



BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CANDIDATES

A quick guide for Glebe BIA businesses — 2026 municipal election

These questions are for you — a business owner — to ask candidates directly, at your door or at events. They're not your BIA engaging on your behalf; your BIA follows its own election policy on that.

Non-partisan. Pick the two or three that matter most to your business, and listen for a real answer.

On red tape: "If I wanted to open a patio or put up a sign, I'd deal with City permits. What would you do to make that faster and more predictable?"

On getting customers to me: "How would you improve parking, transit, or safe cycling and walking routes to business districts like ours?"

On safety: "What's your plan for safety on our mainstreet — and for the social challenges businesses are dealing with directly?"

On construction: "When the City does roadwork on a mainstreet, how would you make sure businesses are warned early and planned around?"

On having a say: "BIAs are local boards of Council. How would you make sure ours is consulted before decisions that affect us?"

On the bottom line: "How would you make sure Council weighs the impact on local businesses before it passes policies or by-laws?"

Want to go deeper? Three that put a candidate on the record:

- "What's one issue on our mainstreet that City Hall isn't paying enough attention to — and what would you do about it?"
- "What's one measurable commitment you can make today that we can hold you to over the next four years?"
- "Finish this sentence: 'By the end of my term, our mainstreet will be known for _____.'"

A good answer is specific and tells you what they'd actually do. A weak answer agrees with you warmly and commits to nothing. You'll know the difference when you hear it.

See how candidates answered OCOBIA's questionnaire at ocobia.org/municipal-election-hub.

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