

Candidate Responses: TEA Mayoral Survey						All certified mayoral candidates were invited to complete the survey. Full, unedited candidate responses are included here.				
candidates  (All certified mayoral candidates were invited to complete the survey. Full, unedited candidate responses are included here)	1. Will you fully fund the \$15.5 Million needed in 2019-2020 to implement the TransformTO climate action plan?	2. Will you urgently develop and begin implementing a comprehensive climate adaptation strategy to increase the City's resilience to climate change impacts like flooding, extreme heat and food insecurity?	3. Will you support new city rules that can reduce waste, improve recycling and eliminate plastic pollution in our environment?	4. Will you pursue all legal and political avenues to oppose Premier Doug Ford's move to cut Council in half, and advocate for restoring Toronto's 47 ward system?	5. Will you develop new civic engagement structures to compensate for the reduced access Toronto residents will have to their local City Councillor and decision making bodies under the 25 ward system?	Question 1 Comments	Question 2 Comments	Question 3 Comments	Question 4 Comments	Question 5 Comments
Jennifer Keesmaat	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	The recent UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report tells us even more clearly than before how urgent action on climate change is. Toronto needs to make real commitments on the environment. The fact that Council passed the TransformTO policy and then failed to fund it is a distressing example of the poor leadership under the current mayor. In fact, TransformTO will save money in many cases in the long run and will help us build a more livable and prosperous city.	Climate adaptation is a key part of climate action and in fact, the best actions are those that help us adapt to our changing climate while also reducing our emissions. That's why I stood with Gord Perks to outline my Green City Plan which helps Toronto adapt to severe storms and mitigate flooding by creating green infrastructure in our neighbourhoods and streets, which also suck up greenhouse gases.	The world is choking in plastic, our oceans are riddled with it and our municipal waste system clogged by it. We all need to do better to reduce waste and eliminate plastic pollution. Toronto can be a leader in waste reduction once again, as it was a decade ago.	Premier Ford ignored two years of public consultation and research that resulted in the electoral system Toronto chose. He unilaterally changed the rules, mid-election, and with no research or consultation. That is wrong.	I've been clear that, as Mayor, I would increase the role of local community councils and delegate more decisions to the local level, while using these bodies more effectively to provide local input on city-wide discussions. Local councils, where neighbours and their Councillors meet to discuss and decide on local issues and priorities, would help keep the City on track in serving local needs while focusing City Council on City-wide issues and priorities. I would also expand the use of participatory budgeting, where local community members propose ideas and vote on how a portion of the city's budget is spent to improve their neighbourhood. PB injects city budget processes with a healthy dose of local democracy so that better choices made about how to invest in projects that have real community impact. So far, PB has only been piloted in Toronto. Let's expand participatory budgeting in Toronto and get more local value for our money.
John Tory	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	Under my leadership, Council approved Transform TO & for the 1st time, Toronto has a plan to address climate change. Globally, cities are acting in concert on climate change but we cannot do it alone. There is, however, a lot we can do incl. supporting active transportation in dense centres & providing more public transit across the city. We've made a lot of progress in the last 4 years incl. building 50km of bike lanes and approving a transit network plan that focuses on building multiple transit lines across the city at the same time. We need to develop low carbon thermal energy networks & have partnered with EnWave to create. We also need to take a leadership role in making our buildings more efficient, incl. green retrofits in aging social housing buildings, currently underway. As Mayor, I will commit to continuing the progress we've made funding & implementing Transform TO, but exact numbers will depend on the budget & how much can be spent in a year.	Under my leadership, this is already underway. I led the City in creating a Chief Resilience Officer position, reporting directly to the City manager. This is part of the 100 Resilient Cities program, which provides funding for a CRO for the first two years and pro bono resources to create a resilience strategy to be presented to Council in 2019.	In my first term, I launched The Towering Challenge in an effort to engage multi-residential buildings in reducing their waste. Multi-residential buildings recycle or compost only 28% of their waste. The challenge engaged 143 buildings comprising more than 22,000 units across the City.  In this term, I have also supported the Federation of Canadian Municipalities call for a National Plastics Reduction Strategy and City Council has directed that we look at restricting the use of single-use plastic straws. The City is also looking at more innovative approaches to reducing plastic waste in our lakefront, similar to what Baltimore has done with their trash-eating waterwheel.  I look forward to staff's recommendations on both and on how the City can move forward on improving recycling and eliminating plastic pollution in our environment.	I will never stop standing up for Toronto. I have objected to this process from Day 1.  At City Council, I supported a successful legal challenge to Bill 5 on the grounds that the process was unfair and lacked any public consultation. I voted with a majority of city councillors to instruct the City Solicitor to exhaust all legal options to challenge this legislation.	Because the City was not consulted on this change, we don't have all the answers at this point. We will get advice from the excellent City Clerk and City Manager regarding how a 25-ward Council could work & issues like changing councillor appointments to boards and agencies and internal city committees, and Community Councils and their boundaries. I fully expect they will bring us a report at the first regular meeting of the new Council & my objective will be to ensure all residents feel they have a voice at City Hall & are well represented on local issues. Toronto remains an open and transparent democratic government. There will still be committees at which residents can depute and express their opinions, elected officials who hear their concerns & consultations undertaken on developments, major infrastructure projects, or new strategies like the parkland strategy. Toronto remains open to the public, open to input, and transparent in its processes.
Sarah Climenhaga	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	I believe investing in environmental protection is a necessity, not an option.	The costs of prevention and resilience are far less than the cost of dealing with the impact of weather related events.	We absolutely need to have producer responsibility and to focus on reducing waste altogether.	I believe most of these are exhausted, but if there is more the city can do I will certainly pursue this.	We need to follow the lead of other places, like L.A., that have strong resident advisory councils.
Knia Singh	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	I would like to research this plan more to think of ways to allocate funds to this initiative.	The drainage infrastructure in Toronto is a priority to be addressed to solve flooding.	Far too much wasteful packaging throughout the city.	I am deeply concerned for the reduced representation of residents in Toronto. The 25 elected councillors will have their work cut out for them.	
Dobrosav Basaric	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	I prefer starting point to be an expert proposal. Or two if much different, then we the laymen		Metal [SS] plates, utensil to be washed on high temperature. Not onetime use ones.	Why 25, and not 15? Doug made a long time mistake, that eventually can disembark him from politics. But the real question is how come that majority of Torones supported him in a wrong decision and actign.	Thanks to Bill 5 for opening this road. We are late in opening sub roads in all level of politics. Starting from city.
Mike Gally	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	I'd first want to see why council didn't or couldn't fund the entirety of the plan before 100% committing. However, if the plan remains the will of council I would work to making sure it was fully funded.	I agree, there is no time to delay on this. Regardless of whether the projections are precise, we need better preparedness as volatile weather events increase.	I would more than support the new city rules, I would advocate to go further. There are a number of cities around the world which have implemented regulations that surpass our own without being an unbearable burden on citizens or businesses. We can do better under the framework that our prosperity is tied to the health of our environment.	Like many Torontonians, I find it deplorable the way the premier hobbled and limited our local government, particularly without community consult or researched evaluation. His autocratic behaviour should not go uncontested.	Absolutely. Whether as mayor or as a private citizen, I intend to rally for neighbourhood councils, similar in spirit to what exists in New York and Los Angeles, to allow for greater community engagement in the affairs and decisions of our own neighbourhoods and communities.
Brian Graff	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	I believe that global warming is a serious issue but the world is doing little or nothing to stop it - the Paris Accord is non-binding and we need a trading block of countries that are willing to do something - this block would place tariffs on countries that won't do anything. Canada is only 1.5% of global emissions and we should not make expensive sacrifices if they will not achieve anything. The federal and provincial governments should be paying the municipalities to reduce GHGs. This has to be a top down solution through cabron taxes and keeping oil in the ground. We should do things that make economic sense but this city is headed for a financial crisis.  I am an unconventional environmentalist - Limits to Growth and Herman Daly are big influences. Our problems stem from rapid population growth and the best thing we can do is cut it by cutting immgration. Canada cannot meet its commitment to a 30% reduction in GHGs while at the same time our population will grow by 25% = a 50% cut!	Obviously the city has a duty to make the city as livable as possible for everyone and also to prepare for floods - ever since Hurrican Hazel we have done this. An issue like food insecurity is an issue of poverty, and one of the reasons why we have high poverty is due to our labour force growing faster than our ability to create good jobs. High immigration mans we have a surplus of labour - we do not have ashortage of labour now, and with robotic technology/automation, we might lose jobs. We cannot have both a shortage of labour from aging/retirements and joblessness from technological change. A labour shortage is a good thing for workers - it means higher wages and employers will hire people they normally would discriminate against. We need more park space, particularly on the waterfront and in areas that might flood.	This is mainly a federal or provincial responsibility - goods are packaged elsewhere then sold here in plastic packaging. As it is we pick up plastics in blue boxes but little of it gets recycled and this is costing us more than if we reduced the blue box program to things that will likely be recycled.	I was at the OMB appeal of the 47 ward system, which is flawed because it is not based on publically available census data but instead is based on projections for 2026 that might not be accurate or occur and in addition the underlying data is not public but only avaiable to the city's own staff or the consultant they hired. This was not a transparent process because mitizens could not propose altenrative versions without access to the data. The 47 ward version over-represents the Downtown for 1-2 elections and so i propped a 46 ward version that provided more equal wards. I spent a lot of time on this issue but what we really need is to go back to 2-tier council like we had before 1998 because the 44 ward council was dysfunctional. We could keep 25 wards (Metro was 28) and allow the election of local lower tier councillors/planning boards to deal with local issues like rezonings. This makes the most sense.	The prob,e we face is that with fewer councillors, more power will flow to the Councillor's staff (which will need to be doubles to handle the workload - as in 1998, there will be little or no money saved) or worse to city bureaucrats, particularly th eplanning department which sees intensification as the highest public good instead of preserving our heritage and ensuring that buildings have human scale and fit the context. The city planners for example have sun studies that only look at March to September and ignore the fact that people need sunlight in winter (and in summer shade can be a good thing). We also have dumb things like city staff being stuck with a quota to increase trees to 40% - up from 27% - this makes no sense to increase trees by 50% because too many trees are going to turn our parks into forests and trees are being planted too close to roads and sidewalks. Good decisions require oversight and common sense and the decision makers need to be accountable.
Chaitanya Kalevar	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	charge a tax on paved areas on private lands [parking spots and lots] for contributing to runoffs & heat island effects & stunting surrounding tree growth.	City may have to face lot of resistance from the provincial Premier to do take significant progressive environmental steps.	Institute tax on plastic bags etc.	I will defer to provincial political boundary sensitivities by having 50 councillors. 2 for each provincial/federal riding.	Will make radiation readings public everyday at each city hall in Toronto. Monitor Pickering border for radiation continuously & report daily like we are informed of temperature, humidity and air pressure etc. Maybe a local APP can help make it for easy access.
Thomas O'Neill	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	Ideally we can put more into it.	Fighting global warming on a political stage can be very difficult because, for the most part, we are dealing with short sighted politicians. I am 35 and my son is 9 months, I would like the world to be comfortable for generations, not just the next 4 years.	I have been getting pissed about over packaging and constant waste in our society. This is a regular conversation in our household. I'm serious, the wasteful nature of society in its current state angers me.	At this point the damage is done. It would be a waste of time resources to fight that battle, especially after an election. Getting back to 47 wards would force an other election. It is a definite warning for the mayor and councillors to stick together and find ways to push back. If Ford is losing money and support for pushing this city around he will back off.	Revamping the city hall website and the access to information is one of my major goals. As mayor, I would take questions and do a live video stream from the office once a week, meeting with councillors, answering mail and discussing any issue that we can - We need to ensure that every resident feels like they have a voice.
James Sears	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	Manmade Global Warming is a scam.	Waste of time because it is a SCAM!		You are a bunch of MARXIST PARASITES!	PARASITES!
Jack Weenen	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES			Deposits on plastic bottles, transit systems like beijing where recycling can pay for a fare	I would argue for even more wards than 47 with a de-amalgamated city	