



Josh Binda Urbanist Questionnaire 2025

Lynnwood City Council Position 3

What are your top three priorities to achieve in your term?

My top three priorities for my term in Lynnwood are enhancing affordable housing, improving public transportation, and addressing climate change. First, I will focus on increasing the availability of affordable housing through mixed-income developments and policy reforms. Second, I will advocate for expanded public transit options to ensure all residents have access to reliable transportation. Lastly, I will prioritize sustainability initiatives, promoting renewable energy and green infrastructure. By tackling these interconnected issues, we can create a more equitable, accessible, and environmentally responsible Lynnwood for everyone.

How will you boost housing options, particularly for families of all incomes to live where they work? How will you engage the public for new shelters, transitional housing, emergency housing, permanent supportive housing? How do you weigh community objections with the housing goals for your jurisdiction, while encouraging engagement from neighbors?

To boost housing options in Lynnwood, I will promote mixed-income developments, ensuring families of all incomes can live near their workplaces. I plan to engage the community through regular town halls, workshops, and a dedicated task force to discuss new shelters and supportive housing solutions. Listening to neighbors is vital; I'll balance their concerns with our housing goals by fostering transparency and providing data on the benefits of increased housing. By encouraging open dialogue,



we can collaboratively shape a housing strategy that meets our community's diverse needs.

Do you support adding progressive revenue sources? Which ones would you support to fund your priorities? Or what cuts would you make to balance budgets facing increasing strain under Trump?

I wholeheartedly support adding progressive revenue sources to fund our community priorities in Lynnwood. This includes implementing a modest increase in the property tax for higher-value homes and exploring a local income tax for high earners. Additionally, I advocate for closing corporate loopholes to ensure businesses contribute their fair share. These measures can provide essential funding for housing, public transit, and social services without disproportionately affecting low-income families. Rather than making cuts, we can invest in our community's future by ensuring equitable revenue generation that benefits everyone.

What do you think is the most important strategy your jurisdiction can pursue to limit cost increases and make the region affordable to live in? How would you go about implementing that strategy?

The most important strategy to limit cost increases and enhance affordability in Lynnwood is to increase the availability of affordable housing. I will advocate for policies that promote mixed-income developments and streamline the permitting process for affordable housing projects. By collaborating with non-profits and developers, we can create incentives for building affordable units. Additionally, I will



push for the preservation of existing affordable housing and support community land trusts. Engaging residents in the planning process will ensure that developments meet community needs, fostering a diverse and affordable Lynnwood for all.

Traffic deaths are rising across Washington state, with pedestrians composing an increasing share statewide. What is your approach to making our streets safer for all users?

To combat rising traffic deaths and enhance street safety in Lynnwood, I will prioritize a multi-faceted approach focusing on infrastructure improvements and community education. I propose expanding and enhancing crosswalks, installing more traffic signals, and implementing speed reduction measures in high-traffic areas. Additionally, I will advocate for dedicated bike lanes and pedestrian pathways to ensure safe access for all users. I will also support public awareness campaigns on safe driving and walking practices. By fostering a culture of safety and investing in infrastructure, we can protect pedestrians and create a safer environment for everyone.

What is your approach to improving public safety over the next five years? How will you actualize it?

My approach to improving public safety in Lynnwood focuses on community-centered strategies that prioritize prevention and collaboration. Over the next five years, I will advocate for increased funding for mental health services and



addiction support, ensuring individuals receive the care they need. I will work to strengthen partnerships between law enforcement and community organizations to foster trust and transparency. Additionally, I will promote neighborhood watch programs and community policing initiatives that engage residents in safety efforts. By investing in social services and community engagement, we can create a safer, more connected Lynnwood for all.

What have you done/will you do to increase collaboration at city hall and ensure all residents are included?

I have held workshops and community forums to actively engage residents in decision-making processes, ensuring their voices are heard. Moving forward, I will also advocate for transparent communication through regular updates and open data initiatives, allowing residents to stay informed and involved. By creating accessible platforms for feedback and encouraging participation in local governance, we can build a more inclusive environment where every Lynnwood resident feels valued and empowered to contribute.

What actions should the city take to address the climate crisis?

To address the climate crisis, Lynnwood must prioritize a comprehensive sustainability strategy. I will advocate for transitioning to renewable energy sources for city operations and incentivizing green building practices in new developments. Expanding public transit and creating pedestrian-friendly spaces will reduce reliance on cars, lowering emissions. Additionally, I will promote community



programs for tree planting and urban agriculture to enhance biodiversity and resilience. Engaging residents in climate action initiatives and ensuring environmental justice will be central to our efforts, fostering a sustainable future for all Lynnwood residents.

What is your financial sustainability plan for the city?

My financial sustainability plan for Lynnwood focuses on diversifying revenue sources while prioritizing long-term fiscal health. I will advocate for progressive taxation measures, such as a local income tax for high earners and closing corporate tax loopholes. Additionally, I will push for increased investment in green initiatives that can generate savings and create jobs. By fostering economic development through support for local businesses and attracting new industries, we can enhance our tax base. Transparency in budgeting and regular community engagement will ensure that financial decisions reflect the needs and priorities of our residents.

What are your top transportation goals for the city, and how will you get them done? What is your plan to improve walkability, bike safety, and accessibility in your community?

My top transportation goals for Lynnwood include enhancing public transit options, improving walkability, and ensuring bike safety. To achieve these, I will advocate for expanded bus routes and increased funding for light rail connections. I plan to implement safe, well-lit pedestrian pathways and dedicated bike lanes to encourage active transportation. Additionally, I will prioritize accessibility improvements,



including curb cuts and ADA-compliant infrastructure. Engaging the community in planning processes and securing grants will be vital to creating a safe, connected, and sustainable transportation network for all residents.

Do you support camping bans or sweeps? If elected, how would you adapt or change current law/policies to protect and support our neighbors?

I do not support camping bans or sweeps, as they often fail to address the root causes of homelessness and can exacerbate the challenges our neighbors face. If re-elected, I would advocate for policies that focus on providing supportive housing, access to mental health services, and job training programs. I will push for the development of designated safe camping areas, along with comprehensive outreach services to connect individuals with resources. Our approach should prioritize compassion and support, ensuring everyone in Lynnwood has a pathway to stability and dignity.

In what ways could your city's comprehensive plan go further, and what would you push for to improve it during your tenure?

Lynnwood's comprehensive plan can go further by prioritizing sustainability and inclusivity. During my tenure, I will advocate for stronger commitments to green building practices, enhanced public transportation options, and the integration of affordable housing in all neighborhoods. Additionally, I will push for increased community engagement in the planning process, ensuring diverse voices shape our future. We need to incorporate measures that address climate resilience and promote walkable, bike-friendly environments. By enhancing our comprehensive plan, we can create a more equitable and sustainable city for all residents.