

Coalition for a Better Memphis Candidate Questionnaire Memphis City Council

Michael Moore – District 7

1. Please describe your background and your qualifications for this position? What experiences caused you to run for this office? What unique qualities would you bring to this position and what differentiates you from other candidates in your race?

I have worked with the previous councilwoman Barbara Swearengen Ware (as her campaign manager) and I am vested in the community on many levels. I have lived in the district most of my life and I have a heart for all the people, and a desire to continue the progress accomplished over the last 16 ½ years. Under Mayor W. W. Herenton, I graduated in the second class of the Citizen's Police Academy, and to this day, serve as an ambassador of the North Precinct. Also, Under Mayor Herenton, I became the Board Representative for the Hollywood Library and serve to this day. Under the leadership of then County Mayor, A.C. Wharton, I was appointed to the Memphis and Shelby County Music Commission where I also served as Vice-Chair during my tenure. Under the leadership of the Honorable Mayor Joseph Ford, I served on the Shelby County Music and Film Task Force. I am the Founder and Executive Director of the Made In Memphis Consortium, and I am very active in the Arts and Faith Based Communities.

MEMPHIS City Council Questionnaire 2011

Name: Michael Steven Moore

2. What is your vision for the City? How would you use this office to achieve the vision?

My vision for the City of Memphis is that it will be the city of choice where people will want to live, work, play, stay, and give.

I will support legislation that supports and promotes this vision.

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3. How do you plan on insuring that there is diversity, (including race, age, gender and socio-economic) represented in the development of public policy and government?

I support diversity and will work towards our City reflecting the value of diversity through its memberships of all of its Boards, Commissions, and Committees.

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4. What are the three greatest issues facing the City of Memphis today?
 - a. Public safety, real and perceived. We need greater police presence and more neighborhood involvement.
 - b. Economic development. We need a better working relationship with our local chamber and other organizations.
 - c. Image!!! Promote a City-Wide effort to make Memphis believe in Memphis, again.

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5. What role should the City of Memphis government play in promoting the economic development for the community? What specific initiatives or actions would you promote and/or support?

City of Memphis government should challenge the business community with matching funds for the promotion of the city and recruitment of business. Establish town hall meetings periodically with members of the Chamber of Commerce, Black Business Association, and others to stay abreast of issues and concerns.

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6. How would you strengthen and support existing neighborhoods that are within the urban core and what barriers to community redevelopment do you see in these areas today? How do you propose to address the current blight in many of these areas?

We are working with a task force and the CDC's and are developing a systematic process for effective community redevelopment, blight reduction, and community clean-up.

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7. What do you regard as the greatest obstacle or barrier to growth in the City today?

Our City must provide for its citizenry a city full of hope that this is a city where we all can achieve our best and highest for ourselves and for our children. Providing a self environment of education achievement and entrepreneurial success. Accentuate the positive.

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8. What is the role of the City Council? What do you think about the relationship between the Council and the City Mayor; as well as other elected or appointed bodies, such as: Shelby County Commissioners, State of Tennessee Shelby County Delegation, MLGW, Greater Memphis Chamber, Downtown Memphis Commission, etc.

Establishes the laws, ordinances, and polices that regulate the city of Memphis, and is also responsible for the budget. Individual Council Members focuses on the needs and concerns of the constituents in there districts and the city as a whole.

I recognized the value of maintaining working relationships with other elected or appointed bodies. I will work as a partner with each entity identify better ways to do better things for all who entrusted us to serve.

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9. With regard to the crime rate, what current strategies would you support and what changes would you propose if any?

I will be a champion for community policing and I will be an advocate for COACT units in our communities and the Center for Neighborhoods. We must engage in retraining and retooling neighborhood watch groups in the use of technology to circulate information about criminal activity, reporting of activity, and maintaining contact with their local precincts. I will support increased appropriations in the Budget of Police Services to employ more police officers and our Blue Crush Crime Model.

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10. Would you be willing to submit to a background check and then allow the results to be published?

Yes, but should we have to?

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11. Do you support the local ethics ordinance? Is the Ordinance sufficient, and if not, what changes would you recommend?

Yes. It is far reaching but implemented and therefore worthy of my support.

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12. What are your ideas with regards to the City's responsibility for funding Memphis City Schools?

It is unfortunate that funding was withheld from MCS in 2008. I believe that funding should be immediately and fully restored.

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13. What are the Council's responsibilities for making the City contract bidding process more equitable and transparent?

All dealings should be above board and transparent and we should do everything possible to ensure that. All people groups should be included in the process and in the offering of all bids.