

# CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

**PHILADELPHIA 3.0**

## GENERAL

Name: Judy Moore

Office sought and political party affiliation: City Council District 10- Democrat

Campaign website and/or Facebook page: mooreforphilly.com @mooreforphilly

Current neighborhood and total years of residence in Philadelphia: Normandy in NE 40 years

Age: 40

Children (if so, what schools did/do they attend?):

I have 3 children. My oldest son Anthony, 22, is currently serving in the Navy and attended Arts Academy at Benjamin Rush, CCA Baldi middle school, and Watson Comly elementary school. My daughter Ryann, 14, is a Freshman at St. Basil's Academy and attended Watson Comly elementary School. My son Sean, 13, is in 8th grade at St. Katherine of Siena and attended Watson Comly elementary school through 5th grade.

## PROFESSIONAL

Education (college/grad school/certificate; degree & year earned in each):

La Salle University- BA- Communications; Mass Media 2003

Current occupation:

Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer at Garces

Previous occupations:

Small Business Owner- JP Event Design  
Director of Sales and Marketing- Guest Counts Hospitality  
Substitute Teacher, Bucks and Montgomery County

# **CIVIC**

Previous/current elected position held and years served (if any):

Democratic Committeewoman- May 2018

Leadership positions in civic or community groups:

Garces Foundation, Board Member since 2018

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

In your opinion, what are the core responsibilities of the office you are seeking?

I believe the core responsibilities of City Council are to create legislation that protect and serve all citizens of Philadelphia for the greater good, to craft an adequate, balanced operating budget for our municipality, and to ensure our tax dollars are appropriately spent for maximum impact and efficiency.

How are you uniquely qualified to meet those responsibilities?

I am uniquely qualified to meet the responsibilities of City Council because of my diverse background in business, my experience in the Philadelphia public school system, and as a lifelong resident, still raising my family here. I have overcome much adversity and many challenges throughout my life. My upbringing helped me to better understand struggles that people all over the city are facing. My mother battled addiction her entire life. I helped raise my 3 younger siblings in poverty and know that government services, good schools and thriving neighborhoods play an integral part in determining the success of our city and its residents. As a business woman, I understand financial accountability and the need to find new and creative solutions to the issues that have been plaguing our city for decades. I have the ability to bring people together, build trust, and produce real results, as I have my entire career.

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For each statement below please indicate, where applicable, whether you agree or disagree, and comment to elaborate on your response. You can agree in whole or part. Do not feel limited to the available comment space; we want to hear your thoughts.

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## GOVERNANCE

City Council has considered legislation that would institute a three-term limit for Council members. Should Council approve this or similar legislation, thereby putting the question of term limits for the office of City Council before the voters of Philadelphia?

- ☒ Y  
☐ N

I fully support term limits and believe City Council should act on this legislation. If elected, I will publicly agree to term limit myself even if legislation is not passed. My current City Councilman has been in office for 40 years, longer than I have been alive. Frankly, this is self-serving and unacceptable.

City Council's convention of councilmanic prerogative allows public land use decisions to be made by a single elected official. What is the optimal role for City Council members in the land disposition process? *For District candidates: What will be your office's process for making decisions about the sale of publicly-owned land?*

I believe the optimal role for City Council members in the land disposition process is to make informed decisions based on the people's will from their district and not for any profit-driven or political agenda.

As an elected District Councilmember, I would hold monthly forums across my district to hear from the people affected most by those land transactions. I would also explore conducting survey research via text message, social media and email to give my constituents a true seat at the table to voice their concerns. I would also push for more local press coverage to spotlight these district specific issues and take every opportunity to raise awareness among my constituents.

Philadelphia has made some important strides to remove politics and favoritism from the property assessment process; however, recent reporting has shown that the City still has significant work to do. How do you believe the property assessment process should work? And what role, if any, should Council play in this process?

I believe the property assessment process should be as transparent as possible. I support the AVI initiative as long as we can prove the assessments are accurate and every property owner pays their fair share proportionate to their current market value.

I support Councils' recent findings of their independent audit and the immediate need for new leadership in the OPA as well as improved reports and procedures with increased transparency and oversight. I don't believe Council should have any direct role in the Office of Property Assessment or their process outside of conducting reviews and audits.

Philadelphia's government includes three independently-elected row offices: The City Commissioners, the Sheriff, and the Register of Wills; a fourth office, the Clerk of Quarter Sessions, was abolished in 2010. Are Philadelphians best served by the functions of these offices being administered by elected officials?

- ☐ Y  
☒ N

I think there is a fair argument to be made from the past few decades of some of these elected officials displaying blatant abuse of power in office that Philadelphians are not being best served as these positions are intended to do so. I think political agenda and lack of term limits have also plagued these row offices for decades. However, there are some elected officials in these row offices that have served Philadelphians well in my opinion. I would support exploring mayoral appointments with council confirmations of qualified candidates regardless of political party for these important row offices as opposed to partisan elections.

In 2021, City Council will draw and adopt a new District Council map. Council members will have data from the 2020 Census for this purpose. How do you define “fair maps”? And how will your office work to ensure that the Council map adopted during your term is fair, according to that definition?

I support fair districts and define “fair maps” as district boundary lines drawn as geographically relevant, symmetrically shaped and proportionate to population. As an elected Council member, I would ensure the proposed maps received independent validation from outside sources such as non-partisan planning commissions from outside Philadelphia.

## **EDUCATION**

City Council has several direct levers of influence with regards to the School District, including its position in the budget process and its "advice and consent" authority over School Board appointments. How would you articulate Council's role in education? And what single policy objective would you prioritize to improve educational outcomes?

I believe Council's role in education is intended to be influential, however we have not done nearly enough to move public education forward and it must be a priority. City Council must prioritize that our public schools are adequately funded and staffed in addition to ensuring safe, reliable infrastructure and facilities. City Council must support qualified, knowledgeable candidates for school board, not political appointments. We should look to high functioning school district boards for insight into best practices for school board elections, for example - partisan/non-partisan elections.

I would prioritize improving facilities and ensuring safe and healthy working environments for all teachers, staff and students.

## **FISCAL STABILITY**

The Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority, or PICA, sunsets in 2023 when its bonds are repaid. Would you advocate for the extension of PICA or the creation of a different independent fiscal oversight agency, such as a city budget office? If so, what form should the new oversight agency take?

☒ Y

☐ N

I would support the creation of an independent fiscal oversight agency such as a city budget office. Like the SRC dissolution, I think Philadelphia needs to be held responsible for our own oversight of our city budget to ensure improvements. I would support exploring mayoral appointments with council confirmations of qualified candidates regardless of political party for these important row offices as opposed to partisan elections.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Since 2009, the 25 largest cities in the US have averaged 2.3% annual job growth, while Philadelphia averaged only 1.4%. What is your vision for economic development that would significantly increase job growth? And how would you preserve affordability as the city experiences growth in jobs and population?

My vision to increase economic development is to immediately focus on less regulation and promote a more business- friendly tax environment. We should work to grow all types of businesses, including those who have entry level opportunities so that there is work for all sectors of the population.

## **QUALITY OF LIFE**

Philadelphia is the only major American city without regular, citywide municipal street sweeping. Additionally, numerous studies have demonstrated that Philadelphians are deeply concerned about short dumping and litter. As a Councilmember, how would you address this persistent quality of life issue?

As a council member, I would support implementing a cost effective citywide municipal street sweeping program. Quality of life issues in Northeast Philadelphia are prevalent. Many times, my district is the last to receive city services such as landscaping medians, ice and snow removal, pothole repair, street paving, and litter removal and in some areas they don't receive these services at all. This is an area of concern for many of my neighbors and I will consistently address these issues until we achieve results.

## **VISION**

You are running for a four year term in City Council. What do you hope to accomplish during these four years?

In my first term, I hope to accomplish significant improvements in the public schools in my district. I want to create tangible resources to combat the opioid crisis that plagues our city. I want to hold myself to a higher standard and exemplify good government and accountability. I want to shape policy that attracts new citizens and keeps our generational citizens from moving to the suburbs. I also hope to serve as a model Councilwoman, showing that career politics do not serve our city and that we need fresh ideas and more business acumen on council. I also hope to encourage other women and young professionals to run for office.