



## **Josh Binda Urbanist Questionnaire 2024**

US House, Congressional District 2

### **What is your top priority for the upcoming term, and how will you achieve it?**

My top priority for the upcoming term is to address the pressing issues of affordable housing, climate change, transportation, and accessibility. To achieve this, I will work towards implementing policies that promote affordable housing initiatives, invest in sustainable infrastructure and transportation systems, and ensure equal access to public services for all communities. I will advocate for increased funding for affordable housing programs, incentivize the use of clean energy and public transportation, and push for legislation that improves accessibility for individuals with disabilities.

### **How will you prioritize investments and policies at the federal level to support cities in the Puget Sound region in their efforts to reduce car dependence and traffic deaths and prioritize walking, biking, and public transit?**

I will advocate for increased federal funding for sustainable transportation infrastructure, including the expansion of public transit systems, the development of safe and accessible biking and walking infrastructure, and the implementation of traffic safety measures. I also will work to incentivize the adoption of electric vehicles and support the development of clean energy alternatives.

### **How do you plan to address the housing affordability crisis through federal policy, including increasing the supply of affordable housing near jobs and transit?**

Combating our affordable housing crisis is a huge priority for me. I will prioritize increasing the supply of affordable housing near jobs and transit by advocating for increased federal funding for affordable housing programs, such as the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit and the Section 8 voucher program. I will work to streamline the development process for affordable housing projects and promote inclusionary zoning policies that require a certain percentage of new developments to be



affordable. I will also support efforts to strengthen tenant protections and combat housing discrimination. By taking these steps, we can create more affordable housing options and ensure that all individuals have access to safe and affordable homes near job opportunities and public transportation.

**How will you support urban growth that focuses on building up existing urban areas rather than sprawling out into wilderness and agricultural land?**

I will be an advocate for policies that incentivize infill development and promote the revitalization of urban centers. This includes supporting funding for infrastructure improvements, such as public transportation, that enhance connectivity within urban areas. I will also work towards implementing smart growth strategies that promote mixed-use development, walkability, and the preservation of green spaces.

**How will you work to address climate change and environmental justice through federal policy?**

I am committed to addressing climate change and promoting environmental justice through federal policy. I believe that we need bold and comprehensive action to transition to a clean energy economy and mitigate the impacts of climate change. I will advocate for legislation that promotes renewable energy, invests in green infrastructure, and sets ambitious emissions reduction targets. I will fight for environmental justice by ensuring that marginalized communities are not disproportionately burdened by pollution and climate impacts. This includes supporting policies that prioritize clean air and water, equitable access to green spaces, and meaningful community engagement in decision-making processes.

**How do you propose to improve public safety in urban areas without further contributing to mass incarceration and racialized oppression?**

I believe in a holistic approach that focuses on community investment, education, and social programs. By investing in quality education, job training, and mental health services, we can address the underlying issues that lead to crime. I also support police reform measures, such as demilitarizing law enforcement, implementing community policing, and promoting accountability. Additionally, I will advocate for criminal justice reforms that prioritize rehabilitation and restorative justice, rather than punitive measures.



**The conservative movement has orchestrated a takeover of the Supreme Court and many of the lower courts, installing partisans willing to legislate from the bench, eroding reproductive rights and protections for voters, workers, and consumers. What do you aim to do about it? How can we prevent judicial overreach?**

I am deeply concerned about the conservative takeover of the Supreme Court and lower courts. To address this issue, I aim to advocate for a fair and balanced judiciary that upholds the principles of justice and equality. I will work towards appointing judges who are impartial and committed to interpreting the law rather than pushing a partisan agenda. Additionally, I will support legislation that strengthens checks and balances on the judiciary to prevent judicial overreach. By prioritizing the integrity of our courts, we can safeguard our democracy and ensure justice for all.