston controls the streets the buses operate on. How would you accelerate bus service and bus priority infrastructure? [1200 character limit]</b>	
<b>The MBTA's Fiscal and Management Control Board (FMCB) makes important decisions regarding MBTA service, projects, and programs. The FMCB is sunseting in July and the MBTA will be without a dedicated governance board. Will you advocate for a new governance board and a seat on it for the City of Boston, and how? [1200 character limit]</b>	Yes, I would definitely advocate for a new governance board and a seat. The City contributes close to \$90 million every year. I would also explore the possibility of a free fare transit and/or reduce fare. As a elected official, I will ensure all our neighborhoods are connected with safe and reliable transportation.
<b>3. The City of Boston's comprehensive transportation plan, Go Boston 2030, includes the implementation of 26 priority Better Bike Corridors and other bike projects. How will you ensure all short-term projects are implemented within three years, and long-term projects are implemented by or before 2030? [1200 character limit]</b>	I will work with my colleagues to ensure the implementation of the 26 priority Better Bike Corridors on the short term (3 years) and the long term by or prior to 2030. However, I will make sure that the communities are involved in all the decisions of road changes.
<b>4. Often street projects designed to improve safety involve removing on-street parking or reducing the number of vehicle travel lanes to make space for people walking and biking. How would you advance safety projects when there is active opposition to narrowing the roadway and removing parking? [1200 character limit]</b>	People are often not big fans of change. Therefore, a few designs options, great outreach and community meetings should be part of the conversation before any final decision is taken whenever changes are occurring.

<p><b>5. Boston's inclusionary development policy (IDP) program requires that new developments of 10 units or more include at least 13% of the new units be affordable and income-restricted. There is conversation about increasing the IDP percentage; however, experience and research around the country has shown that setting an IDP percentage too high can actually reduce the total number of new affordable units built. Would you support a new 12 unit building where 50% of the units are affordable over a 60 unit building where 20% of the units are affordable? Why? [1200 character limit]</b></p>	<p>I would support a 60 unit building where 20% of the units are affordable, because more units would be affordable, which would bring the diversity that is definitely needed. Furthermore, this project would be more enticing to developers in my humble opinion.</p>
<p><b>6. Housing a Changing City: Boston 2030 determined that Boston needed 69,000 new homes by 2030. The last public update (Q4 2019) indicated that the city is likely behind schedule. The current lengthy permitting process in Boston is a well-known barrier to meeting this challenge. How would you reduce timelines and unnecessary costs to create more homes for people in neighborhoods across the city? [1200 character limit]</b></p>	<p>I would repurpose some members of the Department of Neighborhood Development (DND) to be dedicated to study where unnecessary costs are and also how the timelines could be reduced. Let's hope that we don't get hit by another pandemic or other urgency that would slow the process.</p>
<p><b>7. What actions or policies that fall under existing municipal powers (i.e. do not require a home rule petition) do you support to help prevent displacement? [1200 character limit]</b></p>	<p>Executive orders from the Mayor to help tenants remain in their home by expanding tenant rights, moratorium on eviction.</p>
<p><b>8. In a new housing development where space is limited, and parking adds substantially to the cost, how would you prioritize space/think about tradeoffs (between more units, parking, open space, etc.)? What would you do in the face of community opposition to developments that seek to balance these priorities? [1200 character limit]</b></p>	<p>I would offer some incentives to the community such as: including more green spaces with rooftop cooling stations. And/or potential buyers with incentives such as vouchers for ride sharing. Or even have the development offer free shuttle services to and from public transportation.</p>
<p><b>1. The Massachusetts Vision Zero Coalition supports the removal of direct policing from Vision Zero goals, citing issues of safety and equity and a lack of effectiveness in improving safety. You can read about these issues in the Boston Vision Zero Progress Report and the Coalition Statement on Gov. Baker Administration's Road Safety Legislation. Do you support removing police enforcement from Vision Zero?</b></p>	<p>Somewhat Support</p>
<p><b>Please explain. [300 character limit]</b></p>	
<p><b>2. Police details are often required for construction projects and open streets events -- it would save money and create jobs if community members were allowed to do this work. Civilian flaggers were first authorized in 2008 to help fill these roles in Massachusetts; nevertheless, these projects and events are still primarily staffed by police on overtime, and detail requests often go unfilled entirely. Do you support reducing police involvement in streets-related projects and events?</b></p>	<p>Strongly Support</p>

<p><b>Please explain. [300 character limit]</b></p>	<p>Certain projects do not need Police details; however, I would only agree have civilian flaggers to help only if they receive a rigorous training and obtain a certificate, in order to be able to do the job.</p>
<p><b>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). If the State House passes automated enforcement legislation that allows cities &amp; towns to opt-in to a speed or red light camera program, would you support your municipality using this tool?</b></p>	<p>Somewhat Oppose</p>
<p><b>Please explain. [300 character limit]</b></p>	
<p><b>4. The Boston Transportation Department's Neighborhood Slow Streets program has been very popular when implemented on smaller neighborhood-level streets, but many injuries from traffic crashes happen on busier arterial roads. Do you support traffic calming for high-crash intersections and roadways of arterials to prevent crashes and save lives, even when it means taking away parking or travel lanes?</b></p>	<p>Strongly Support</p>
<p><b>Please explain. [300 character limit]</b></p>	
<p><b>5. The Go Boston 2030 plan was released in 2017. Do you support updating the plan and working to advance the plan's goals?</b></p>	<p>Strongly Support</p>
<p><b>Please explain. [300 character limit]</b></p>	
<p><b>6. Mode shift occurs when people get out of their cars and choose other ways of getting around. Do you support the City's Go Boston 2030 goal of reducing car trips by 50% by 2030?</b></p>	<p>Strongly Support</p>
<p><b>Please explain. [300 character limit]</b></p>	<p>I would propose a 15 Minute City Model where all city residents are able to meet most of their needs within a short walk or bicycle ride from their homes.</p>
<p><b>7. Do you support reassessing the plans and viability of major capital projects, such as the Northern Avenue Bridge or the Rutherford Avenue redesign?</b></p>	<p>Strongly Support</p>
<p><b>Please explain. [300 character limit]</b></p>	
<p><b>8. How curb space is managed can impact many different city functions, including bus service, commercial delivery, and residential parking. When used effectively, curb space can speed up bus service with dedicated lanes, create safe biking infrastructure, and/or allow businesses to quickly and safely receive deliveries. Do you support conducting a city-wide parking study to evaluate how effectively curb space is being used?</b></p>	<p>Strongly Support</p>
<p><b>Please explain. [300 character limit]</b></p>	
<p><b>9. Do you support charging an annual fee for residential parking permits?</b></p>	<p>Strongly Oppose</p>

Please explain. [300 character limit]	
<b>10. Do you support free bus service on the MBTA and a low-income fare option for other public transit options?</b>	Strongly Support
Please explain. [300 character limit]	
<b>11. Boston has many traffic signals that do not work well for pedestrians. Do you support making signal timing safer and more convenient for people crossing at all speeds, including those walking and using mobility assistive devices?</b>	Strongly Support
Please explain. [300 character limit]	
<b>12. Do you support ensuring large-scale developments (including Sullivan Square, the Allston I-90 Interchange, and Suffolk Downs) incorporate the community's desire for walkability, connectivity, open space, and resilience?</b>	Strongly Support
Please explain. [300 character limit]	
<b>13. Do you support prioritizing and advancing the housing production goals outlined in the 2018 update to Housing a Changing City: Boston 2030?</b>	Strongly Support
Please explain. [300 character limit]	
<b>14. Lawsuits filed against two much needed, 100% affordable housing developments in Jamaica Plain have recently underscored how mandatory parking minimums can be weaponized within the legal system to significantly slow or prevent affordable housing. Do you support the proposal by Councilors Matt O'Malley and Kenzie Bok to update the zoning code to eliminate mandatory parking minimums for affordable housing?</b>	Strongly Support
Please explain. [300 character limit]	
<b>15. Given the affordability crisis, many are critical of the perceived large amount of new "luxury" construction and would like to see more moderately priced housing options being built. Yet, the city's zoning code mandates strict parking minimums for any new housing development, and parking is expensive (a single structured parking space adds an average of \$50,000 in per-unit costs). This substantial cost often pushes otherwise moderately priced new housing into the "luxury" price range. In order to increase the amount of moderately priced homes in the city, would you support reducing mandatory parking minimums for all new development city-wide?</b>	Somewhat Support
Please explain. [300 character limit]	

<p><b>16. The City of Boston has devoted significant resources and conducted extensive community processes to develop neighborhood-based plans (i.e. PLAN: JP/Rox, PLAN: South Boston Dorchester Ave). However, the city has failed to incorporate these plans into the zoning code, perpetuating a system of parcel-by-parcel discretion and diminishing public trust in the planning process. Do you support codifying these and future plans into the city's zoning code within a reasonable time frame (six months of a plan's release)?</b></p>	<p>Strongly Support</p>
<p><b>Please explain. [300 character limit]</b></p>	
<p><b>17. The City of Boston and Boston Housing Authority have recently launched a city project-based housing voucher program. Do you support continued funding for this program, and do you support expanding it to include additional funding and/or a mobile voucher program?</b></p>	<p>Strongly Support</p>
<p><b>Please explain. [300 character limit]</b></p>	