



2020

Environmental Issues Candidate Survey



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH: CITIZENS CLIMATE LOBBY, THE CLIMATE REALITY
PROJECT WS CHAPTER, ISLAND CULTUREZ, DEACS DECIDE & THE OFFICE OF
CIVIC AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AT WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY,
WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY, & YADKIN RIVERKEEPER

Table of Contents

ABOUT THE 2020 CANDIDATE SURVEY.....	1
GUILFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.....	2
GUILFORD COUNTY STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.....	8
GUILFORD COUNTY STATE SENATE.....	19
U.S. SENATE.....	25
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.....	28

The 2020 Environmental Issues Candidate Survey was developed to solicit and aggregate local candidates' plans and priorities for a more resilient, just, and environmentally sustainable North Carolina. We created this survey to share where candidates stand on key environmental issues and mobilize voters in Forsyth and Guilford Counties to vote.

The survey was distributed to all candidates on the ballot in Forsyth and Guilford Counties running for: Mayor, City Council, County Commissioner, NC State House of Representatives, and NC State Senate. The survey questions were formed around six main environmental issue categories:

**CLIMATE CHANGE
RENEWABLE ENERGY
TRANSPORTATION AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT
CLEAN WATER
PUBLIC GREEN SPACES
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

Now more than ever, we need strong leadership to address the crises we face - from COVID-19 to climate change. This leadership must begin at the local level.

The 2020 Environmental Issues Candidate Survey is important because:

Local races determine policy outcomes that impact citizens' day-to-day lives

Decisions like zoning, property taxes and user fees, and in the state's case this year, the redistricting process following the 2020 census, are all determined by down-ballot candidates

Down-ballot candidates often become up-ballot candidates

Individuals who run for the highest offices in the land almost always have experience serving at the local or state level. If we want national candidates who share our values and policy positions, we need to elect them first to serve locally.

Our votes carry the most weight in local races

With fewer voters, local races are the easiest to influence, with a big impact on our daily lives.

Please share the 2020 Environmental Issues Candidate Guide widely with your networks and join us in holding our elected officials accountable for the priorities, platforms and policies they have outlined in their responses.



GUILFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CANDIDATES

CARLY COOKE (D): DISTRICT 5



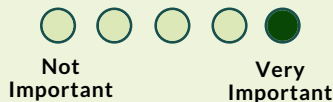
How important is it for the county to take actions and adopt policies that mitigate the impacts of climate change? What specific goals and measures should the county adopt to mitigate the impacts of climate change?



"With deregulation at the federal level, it is more important than ever to focus on environmental protections in our local community. One way we can do that is to incentivize development in underutilized or vacant areas within our urban footprint, which puts

people and jobs in closer proximity thereby reducing carbon emissions from travel while preserving green space in our rural areas. We should also continue to invest in and prioritize our parks, greenways, and bike trails to enable Guilford County citizens to bike and walk around our community safely. Additionally, as we look at the need to rebuild or renovate many of our school buildings, we have the opportunity to explore sustainable building practices and renewable energy sources with a goal of net zero carbon footprint for these new or updated schools. The county also has the option to retrofit many of the existing buildings with energy efficient systems that would offer a secondary benefit of immediate savings on energy costs. Lastly, I would like to see the county form a sustainability council comprised of Guilford County citizens who are invited to participate in shaping our plan for the local environment."

How important is it for the county to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? What policies and programs should the county use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents?



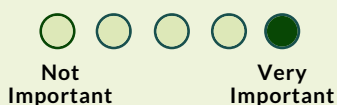
"It seems there is an opportunity to explore renewable energy and make updates to our energy infrastructure by attracting the development of these new clean energy companies in our community. Renewable energy sources used to be cost prohibitive but that has changed so subsidies are not always required to make it feasible. I look forward to having conversations about this with experts and community stakeholders once in office to explore what our options are in Guilford County that will contribute to a cleaner North Carolina."

How important is it for the county to support a local transformation in transportation, urban planning and city design, including better bike and pedestrian infrastructure and more public transit options? What policies and programs should the county adopt to implement new and better transportation infrastructure?



"City design and urban planning is mostly left to the municipalities, but the county can support those entities in their efforts to increase public transit options and to continue to invest in pedestrian and bicycle paths on county parks and greenways. We can also prioritize development in unused areas within our urban footprint to reduce travel time for those who can live and work in the same area."

In recent years, national clean water protections and regulations have been rolled back or eliminated, impacting waterways and drinking sources for North Carolinians. How important is it for the county to protect and regulate local water quality? What measures can the county take to protect our local public water?



"Clean water is vitally important for a healthy community. Guilford County should coordinate with our cities and the state of North Carolina to advocate for research on emerging compounds and chemicals in our water sources. We must prioritize the sharing of information and research with our cities, neighboring counties, and the state and encourage our state partners to fully fund the work being done by the NC Department of Environmental Quality to ensure that they can continue their important scientific research that is necessary to keep us all safe. Specifically in Guilford County, we need to address the issue of lead in the drinking water at our many public school buildings. This is a symptom of the bigger problem - deteriorating, poorly maintained facilities - that could have very serious consequences for our children's health."

How important is it for the county to protect, expand, and support public green spaces, including parks and greenways? What policies should the county adopt to protect, expand, and support public green spaces?



"We should continue to invest in and prioritize our parks, greenways, and bike trails to enable Guilford County citizens to bike and walk around our community safely. Green spaces contribute to both a healthier community and cleaner environment."

How important is it for the county to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that the county can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?



"We can't wait to address the existential threat of climate change. We have an opportunity to pursue environmental justice as we update our energy infrastructure, switch to renewables, and work toward a cleaner, healthier community for all residents. I think this is a specific topic that should be addressed by a sustainability council - first to investigate what environmental injustices exist in Guilford County and then to determine solutions that will provide better outcomes for our citizens."

MARY BETH MURPHY (D): DISTRICT 4

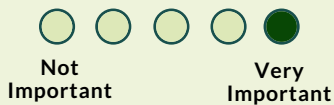


How important is it for the county to take actions and adopt policies that mitigate the impacts of climate change? What specific goals and measures should the county adopt to mitigate the impacts of climate change?



"Climate change is a scary reality and we must be vigilant in addressing it directly at the local level. I would like to see local incentives offered to both commercial and residential properties for transitioning to solar energy. Clean energy is our primary hope for a solution to climate change, and at the local level we need to leverage our purchasing power and our investment in new facilities by building green-certified structures, and committing to green power as the primary energy source for government-owned facilities and vehicles. Additionally, we need to clean up existing hazardous waste, hold corporations and individuals responsible for proper disposal of their hazardous waste, and clean-up abandoned sites, ensuring economic development and sustainability on those sites. A final important strategy involves the agricultural sector. Small family farms need systemic support so that they can grow our food sustainably and adhere to land use strategies that improve, rather than deplete, soil health. Such support will lead to a decrease in greenhouse emissions, thereby reducing the impacts of climate change."

How important is it for the county to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? What policies and programs should the county use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents?



"It is very important to take intentional steps to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and shift towards renewable energy resources. Some ways we can do this include investing in low emissions (hybrid or electric when possible) vehicles for our fleets, and exploring solar energy initiatives and grants to provide clean energy and cut energy costs in our schools and county facilities. Greensboro City Council established a Community Sustainability Council (CSS) of 9 Greensboro residents based on their knowledge and experience with sustainable resources. This is common across the country. One member is selected for each of the 5 city districts and they meet once a month. The county should partner with the council or create their own sustainability council."

How important is it for the county to support a local transformation in transportation, urban planning and city design, including better bike and pedestrian infrastructure and more public transit options? What policies and programs should the county adopt to implement new and better transportation infrastructure?



"According to Guilford County Transportation and Mobility Services, there are options available for residents who live outside of the city limits of Greensboro and High Point. However, after conversations with affected residents, it is clear that there is room to grow. Expanded public transit options positively contribute to economic development and need to be prioritized. With regard to city design, infrastructure that is pedestrian and bike friendly is not only beneficial to those who use these transportation options, but is also environmentally responsible."

In recent years, national clean water protections and regulations have been rolled back or eliminated, impacting waterways and drinking sources for North Carolinians. How important is it for the county to protect and regulate local water quality? What measures can the county take to protect our local public water?



"Some measures the county can take to protect our local public water include: regular monitoring for changes that identify degradation of water bodies, preserving existing vegetated buffers around bodies of water to prevent the flow of contaminants into surface water, and provide incentives to developers to limit disturbance and tree removal during new building/development processes. Another tool would be to incentivize LID (low impact development) in future development contracts. NC House Representatives Clemmons and Harrison have both worked to protect Guilford County water at the state level, and it is the role of the local government to be supportive of these efforts."

How important is it for the county to protect, expand, and support public green spaces, including parks and greenways? What policies should the county adopt to protect, expand, and support public green spaces?



"Greenways provide an aesthetic appeal popular among community members and businesses alike. Greenways provide easy and safe access to public transportation, provide plants and trees that positively impact the local environment, and stormwater landscaping diverts millions of gallons of rainwater every year. Greenways also support local artists by including murals and sculptures to celebrate the diversity of Guilford County. "In the wake of the pandemic, our greenways have seen a dramatic increase in usage." - Greensboro Greenway Project Manager Dabney Sanders. There is an opportunity for Guilford County to expand upon this strong foundation and continue the efforts beyond downtown Greensboro and across our community."

How important is it for the county to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that the county can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?



"A bold first step would be to declare racism a public health crisis. More than 80 cities, counties, and states across the nation have already done so. We could make Guilford County the second county in NC to do this. Mecklenburg County made their declaration on June 16th and the Charlotte Mayor signed a proclamation on June 17th. A declaration could put the spotlight on environmental racism and encourage greater urgency to address the systematic problems. We can also require racial bias training for all county employees. Additionally Guilford County should continue to partner with the Weatherization Assistance Program and consider how we might make permanent a COVID-19 response program that is currently offering temporary assistance to citizens who can't pay their water bills during this crisis."

JAMES UPCHURCH (D): DISTRICT 6

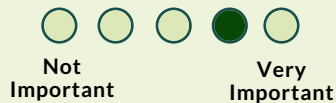


How important is it for the county to take actions and adopt policies that mitigate the impacts of climate change? What specific goals and measures should the county adopt to mitigate the impacts of climate change?



No further response.

How important is it for the county to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? What policies and programs should the county use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents?



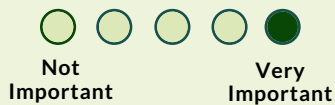
No further response.

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In recent years, national clean water protections and regulations have been rolled back or eliminated, impacting waterways and drinking sources for North Carolinians. How important is it for the county to protect and regulate local water quality? What measures can the county take to protect our local public water?



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No further response.

SKIP ALSTON (D)	No response received
JERRY ALAN BRANSTON (R)	No response received
JIM DAVIS (R)	No response received
TROY LAWSON (R)	No response received
EVELYN TERRY (D)	No response received



**piedmont
environmental
alliance**



**WAKE FOREST
SUSTAINABILITY**
sustainability.wfu.edu

GUILFORD COUNTY STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CANDIDATES

ASHTON CLEMMONS (D): DISTRICT 57

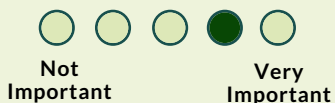


How important is it for the State of North Carolina to take actions and adopt policies that mitigate the impacts of climate change? What specific goals and measures should the State of North Carolina adopt to mitigate the impacts of climate change?



"We should build proactive energy solutions that lessen or negate climate emissions such as solar, electric options, hydroelectric and wind."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? What policies and programs should the State of North Carolina use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents?



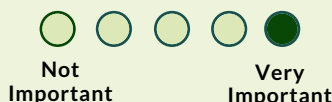
No further response

How important is it for the General Assembly to pass legislation that transforms the transportation sector? What policies and programs do you support to transform the transportation sector and provide active and public transportation options for people across the state?



"We should support and encourage this transition with public investments that build infrastructure for future investments. In Greensboro we began transitioning some of our public buses to battery operated with a grant that helped build charging stations. The grant will encourage more transitions to electric which is a model of how we can help!"

How important is it for the NC General Assembly to pass legislation that protects and regulates water quality? What policies and programs do you support to protect and regulate public water sources in North Carolina?



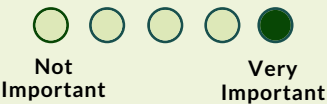
"In 2020 I filed the Clean Water Drinking Act - we must establish clear guidelines for acceptable emerging compounds in drinking water that keep North Carolinians safe. Additionally, instead of continued decreased funding to DEQ so that they are unable to do the important work of monitoring and responding to clean water issues, we must invest."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to protect, expand, and support public green spaces, including parks and greenways? What policies should the State of North Carolina adopt to protect, expand, and support public green spaces?



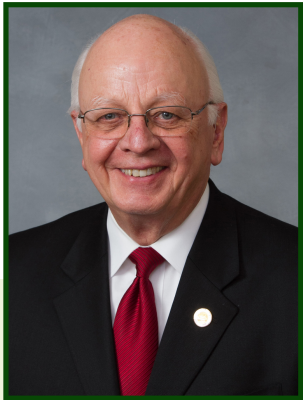
"State parks and greenways bring strong opportunities for people to experience our environment and build community. By using opportunities to invest public dollars - in partnership with private investments as well - we can protect our natural resources and build places for communities to enjoy. Here is another place where leadership in Greensboro shines! We have made great progress by building additional Downtown Parks and a Downtown Greenway."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that the North Carolina General Assembly can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?



"Critical! We cannot continue to make progress in one area at the expense of our communities of color. The most important thing we can do is include the voices of impacted communities as decisions are made."

JOHN FAIRCLOTH (R): DISTRICT 62

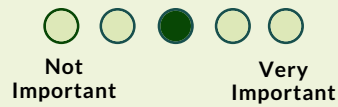


How important is it for the State of North Carolina to take actions and adopt policies that mitigate the impacts of climate change? What specific goals and measures should the State of North Carolina adopt to mitigate the impacts of climate change?



"Would need further information."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? What policies and programs should the State of North Carolina use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents?



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How important is it for the General Assembly to pass legislation that transforms the transportation sector? What policies and programs do you support to transform the transportation sector and provide active and public transportation options for people across the state?



"Would need further information."

How important is it for the NC General Assembly to pass legislation that protects and regulates water quality? What policies and programs do you support to protect and regulate public water sources in North Carolina?



"Those that are necessary to achieve a safe and lasting water supply."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to protect, expand, and support public green spaces, including parks and greenways? What policies should the State of North Carolina adopt to protect, expand, and support public green spaces?



"It seems that progress has been made but would like more information."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that the North Carolina General Assembly can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?



"Would need more information."

BRANDON GRAY (D): DISTRICT 62



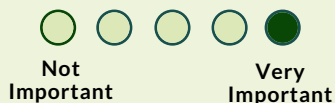
How important is it for the State of North Carolina to take actions and adopt policies that mitigate the impacts of climate change? What specific goals and measures should the State of North Carolina adopt to mitigate the impacts of climate change?



"I firmly believe that climate change is real and we have an epidemic that continues to be passed on generation after generation with no action taken to remedy our impact on the environment. We are in the hot seat,

literally. If we do not create impactful legislation to combat our climate crisis, the generations after us will suffer. My number one goal is to find quick paths to renewable energy alternatives across the nation, without losing jobs and increasing our national debt. We also need to hold corporations from exploiting our environment for their own profit while leaving working folks to clean up after them."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? What policies and programs should the State of North Carolina use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents?



"Holding Duke energy accountable and demand they move into a more greener monopoly. There really is no other option to Duke, sadly. So keeping them in check and lobbying them to make the right choices for the environment is the key here."

How important is it for the General Assembly to pass legislation that transforms the transportation sector? What policies and programs do you support to transform the transportation sector and provide active and public transportation options for people across the state?



"Improve the reliability, connectivity, and safety of the transportation system. Not only that, but we also need more green transportation options-- Biking, electric rail."

How important is it for the NC General Assembly to pass legislation that protects and regulates water quality? What policies and programs do you support to protect and regulate public water sources in North Carolina?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒
Not Very
Important Important

"Holding corporations accountable and making sure they are not polluting our environment. Not just Duke, every company needs its local government to hold them accountable and make sure they are not exploiting their environment."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to protect, expand, and support public green spaces, including parks and greenways? What policies should the State of North Carolina adopt to protect, expand, and support public green spaces?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒
Not Very
Important Important

"North Carolina is one of the most beautiful states on the east coast. Our lands are so diverse and our government has taken many steps to preserve our lands. We have so many state parks and the amount of rivers we have makes our home so special. With all this natural beauty comes a big responsibility to protect it. Time after time we have seen folks trying to use our land for their profit. If we don't continue to protect and expand protected areas we will fall victim to crony capitalism and it's always an abuse of environmental stewardship."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that the North Carolina General Assembly can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒
Not Very
Important Important

"These communities are the first to be exploited when big corporations come into town. They will offer low paying jobs with little to no benefits all while polluting neighbors they believe to be "forgotten" by lawmakers. We see this all over the country. These communities need new, green, union jobs with \$15+ minimum wages and benefits to replace the factories that shut down long ago. These communities have been displaced for too long."

PRICEY HARRISON (D): DISTRICT 61



How important is it for the State of North Carolina to take actions and adopt policies that mitigate the impacts of climate change? What specific goals and measures should the State of North Carolina adopt to mitigate the impacts of climate change?

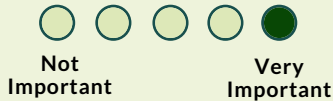
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒
Not Very
Important Important

"The most recent IPCC report advises that we must limit temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius to avoid irreversible catastrophic climate change. Acting swiftly to address climate change has long been a priority of mine. NC is particularly vulnerable to climate change, especially our high risk coast. We should adopt a standard for zero carbon emissions by 2050, with substantial progress toward that goal in the next 10 years (legislation which I have sponsored). I co-chaired the Legislative Commission on Global Climate Change which made a number of recommendations on this subject more than 10 years ago. Over my 16 years in office, I have sponsored legislation proposing our Renewable Energy Standard, greater building efficiency, energy savings, renewable energy investments, green schools, and more. We must eliminate our dependence on fossil fuels; mandate a cleaner transportation sector; require more efficient buildings;

eliminate any barriers to renewable energy systems (eg the wind moratorium) while maintaining necessary protections; put in place better agricultural practices; provide more incentives and invest in land conservation; and anything else we can do to shrink our carbon footprint.

At the federal level, the US officially withdraws from the Paris climate accord on November 4, 2020; we must do what we can to stop that."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? What policies and programs should the State of North Carolina use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents?



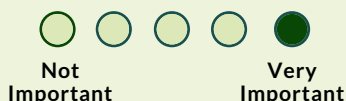
"What policies and programs should the State of North Carolina use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents? As stated above, we must eliminate our use of fossil fuels, as well as restore our ban on fracking and offshore drilling. We face a zero carbon future and fossil fuel based energy sources will be obsolete. We should adopt a higher REPS goal similar to California and Hawaii. We should increase the energy efficiency of any buildings using public funds. We should reinstate tax credits for renewable energy investments. We should invest in cleaner transportation infrastructure. We should invest in battery storage technology. And more."

How important is it for the General Assembly to pass legislation that transforms the transportation sector? What policies and programs do you support to transform the transportation sector and provide active and public transportation options for people across the state?



"Transportation is a large source of greenhouse gas emissions and we must do what we can to move to a cleaner transportation sector. Increasing funding for public transit including our trains (which have suffered many cuts over the last decade) and other forms of alternative transportation, including bike paths and greenways, is a good start. We are likely facing a transportation sector that will be dominated by electric vehicles. That will necessitate charging stations, improved battery technology, and more. That will also mean devising a new system for funding our highways, which is currently largely dependent on proceeds from the gas tax. CAFE standards are established at the federal level and the Obama era CAFE standards and CA clean cars standard must be restored. I had advocated for NC to adopt California's clean car standard for years, but could never get traction for that, and I will continue to push for that."

How important is it for the NC General Assembly to pass legislation that protects and regulates water quality? What policies and programs do you support to protect and regulate public water sources in North Carolina?



"The recent US News and World Report state rankings on the Natural Environment places NC 42nd on air and water quality, due to bad air quality days and issues with water quality. We have seen a number of rollbacks of important state measures protecting the quality of our air and water, including storm water controls and buffers. NC faces a public health crisis with emerging contaminants including PFAS which is poisoning North Carolinians. We must restore those air and water quality protections that have been rolled back or repealed in the last decade. We must repeal the Hardison amendments which handcuff our state agencies as well as any other obstacles to protecting the public health that have been put in place in the last decade. In a perfect world, we would adopt the precautionary principle as the EU has done, which would mean nothing would be allowed to be emitted or discharged unless it could be proven to be safe. And we must adequately fund the state agencies (DHHS and DEQ) who are charged with protecting the public's health."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to protect, expand, and support public green spaces, including parks and greenways? What policies should the State of North Carolina adopt to protect, expand, and support public green spaces?

Not Important Very Important

"Open spaces are important for one's quality of life, especially mental and physical health. They also play a role in mitigating climate change. It is much less expensive to acquire undisturbed land that restore it. The NCGA should reinstate the conservation tax credit that helped provide incentives to land donations and contributions to land donations. We should restore the dedicated funding sources that had been used to fund the Natural Heritage Trust program, the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund, and other similar programs. Once our budget is sounder, we should continue to prioritize funding the Clean Water Management Trust Fund and other conservation programs. I was glad to see that Gov. Cooper's currently proposed budget includes \$20 million in federal CARES Act funds to address needs at NC's state parks and trails."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that the North Carolina General Assembly can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?

Not Important Very Important

"The country has experienced 400 years of systemic and institutionalized racism. There is much that must be done systematically to undo that damage. Low income communities and communities of color are most vulnerable to environmental injustice, and are most likely to be located near toxic polluters and areas particularly vulnerable to climate hazards. Environmental justice and cumulative impacts should be factors in permitting decisions. The state should invest more in black, immigrant, indigenous, and community of color, including access to health care, better educational opportunities, sustainable jobs, a fairer criminal justice system, fairer elections, police accountability, safe and affordable housing, etc. Until we address racial injustice, we cannot adequately deal with environmental injustice. Acknowledging and addressing systemic racism is critical if we are going to achieve environmental and climate justice. One specific example is to restore clean air protections. Since the onset of the pandemic, many are acknowledging the environmental and health inequalities in our current system. People of color are getting sick and dying from COVID at a disproportionate rate. We know that communities of color are subject to more air pollution and poor air quality is tied to respiratory and cardiovascular health. When people of color suffer at such a higher rate from asthma and other respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, we MUST respond. Legislation ensuring communities of color have clean air is critical to this effort."

CHRIS MEADOWS (R): DISTRICT 57

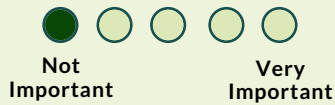


How important is it for the State of North Carolina to take actions and adopt policies that mitigate the impacts of climate change? What specific goals and measures should the State of North Carolina adopt to mitigate the impacts of climate change?

Not Important Very Important

"The State government should stay out of it. We can't have 50 sets of regulations. I'll be glad to elaborate upon request."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? What policies and programs should the State of North Carolina use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents?



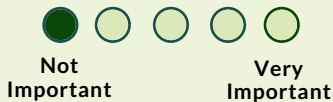
"No government programs. Free markets will work efficiently if needed. I'll be glad to elaborate upon request."

How important is it for the General Assembly to pass legislation that transforms the transportation sector? What policies and programs do you support to transform the transportation sector and provide active and public transportation options for people across the state?



"The free market will determine the efficiency of changing the transportation industry. If the overwhelming majority of consumers demand change then the production will change. I'll be glad to elaborate upon request."

How important is it for the NC General Assembly to pass legislation that protects and regulates water quality? What policies and programs do you support to protect and regulate public water sources in North Carolina?



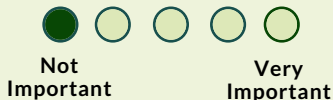
"Common sense regulations to protect water sources are necessary but the heavy hand of the federal government that always over regulates should be lifted some. I'll be glad to elaborate upon request."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to protect, expand, and support public green spaces, including parks and greenways? What policies should the State of North Carolina adopt to protect, expand, and support public green spaces?



"We have an abundance of public green spaces."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that the North Carolina General Assembly can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?



"Climate change issues have nothing to do with poverty and "social justice" issues. Any suggestion otherwise is purely political and intended to cause division among our citizenry. I'll be glad to elaborate upon request."

NICOLE QUICK (D): DISTRICT 59



How important is it for the State of North Carolina to take actions and adopt policies that mitigate the impacts of climate change? What specific goals and measures should the State of North Carolina adopt to mitigate the impacts of climate change?

Not Important Very Important

"I support Governor Cooper's clean energy plan. It includes transforming "the electrical grid to save energy and make it more resilient; reducing the energy burdens of low-income residents; and cutting greenhouse emissions from the power sector by 60 to 70 (percent) below 2005 levels by 2030 while working toward zero emissions by 2050..." Some specific steps for the state to take are capping greenhouse gas emissions, joining a regional emissions trading program, and phasing out coal-fired power plants by 2030."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? What policies and programs should the State of North Carolina use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents?

Not Important Very Important

"1. Reinstate the renewable energy tax credit. 2. Enact the Energy Freedom Act to allow families and businesses to buy electricity from a third party. 3. Increase the renewable energy portfolio standard. 4. Lift the moratorium on wind farm development. 5. Place a moratorium on all new fossil fuel infrastructure projects, including pipelines and offshore drilling."

How important is it for the General Assembly to pass legislation that transforms the transportation sector? What policies and programs do you support to transform the transportation sector and provide active and public transportation options for people across the state?

Not Important Very Important

"Transition the state transportation fleet to all zero-emissions vehicles. Incentivize cities to move to all electric buses. Increase our public transportation options and infrastructure. Encourage flexible work hours to avoid rush hours, and promote working from home."

How important is it for the NC General Assembly to pass legislation that protects and regulates water quality? What policies and programs do you support to protect and regulate public water sources in North Carolina?

Not Important Very Important

"Increase regulations and hold polluters accountable. Provide adequate funding to address emerging compounds like GenX. Fully fund scientists and water quality monitors that have been cut from DEQ and DHHS. Ban fracking."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to protect, expand, and support public green spaces, including parks and greenways? What policies should the State of North Carolina adopt to protect, expand, and support public green spaces?

Not Important Very Important

"Fund the acquisition of adequate land for future park development. Ensure parks contain adequate buffers from commercial and residential activities to protect and maintain environmental and cultural resources. Protect the ecological viability of parks by incentivizing environmentally friendly activities on adjacent lands."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that the North Carolina General Assembly can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒
Not Very
Important Important

"Restore the original protections in the Solid Waste Management Act of 2007: Deny a landfill permit if the landfill would negatively impact a low-income community or community of color and require buffers between landfills and natural resources or private residences. Expand the act to cover hog waste lagoons and coal ash contaminants as well. Strengthen regulations to reduce pollution/contamination and provide legal recourse for individuals affected by polluters."

FRANK RAGSDALE (R): DISTRICT 60



How important is it for the State of North Carolina to take actions and adopt policies that mitigate the impacts of climate change? What specific goals and measures should the State of North Carolina adopt to mitigate the impacts of climate change?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒
Not Very
Important Important

"Funding for better upkeep of our lakes, parks, streams, beaches, drinking water, and air."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? What policies and programs should the State of North Carolina use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒
Not Very
Important Important

"Mandatory set payments by large energy supplied corporations to contribute to better, safer, and cleaner energy, without pay cuts of employees!"

How important is it for the General Assembly to pass legislation that transforms the transportation sector? What policies and programs do you support to transform the transportation sector and provide active and public transportation options for people across the state?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒
Not Very
Important Important

"More funding to contribute to the development of safer fuels and require use of the safer fuels once developed. And, contributed funding for the cleanup and decreasing of the CO2!"

How important is it for the NC General Assembly to pass legislation that protects and regulates water quality? What policies and programs do you support to protect and regulate public water sources in North Carolina?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒
Not Very
Important Important

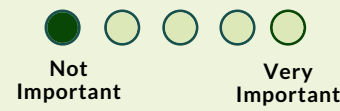
"Reinstating the policies, adding laws to protect these policies, and added more funding to be contributed to allow for necessary and continued updated equipment to ensure for the best quality of cleaner water."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to protect, expand, and support public green spaces, including parks and greenways? What policies should the State of North Carolina adopt to protect, expand, and support public green spaces?



"Require corporations to contribute to the upkeep and protection of our parks, especially industrial required contributions, because they negatively impact the degeneration of them, more so by their run offs and smoke and fume releases!"

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that the North Carolina General Assembly can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?



"ALL" Communities, REGARDLESS of race ARE important! No one race is more important than another! " ALL LIVES MATTER, INCLUDING WHITES AND LAW ENFORCEMENT!" Our state and local communities, as a WHOLE should strive to better and safer upkeep! This SHOULD REQUIRE all residents to participate in the upkeep in their communities, as well! If the residents in a community don't participate, but rather, continue in the degeneration to their property, then the government should decrease their funding! We all have to work together and NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE of ANY system! Cleaning up after ourselves should be Priority One, FOREMOST, rather than depending on everyone else or our government to do it for us! Government assisted cleanup should come to that community, providing those issues are met! I do support the assistance to "ALL" communities providing all communities participate themselves!"

- CECIL BROCKMAN (D)

No response received
- JON HARDISTER (R)

No response received
- CLINTON HONEY (R)

No response received
- AMOS QUICK (D)

No response received



GUILFORD COUNTY STATE SENATE CANDIDATES

JANE LEDWELL-GANT (D): DISTRICT 26

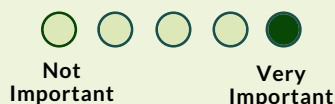


How important is it for the State of North Carolina to take actions and adopt policies that mitigate the impacts of climate change? What specific goals and measures should the State of North Carolina adopt to mitigate the impacts of climate change?



"Windmills, electric cars and any other environmental changes necessary."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? What policies and programs should the State of North Carolina use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents?



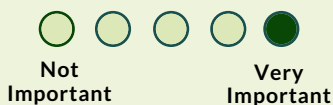
"Not sure."

How important is it for the General Assembly to pass legislation that transforms the transportation sector? What policies and programs do you support to transform the transportation sector and provide active and public transportation options for people across the state?



"Parts of NC need more sources of transportation. There is very little public transportation in some North Carolina cities."

How important is it for the NC General Assembly to pass legislation that protects and regulates water quality? What policies and programs do you support to protect and regulate public water sources in North Carolina?



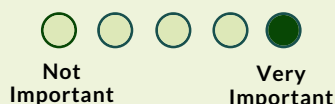
"Federal funds need to be made available and heavy penalties should be applied to anyone breaking environmental laws."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to protect, expand, and support public green spaces, including parks and greenways? What policies should the State of North Carolina adopt to protect, expand, and support public green spaces?



"The state should provide adequate funds to support public green spaces."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that the North Carolina General Assembly can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?



"State reps need to pay more attention to the needs of these communities and take an active part in petitioning local municipalities to fund these areas."

MICHAEL GARRETT (D): DISTRICT 27



How important is it for the State of North Carolina to take actions and adopt policies that mitigate the impacts of climate change? What specific goals and measures should the State of North Carolina adopt to mitigate the impacts of climate change?

Not Important Very Important

"We need to transition to 100% renewable energy creation as fast as humanly possible. In 2019, I co-sponsored a bill to make that an official goal of the State of North Carolina to achieve by 2050. Unfortunately, the Republican-led Senate would not allow the bill to even appear before a committee."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? What policies and programs should the State of North Carolina use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents?

Not Important Very Important

"One of the best things that the state government can do to accelerate the shift to renewables is to nurture North Carolina's growing solar industry. Not only will increased adoption of solar power help us to transition from fossil fuel usage, it will also lead to thousands of job opportunities that we need now more than ever."

Further, I believe that the state should incentivize the adoption of electric vehicles as well as renewable-driven mass transit services in urban centers where they make the most sense."

How important is it for the General Assembly to pass legislation that transforms the transportation sector? What policies and programs do you support to transform the transportation sector and provide active and public transportation options for people across the state?

Not Important Very Important

"The way we tackle this issue will largely determine how successful our overall response to climate change pans out in North Carolina. As noted in my last response, our state's investments in transportation should include a mix of electric vehicles, efficient mass transit, and programs that make walking and biking an attractive option for as many residents as possible. I support tax incentives for the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles by individual families as well as by municipal governments. I also support light rail programs in the Triangle and Charlotte metro area and improvements to efficient bus systems in other metro areas."

How important is it for the NC General Assembly to pass legislation that protects and regulates water quality? What policies and programs do you support to protect and regulate public water sources in North Carolina?

Not Important Very Important

"In 2019, I introduced the Polluter Pays Act, which would have made polluters legally and financially liable to damage that they do to our state's water. Although this is yet another bill that was not allowed to proceed to even a committee hearing by the current Senate majority, I remain committed to this bill's passage under a new Senate majority in the future."

Further, I have co-sponsored legislation that would ban emerging contaminants, such as PFAS, because we don't know just how damaging these new chemicals can be to the health of all who consume water tainted by spills."

Finally, I support the full funding of DEQ so that they can have the tools that they need to monitor water quality and, when necessary, enforce fines on those entities that pollute our water."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to protect, expand, and support public green spaces, including parks and greenways? What policies should the State of North Carolina adopt to protect, expand, and support public green spaces?

Not Important Very Important

"As our state continues to grow and also become more urbanized, cities must be intentional about preserving green spaces in their vicinity. On a larger scale, I believe that the state government can play a role in preserving larger tracts of land so that current and future generations of North Carolinians alike can enjoy the unique recreational opportunities that our state affords to residents and visitors."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that the North Carolina General Assembly can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?

Not Important Very Important

"The tenets of environmental justice are increasingly being weighed when drafting and enacting environmental policies and I believe that is a good thing. Historically, and even in some places today, low-income communities and communities of color have absorbed the brunt of the health and economic costs of the dirtier projects our society creates. As we look to a massive shift away from fossil fuels in the coming decades, the policies that we put forth should build these communities up and right past wrongs."

GLADYS ROBINSON (D): DISTRICT 28



How important is it for the State of North Carolina to take actions and adopt policies that mitigate the impacts of climate change? What specific goals and measures should the State of North Carolina adopt to mitigate the impacts of climate change?

Not Important Very Important

"Acting swiftly to address climate change is a priority of mine. Because of the coast of NC, we have to be careful of climate change. To address this, we must adopt legislation that requires a standard for zero carbon emissions by 2050 with steps to monitor progress. We must address fossil fuels and emission controls, requiring cleaner transportation. Renewable energy will help to build a more environmentally friendly climate."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? What policies and programs should the State of North Carolina use to shift the state to a cleaner energy mix for all residents?

Not Important Very Important

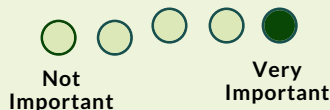
"I believe the elimination of fossil fuels will be a necessary step. Secondly, fracking and offshore drilling pose tremendous hazards to our State; these must be banned, although some are opposed. Studies have demonstrated that renewable energy is the path to cleaner energy; as wind and solar energy use. Incentivizing builders to use solar energy for efficiency and to receive tax credits is important. Public entities should be encouraged as well."

How important is it for the General Assembly to pass legislation that transforms the transportation sector? What policies and programs do you support to transform the transportation sector and provide active and public transportation options for people across the state?



"Greenhouse gas emissions come mostly from transportation, thus we have to seek ways of using a cleaner transportation system. Larger and progressive states are using more public transportation as trains and clean buses and supporting citizen use of bicycles for leisure and even business. Education for our citizens around these alternative forms is important. The General Assembly must support funding for the transit systems as those in Raleigh and Charlotte."

How important is it for the NC General Assembly to pass legislation that protects and regulates water quality? What policies and programs do you support to protect and regulate public water sources in North Carolina?



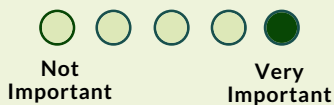
"The issue of polluted water was apparent in the Greensboro area last year. Protecting the quality of our air and water, using storm water controls and buffers will prevent the problems we faced with emerging contaminants such as PFAS and other toxins which are released into the water and poison our water and our citizens. Clean and safe water and air quality are priorities that we must implement for our citizens and our children. I will work to restore those protections for our State."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to protect, expand, and support public green spaces, including parks and greenways? What policies should the State of North Carolina adopt to protect, expand, and support public green spaces?



"Recent efforts across the State have been made to resurrect greenways, expand and protect green spaces and avail our beautiful State parks. We must continue legislation that assures these protections and expansion. North Carolina is known for its beautiful and usually clean landscapes, from the mountains to the coast. Cities as Greensboro have done much recently to restore these; however, green spaces must not be exclusive to higher income communities; all communities must have these. They are taxpayers too."

How important is it for the State of North Carolina to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that the North Carolina General Assembly can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?



"Environmental justice is a MUST in North Carolina. Two years after going to the Senate, I witnessed former Sen. Wade assault our poor and minority communities with legislation that removed protections from landfills in minority communities. Across the State and nation, we know that toxins and pollutants are always found or put in low income and minority communities. Poverty, lack of access to health care, jobs and education are factors that allow perpetrators to locate hazardous materials and pollutants where low income individuals live. We who represent these communities and are of the community must insist "NO MORE". We must strengthen laws that protect communities of color and low income individuals from being the site of landfills, hazardous waste, unsafe plants as hog farms, etc. Environmental justice requires that we as lawmakers fund access to health care with Medicaid Expansion, educational opportunities, including support for HBCUs, higher paying jobs and the training that afford opportunities for upward mobility."

(continue to next page)

The way to eliminate poverty is to provide access and equity, not doing the same for everybody. The Second Chance legislation was a step in the criminal justice system but not the solution, the justice system must be cleaned up and equitized, rather than viewing crime and sentencing punishment based on the color of skin. COVID-19 is a prime example. Because of lack of access to healthcare, African Americans suffer poorer health conditions and thus are infected and die at higher rates. Much has to be done and North Carolina is the place to initiate an equitable, environmentally just, educational advantageous and socially supportive system for communities of color. I am ready to continue this legislation and hope others will join. Thank you."

AMY GALEY (R)

No response received

DEVIN KING (R)

No response received

SEBASTIAN KING (R)

No response received

JERRY TILLMAN (R)

No response received

JOHN DAVID WOOTEN (D)

No response received



U.S. SENATE CANDIDATES

SHANNON BRAY (LIB)



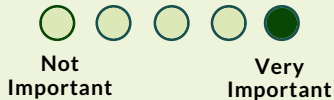
How important is it to support legislation that mitigates the impacts of climate change? What specific policies and goals do you support that would mitigate the impacts of climate change?



"In Executive Order 80: North Carolina's Commitment to Address Climate Change and Transition to a Clean Energy Economy, Governor Roy Cooper laid out a series of goals for the state to strive to accomplish by 2025. I fully support his goals for clean energy and anything we can do to support climate change policies.

My family believes in clean energy and we have incorporated solar panels in our home."

How important is it for the country to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? How will you support the growth of renewable energy and ensure we modernize our outdated electricity grid to accommodate the transition to clean energy?



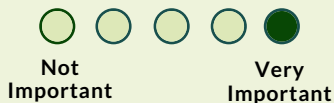
"I believe we need to continue and grow our subsidies for clean energy such as those for solar panels and water conservation."

How important is it to support legislation that transforms the transportation sector? What will you do to put us on a path to make vehicles go farther on a gallon of gas, electrify cars and trucks, and enhance options for public and active transportation options?



"I will support funding and research that enables fuel economy."

How important is it to support legislation that protects the water quality of Americans? What measures should Congress take to protect our water and air quality?



"Congress should expand on the The Clean Waters Restoration Act which was signed into law in the 1960s. We need to reduce CO2, our dependencies on fossil fuels, and promote clean energy."

How important is it for Congress to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that Congress can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?



"There are many regulations that were in place that have been removed by the Trump administration; these policies need to be returned and expanded. All of our citizens need to have access to clean water and air. Communities of color and poverty are often ignored. Regulations must be in place to protect all of our residents no matter of color and income level."

CAL CUNNINGHAM (D)

No response received

THOM TILLIS (R)

No response received

KEVIN HAYES (CST)

No response received



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CANDIDATES

KATHY MANNING (D)



How important is it to support legislation that mitigates the impacts of climate change? What specific policies and goals do you support that would mitigate the impacts of climate change?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒ No further comment.

Not Important Very Important

How important is it for the country to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy resources? How will you support the growth of renewable energy and ensure we modernize our outdated electricity grid to accommodate the transition to clean energy?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒ No further comment.

Not Important Very Important

How important is it to support legislation that transforms the transportation sector? What will you do to put us on a path to make vehicles go farther on a gallon of gas, electrify cars and trucks, and enhance options for public and active transportation options?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒ No further comment.

Not Important Very Important

How important is it to support legislation that protects the water quality of Americans? What measures should Congress take to protect our water and air quality?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒ No further comment.

Not Important Very Important

How important is it for Congress to focus on Black, immigrant, indigenous, and communities of color when developing environmental legislation, policies, and practices? What are specific ways that Congress can utilize pro-environmental policies to rectify environmental injustices, better support communities of color, and support areas of poverty?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒ No further comment.

Not Important Very Important

LEE HAYWOOD (R)

No response received