

**Ward 1 Candidates Forum:  
Discussion of the Comprehensive Plan on Development, Housing, and Land Use in  
DC**

**Candidate Questionnaire -- Submission by Lori Parker**

**Instructions:** Please complete this questionnaire and return to Justin Godard ([godardjm1@gmail.com](mailto:godardjm1@gmail.com)) by Friday, March 23, 2018.

**Name:** Lori Parker

*1) In your view, should our housing policies reflect the belief that safe, affordable housing and safe, clean shelter is a right? If so, do you think those needs are best met through public housing options and/or a private market with more government controls, or do you think it is best met through a private real estate market with fewer government regulations?*

Yes. I believe these needs are best met through greater investments in preserving our existing public housing units (through maintenance and repairs), maximizing and preserving the number of affordable housing units at 30% and 50% AMI through public-private partnerships (public land dispositions with discounted land values), and private developments receiving public financing (loans and/or grants), project-based vouchers, low-income tax credits, and/or other tax incentives (abatements and or tax increment financing).

*What policies will you pursue that reflect your beliefs while meeting the needs of the extremely low income, moderate income, and families regardless of their race, immigration and/or language spoken?*

Greater language access (translation services) for our extremely low and moderate income families during regularly scheduled meetings of tenant/resident organizations and housing cooperatives is one policy I will pursue, among others.

*2) Do you believe the city's recent economic development strategies affected inequality and homelessness? And in what ways? What new economic development policies, if any, would you pursue to meet the needs of all residents making \$30,000 or less?*

Yes. The District must rely on accurate and timely data to ensure the housing needs of our long-term residents, particularly our extremely low and moderate-income families, are being met.

*3) In your view, has the city's focus on creating more market rate housing supply fueled or reduced displacement pressure on lower income people and affordable housing stock? Are the policies in the comprehensive plan that aim to reduce displacement pressure and preserve black and/or immigrant neighborhoods from gentrification sufficient to that task, or would you take additional steps to achieve these goals?*

My view is that the District's funding and policies regarding the production of more housing should be consistent with the goals set forth in the Housing Production Trust Fund: 40% for extremely low-income residents; 40% for moderate-income residents; and 20% for families making above 50% of AMI. The reverse has resulted in the actual displacement of many long-term residents, particularly our black and immigrant residents. I support greater

reporting and oversight over how expenditures from the Housing Production Trust Fund, and other public subsidies, maximize the number of affordable units in each development.

*4) In your role as councilmember, how would you use the comprehensive plan to make sure that DC is protecting its infrastructure and the environment as new development occurs?*

As councilmember, I would work with the executive agencies in ensuring that development projects in Ward 1 are consistent with the stated priorities in the comprehensive plan.