



People's Platform

We envision a Columbus that puts people first. Where every individual, child, parent, and grandparent has a safe roof over their head. Where all of us – no matter how much money you make or how long you've called Columbus home – can live in our homes unafraid of being priced out. But there are real barriers that stand in the way of this vision. Everyday working people bear the brunt of our community's shortage of safe and affordable housing, the overdose and mental health crises, and the need for more well-paying jobs that keep up with rising costs while allowing us to support our families. These are not unsolvable issues. But we will need our city to put the needs and priorities of everyday people first, instead of the wealthy few or out-of-town corporate developers who profit off of our town becoming more unaffordable. We believe the people closest to the problem are closest to the solution. So it will take all of us coming together and making sure the voices of everyday families are at the center of decision making in our city to pave a brighter path forward.

AFFORDABLE & SAFE HOUSING - All people deserve safe, stable and affordable housing. We want a future where all families, no matter their income, have a healthy, dignified, and beautiful home. We need a city that is committed to providing safe, accessible, and *truly* affordable housing to families at all income levels, not just those towards the top. We need a city that will take all possible measures to protect the safety and condition of our homes, so our neighbors do not have to live in fear of getting sick, being retaliated against, or losing their home. We need a city that sufficiently funds services to those who are homeless or unhoused, because we are all safer when our neighborhoods are stable.

OVERDOSE CRISIS & MENTAL HEALTH - Everyone deserves compassion and care when dealing with addiction and mental health. We envision a future where anyone going through a hard time is met *not* with judgment, fear, and incarceration, but with dignity, compassion, and care. We need a city that works to end the stigma for drug use and addictions, supports evidence-based treatment and care, and expands pathways to recovery to ensure that everyone can access affordable treatment. Communities are strongest when we care for each other in our hardest moments, and we need a city that pushes for this.

WELL PAYING JOBS - All of us deserve to be able to find and keep a good, honest, well-paying job that supports our local community and ensures we have more than enough to care for our families, keep a roof over our heads, and save for the future, without having to work multiple jobs well beyond retirement age. We need a city that pushes to make this possible and invests in our working people.

ACCOUNTABLE & TRANSPARENT GOVERNMENT - All people deserve to have access to how our shared public resources are spent. We need a city that is not only transparent about the decisions, but also actively works with everyday working people to make those decisions and lead on important community projects.