

IVI-IPO 2007 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE

DATE January 2, 2007 WARD 42nd Ward

NAME Brendan Reilly

VOTING ADDRESS 1122 North Clark St., #3608 Chicago, Illinois 60610

HOME PHONE 312-643-2850 BUSINESS PHONE 312-519-2277

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS P.O. Box 10939, Chicago, Illinois 60610

CAMPAIGN PHONE See Business Phone FAX 312-277-1009

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE www.reillyforchicago.com EMAIL brendan@reillyforchicago.com

CAMPAIGN MANAGER Rob Nash

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED 1,500 NUMBER REQUIRED 203

Please provide the following background information:

Elective or appointive public and/or party offices previously held including dates.

None.

Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.

None.

Principal business, educational, professional and civic activities of the past ten years.

I started my career working in the Illinois House of Representatives, first as a senior environmental policy analyst and appropriations staffer – crunching state agency budgets in excess of \$6 billion. I was later promoted to serve as Communications Director for the House Speaker and House Democratic Caucus.

Following my nearly seven year career in the Illinois House, I joined Paul Vallas' Campaign for Governor, serving as his Spokesman and Communications Director during the 2002 Primary. Although Vallas lost, I found this experience to be particularly rewarding, as this campaign reminded me of the importance of fighting for good government and that public service can (and should) be a noble undertaking.

I am currently on an unpaid Leave of Absence from AT&T, where I have served as the Midwest Vice President of Public Affairs since 2002 – the youngest regional vice president in the Company's history - managing a multi-million dollar budget and staff across a 5-state region.

What subjects have you studied and what experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?

I hold a Bachelor's degree - majoring in Political Science with a Pre-Law concentration. I was awarded an internship with U.S. Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.) where I focused on environmental policy, Brownfields and Super Fund issues. While studying economics and political science in London, I worked part-time as a law clerk for a solicitor's firm (attorney) – focusing on immigration law and civil claims cases.

Activities for other candidates. Please be specific.

Campaign Manager – State Representative George Scully (D-Flossmoor)

Communications Director – Democratic Party of Illinois (1998 – 2001)

Spokesman and Communications Director – Paul Vallas for Governor

Area Coordinator – Barack Obama for U.S. Senate (Primary)

42nd Ward Coordinator – Forest Claypool for County Board President (2006 Primary)

42nd Ward Coordinator – Debra Shore for MWRD (2006 Primary)

Please list all endorsements you have received so far.

Endorsements are pending.

As concisely as possible, state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidate(s). What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?

I am running for alderman of the 42nd Ward because the City Council has lost touch with the real priorities and concerns of downtown residents. Our city council is making national headlines for micromanaging our lives, with legislation ranging from regulating restaurant menus and taxing bicycles to requiring diapers on horses and uniforms on cab drivers.

When the federal authorities intervened to monitor City of Chicago hiring practices in an effort to fight public corruption, our current alderman and the City Council spent our tax dollars to hire a private law firm to block the court-appointed federal hiring monitor. Scandals, corruption and misplaced priorities are not just disappointing newspaper headlines – they are evidence of inefficient, wasteful government and downtown residents are being forced to foot the bill.

While our current alderman and the City Council focus on marginal issues, they are ignoring the important issues that impact our daily lives. Little has been done to properly balance the needs of local residents with new development and growth. Downtown traffic congestion and scarce neighborhood parking are problems that must be addressed. Patronage, corruption and backroom deals are costing taxpayers millions of dollars each year. It's time for a change in our ward.

With your support, I hope to earn the opportunity to serve as a strong advocate for downtown residents and forcefully represent the public interest on the City Council. I will draw upon my legislative and corporate experience to provide accessible, responsive leadership and work to address local concerns. As Alderman, I will ensure that decision-making will no longer take place in a vacuum by proactively sharing information with, and reaching-out to, residents and stakeholders in the 42nd Ward. I will make it a top priority to bring more transparency to city government to ensure taxpayers are receiving the good government they deserve.

What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date?

We have currently raised more than \$260,000 and will report \$220,000 cash-on-hand in our 12/31/06 filing with the State Board of Elections.

How many people are on your campaign staff? How many volunteers are on your list?

I have a full-time Campaign Manager, Field Director and Political Fundraiser on staff. We have more than 100 local volunteers currently working on our campaign in the 42nd Ward.

PRIORITIES

1. a. What employment, other than alderman, if any, do you intend to hold?

I plan to serve as a full-time alderman.

b. How will you divide your time between your aldermanic duties and your other occupation?

N/A

c. Please specify the minimum hours per week you will spend performing your aldermanic duties.

The responsibilities of an effective alderman require hours that far-exceed a typical 40-hour work week and I will work as many hours as necessary in order to provide accessible and responsive service to fully address the needs of local residents and stakeholders in the 42nd Ward.

2. a. Please describe your service office staffing plan, including the number of staff, full and part time, how you will pay for them and the number of hours per week that your service office will be open.

I will employ the necessary full-time and part-time staff necessary to provide high-quality, accessible and responsive constituent service to residents and stakeholders of the 42nd Ward. Salaries will be paid out of the aldermanic stipend and, if costs exceed the stipend, I will raise the funds necessary to cover those costs through my political committee. Our office will be open Monday thru Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., we will provide evening hours at least one night per week and will establish appropriate weekend office hours to accommodate the many ward residents who work full-time - to ensure prompt, attentive service to address their problems and concerns.

b. What services need improvement in your ward? How will you achieve this?

Many residents complain that, all too often, their phone calls and letters to the current alderman are never returned and in the event they receive a response, it is usually via a generic form letter that lacks any specifics. Every constituent phone call, letter or office visit deserves an immediate follow-up response and a detailed summary of specific next steps that will be taken to address each concern, and I will have my staff trained and dedicated to making accessibility and responsiveness to ward constituents our top priority.

Unlike the current Alderman, I will make it a top priority to provide regular information updates and proactively solicit constituent input on local issues before important decisions are made that impact downtown residents. I will achieve this goal through regular community meetings, constituent surveys, newsletters and e-mail updates.

3. What are your top priorities for the Ward?

I would like to improve the upon the response time to our constituents concerns. In terms of policy matters, I feel that the City Council needs to re-prioritize our approach to downtown development and zoning issues by having more input from residents on how said development will affect their quality of life. I also feel that there needs to be some relief of the traffic congestion and lack of parking for residents in the 42nd Ward, and I am looking forward to working with developers to provide more parking spaces in new developments. I will also work with city engineers and area residents and businesses to develop a comprehensive transportation plan that alleviates congestion, particularly in the Streeterville and New Eastside neighborhoods.

4. How will you solicit and follow citizens' and community groups' recommendations on City matters?

In addition to meeting regularly with existing local civic groups, neighborhood associations, chambers of commerce and CAPS representatives, I will form Neighborhood Advisory Councils for each neighborhood in the 42nd Ward – comprised of local residents and stakeholders to solicit local input and share information

regarding planned development, traffic, congestion, public safety and quality of life issues affecting ward residents.

PLANNING, ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT

5. a. How should business and commercial development be balanced with residential development in the ward?

Every proposed development must be evaluated objectively and individually on its merit, ensuring it will provide long-term benefits for the neighborhood, and taking into consideration the impact it will have on the quality of life for current residents and local stakeholders.

b. How should downtown development be balanced with community development throughout the city?

The 42nd Ward includes most of downtown and is the heart of Chicago, and because I will represent the tens of thousands of people who live there, ensuring balanced and responsible downtown development will be my top priority. However, I also understand that for Chicago to be strong as a city, every neighborhood must have the opportunity to thrive and I will work with my colleagues on the City Council to achieve that goal together.

6. a. In what ways will you assist in the positive development of neighborhood business areas?

The 42nd Ward is fortunate to have robust commercial, financial, retail, and entertainment districts. However, I've met with thousands of area residents over the past year, and residents in certain neighborhoods have complained about the lack of basic local retail shops, like grocery stores, dry cleaners and hardware stores. Promoting a blend of retail shops in emerging neighborhoods not only makes these areas more livable, but also can help to reduce overall traffic congestion downtown by enabling more residents to shop on foot instead of having to reach their destination by cab or family vehicle. I will work closely with neighborhood associations, local chambers of commerce, residents and my newly formed Neighborhood Advisory Councils to solicit input, identify priorities and form consensus on the proper blend of commercial and residential development in each neighborhood of the 42nd Ward.

b. How will you involve ward residents in planning?

In addition to meeting regularly with my Neighborhood Advisory Councils, I will proactively solicit local input via direct outreach, surveys and community meetings.

c. What is your long-range plan for the development of the ward?

Long-range planning should not be made in a vacuum, as it is currently – such plans must be made in close consultation with residents, businesses, civic groups, neighborhood associations and other stakeholders – as well as objective urban planning professionals and City planning staff.

7. How do you intend to handle requests for zoning variances in your ward?

Unlike the current alderman, I believe this process must be as transparent as possible. Reducing the number of zoning variances granted would improve transparency to the development process. I intend to handle requests for zoning variances on a case-by-case basis after first soliciting input from residents and local stakeholders. My preference would be to build consensus, and I would be hesitant to approve a variance that was strongly opposed by neighboring property owners unless overwhelming community interests were at stake.

8. a. What steps should be taken to achieve greater accountability and transparency in determining how TIF funds should be spent?

As with local development decisions, I believe decisions related to TIFs should be as transparent as possible and am supportive of requiring progress reports to document the successes and failures of TIF districts in promoting economic development and urban renewal. As a general rule, all TIF funds should be spent on improvements within the TIF district where they are generated, and I believe all property taxpayers within a TIF district are entitled to an annual accounting of how their monies were spent.

b. How will you involve residents in planning and approval of future TIF districts?

Like many, I'm concerned with the explosion of TIF districts in Chicago and by the lack of transparency and accountability regarding TIF funded projects. As with all important decisions impacting the 42nd Ward, I will proactively share information and solicit local input to best represent my constituents' needs, and believe that all TIFs should be part of a comprehensive neighborhood development plan..

c. Do you support terminating a TIF when the objectives of the TIF plan have been accomplished before the 23 year period is over?

I support greater accountability and transparency in TIFs not just in Chicago but also across the state, to ensure a level playing field. I would need to learn more about the impact such a policy would have on quality of life for residents and the economic viability of businesses in the 42nd Ward before commenting on this issue.

d. Do you support extending the South Loop TIF? Why or why not?

TIFs can be a useful economic development tool, but TIF reform is long overdue. I would need more information on the pros and cons of the South Loop TIF before commenting.

9. How do you propose to replace property tax revenue for CPS and other taxing bodies that is lost to TIF development?

I believe the state of Illinois needs to fundamentally reform the way public schools are funded – to reduce school districts' reliance on local property taxes and to improve fiscal accountability at the local level. If TIFs are properly implemented, there are spillover benefits for every local government unit from economic development, due to decreased regional unemployment, decreased crime, and increased home values and economic development in neighboring communities. That's why increased accountability and transparency must be the foundation of any TIF reform plan.

10. a. Did you support or would you have supported the Big Box/Living Wage Ordinance?

I believe working families deserve to earn a living wage and I am pleased the General Assembly approved an increase to the state minimum wage earlier this year. I look forward to working with business and Labor to identify additional steps and potential solutions to ensure workers are fairly provided for by their employers.

HOUSING

11. Please comment on the housing problems in your ward.

The 42nd Ward is the most affluent in the city, but our community is touched by the housing problems that grip the rest of the city. The crushing property tax burden caused by the state's failure to fully fund schools means that even two-income families often struggle to become homeowners. Reducing that tax burden is one of the most important ways to ensure affordable housing for first-time and long-term homeowners.

12. How will you increase low-income rental housing and home ownership opportunities that would be affordable to those at 15%-30% of AMI?

I believe providing incentives to developers to encourage the creation of affordable housing is a much more effective method of adding units than imposing mandates. Such mandates, though well-meaning, could have the negative impact of slowing development of all kinds throughout the City of Chicago.

13. a. Do you support one-for-one replacement of each unit of demolished subsidized housing, even though Federal law no longer requires it?

The CHA's Plan for Transformation under Mayor Daley's leadership has been hailed as a model of public housing reform across the country. I believe we should allow the full plan to be implemented and conduct a comprehensive review of its progress and effectiveness before imposing new demands on the system.

b. What should be done to provide housing for those families displaced from public housing and not eligible for relocation under the CHA transformation plan?

Again, the CHA's Plan for Transformation is an acknowledged model program and I believe we should allow the full reform plan to be implemented and reviewed before instituting additional changes.

c. How should the transformation plan be amended to adequately provide for the needs of low income people with disabilities?

Working with the federal government, CHA must develop a policy that ensures that the specific needs of lower-income people with disabilities are addressed to provide for their safety, comfort and livelihood.

d. What should be done to ensure that there is an adequate supply of affordable family sized units available to families in the Section 8 program?

I believe the CHA needs to work in partnership with the federal government to aggressively seek innovative new approaches and solutions to ensure the Section 8 Program provides more consistency and responsiveness to the needs of residents and apartment owners.

e. What should be done to provide affordable housing for low-income individuals and families who are not served by any existing programs?

Economic development and reduced property taxes are the best ways to increase access to housing across the City.

14. Do you support halfway houses and shelters for the homeless in your ward?

I believe the City of Chicago must develop a long-term plan and practical solutions to the very serious issue of homelessness – our long-term goal should be to reduce homelessness, if not eliminate it, by striving to provide temporary assistance and housing opportunities in communities that will provide the best access to employment opportunities, health care and social services necessary to combat this problem.

15. a. Do you think Chicago's Tenants' Rights Ordinance is being adequately implemented?

I am not aware of any significant problems related to the Tenants' Rights Ordinance in the 42nd Ward – but if there are problems, I will work hard to address such issues as they are brought to my attention.

16. a. Do you support an inclusionary zoning ordinance which would require developers to set aside 15% of residential new construction or renovation for the creation of affordable housing?

Chicago residents deserve access to affordable housing, and the most important thing we can do to make housing affordable for everyone in Chicago is reduce the crushing property tax burden by forcing the state to pay its fair share for funding local schools. I believe incentives to provide such housing are more effective than imposing mandates.

EDUCATION

17. a. How will you work to ease overcrowding and improve the quality of public schools and after school recreational activities?

The single most important thing we can do is compel the state to pay its fair share to fund local schools. Today, the state is shortchanging CPS roughly \$440 million, nearly 10% of our total budget. The shortfall in funding by the state is exacerbated by the federal government's failure to fully fund No Child Left Behind and federally mandated categoricals, and I will use my office to urge state leaders and our Congressional delegation to live up to their responsibility.

b. How will you work to improve maintenance and rehab of aging schools?

See 17a.

18. Do you support a city-wide lottery for enrollment in magnet schools?

Rather than ask ourselves why every child can't be enrolled in a magnet school, we should be asking why every Chicago public school can't offer the same high-quality, rigorous, innovative education that magnet schools offer.

19. a. What is your assessment of Renaissance 2010 and its implementation in your ward as well as the City as a whole? Please include in your assessment, the role of charter schools as well as the power to reconstitute schools.

To the best of my knowledge, there are no Renaissance 2010 schools in the 42nd Ward currently, nor are there any schools in the 42nd Ward that are targeted. Mayor Daley has exhibited a strong record of improvement for CPS and consistent improvements in test scores point to his ongoing commitment to the public schools. I would work to support his efforts to improve the public schools and believe charter schools have an important role to play in their improvement. While charter public schools in Chicago have compiled an impressive track record, charter schools are not a silver bullet and they will never wholly replace the traditional neighborhood school. We must secure full, fair education funding from the state if we are going to reform the system.

b. At what level of government should decisions be made regarding allocation of Chapter One funds?

If you are referring to Title One poverty grants, all poverty grant money should follow the student directly to his or her school on a dollar-for-dollar basis, to be spent for that child's benefit in the most optimal way determined by the school principal, with oversight from the Local School Council.

c. How would you change the selection and approval process for the mayor's appointments to the Board of Education?

I've heard a positive response to the Mayor's announcement that Miguel DelValle will serve not only as City Clerk, but also as a top education policy advisor. Other than that, I've heard no complaints or comments about the CPS board one way or another.

20. What should the City do to improve the quality of all local schools?

The City of Chicago must begin by insisting that the state of Illinois meet its obligation to fully fund public education. Additional dollars should be used to attract and retain teachers in underperforming schools, provide substantial ongoing teacher training, reduce class sizes, and modernize textbooks and other teaching materials, including computers.

21. What are your plans to improve the local schools in your ward?

The 42nd Ward is lucky to be served by Ogden Elementary School and Lincoln Park High School, which have outstanding records. I will meet regularly with Local School Council members and have an open door policy for leaders at both schools to assist both schools in any way I can.

In addition, the current alderman has long-promised a new elementary school would be built in the rapidly growing East Randolph Corridor / Streeterville area – funded, in part by a financial obligation made by one of the neighborhood developers. To date, the alderman has failed to deliver on this promise. I will work in close coordination with CPS and local state lawmakers to see that a new school is opened.

ENVIRONMENT

22. As Blue Bag recycling is phased out and replaced with point separation, what steps should be taken to a. ensure participation of small businesses and non-profits in the recycling program?

The City must do a better job promoting recycling programs via increased awareness and education programs. I believe small businesses and non-profits should be granted reasonable tax incentives to increase participation in, and ensure full compliance with, a point separation recycling program.

b. identify adequate markets for recycled materials?

I intend to solicit advice and work with the Illinois Recycling Association, Sierra Club, Illinois Environmental Council, the Environmental Law and Policy Center and other key environmental groups to identify and aggressively pursue the development of new local markets for recyclable materials.

23. What should the City do to encourage and implement alternative forms of energy?

The City of Chicago should aggressively promote and encourage the use of alternative forms of energy by working with experts at our many local academic institutions and nationally respected environmental groups mentioned above. In addition to the Mayor's "Green Roofs" initiative that helps combat air pollution and cool-off the City – we should work to identify similar innovative approaches that could include tax incentives to lure new providers to Chicago and to promote the use of solar energy and other renewable fuels.

PARKS

24. a. Do you support increased privatization of facilities and services?

I do not support increased privatization – instead, I favor practicing fiscal accountability and eliminating unnecessary bureaucratic waste and patronage in order to provide for the financial well-being of the Chicago Park District.

b. Have the court decrees mandating equal park services in both programs and capital improvements been adequately achieved in your ward?

I do not believe the court decrees impacted the 42nd Ward, and I would need more information in order to accurately answer this question.

c. How have cuts in the park district budget affected parks in your ward?

To my knowledge, the parks in the 42nd Ward have not been adversely impacted – however, such cuts have likely had a negative impact on our ability to expand the availability of green space for ward residents. The 42nd Ward has one of the highest concentrations of dog owners in the city, and as a fellow dog owner they have complained about the lack of adequate dog-friendly green space

25. Do you believe Chicago's park system is adequately funded?

No.

26. Do you support siting the main/opening Olympic venue in Washington Park?

I am a strong supporter of bringing the Olympics to Chicago because of the tremendous benefits to our local economy via increased tourism spending, massive infrastructure and transportation improvements and the global prestige and exposure such events would bring to the City of Chicago. The City should work with the siting experts on the Olympic Committee to identify the best possible venue to host the opening events and Washington Park is certainly an attractive option.

TRANSPORTATION

27. a. What will you do to expand CTA services to more neighborhoods?

I will work in conjunction with local neighborhood associations, civic organizations and residents to prioritize local needs and will join with our state legislators to aggressively advocate on behalf of the Ward's interests to ensure the CTA extends services to newly developed and underserved areas.

b. Is CTA service sufficient in your ward?

I believe CTA service can always be improved to better serve downtown residents.

c. Should the City increase its subsidy to the CTA?

Federal funding for CTA operations was eliminated in 1999, and the State of Illinois 1983 Transit Funding Formula is badly outdated, resulting in de facto cuts in state funding. We should exhaust every effort to reform state and federal CTA funding first, and my support for any increase in city funding for CTA would depend on the specifics of such a proposal, including plans for improving service in the 42nd Ward and holding the line on transit fares.

28. In what situations would you support permit parking?

For too long, lack of parking in the 42nd Ward is a very serious problem that is extraordinarily frustrating for local residents and business owners alike – and it must be addressed. I do not believe in a “one-size fits all” approach to the parking problem in downtown Chicago. I will make it a top priority to identify creative solutions to this problem – including hosting a summit with downtown residents, business owners, parking garage operators and valet parking companies. The status quo is unacceptable and changes must be made.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

29. a. Is response time adequate in 911 service?

There are many senior citizens in the 42nd Ward with serious health concerns, but there are an insufficient number of local ambulance bays to serve downtown’s nearly 86,000 residents. As alderman, I will work to enhance public safety funding and to work with the Chicago Police and Fire Departments to properly fund our first-responders and improve our public safety infrastructure to address these needs.

b. Are there inequities in 911 service in your ward? If so, what can be done to redress them?

See response to 29 a.

30. a. Do you support community policing?

Yes. I strongly support community policing and regularly participate in local CAPS meetings.

b. What improvements would you suggest for this program?

More needs to be done to promote CAPS and to encourage broader community participation in this important program. Unfortunately, at the CAPS meetings I attend, resident participation is lackluster. The City should work more aggressively with the local media to promote the program through the use of free public service announcements to boost participation by local residents. Local businesses should also be encouraged to take a more active role in CAPS meetings – not only attending, but making charitable contributions to help fund the program initiatives.

31. Should the City stop paying legal fees and attempt to recover past legal costs of city employees implicated in the Police Board findings of misconduct related to the Burge case?

I believe collective bargaining agreements and current law address how and for whom legal fees are paid.

32. Please share your views regarding the functioning of the Office of Professional Standards and whether it should operate more independently of the Police Department.

It is my understanding that the Office of Professional Standards is managed by civilian administrators and should continue to be administered by civilians – working independently of, but in coordination with, the Chicago Police Department to maintain its objectivity.

REVENUE AND BUDGET

33. Do you favor a budget ordinance which would require:

a. public questioning of city department heads concerning their departments' specific budget requests?

Yes – this is current practice in the General Assembly and I believe it would help bring more transparency and public involvement in the City budget process.

b. budget copies available to the public 30 days in advance of hearings?

Yes.

c. restoring city-wide community group budget hearings several months prior to the publication of the budget, as were held under the Washington and Sawyer administrations?

I am supportive of any efforts to bring more transparency to city government decision-making processes.

34. a. Do you support casino gambling for Chicago?

The tourism and hospitality industry is vital to the city's economy and casino gambling could provide a significant boost to the local economy and city tax revenues. However, local residents should have significant input and play a key role in determining the appropriate siting of a potential gaming establishment.

35. What level of city support do you favor for the arts and cultural events?

I favor strong City support for the Arts and cultural events.

36. Do you support

a. rescinding the recent Mayoral and Aldermanic salary increases?

Yes, I would support such an initiative.

b. limiting Mayoral and Aldermanic salary increases to the same percentage as the lowest raise for any class of city employees?

Yes, I would support such an initiative.

37. Do you support increasing the number of staff positions for aldermanic service offices?

Yes, I would support any initiative that would dramatically improve the level of service for my constituents.

CITY COUNCIL

38. a. What reforms are necessary in the City Council's committee structure?

I am open to any reforms that will increase public participation and shed sunlight on the committee process.

b. Do you favor keeping the current number of committees?

I would be open to expanding the current number of committees to narrow the subject matter focus.

39. a. Do you support a rule requiring the numbering of proposed City ordinances?

Yes.

b. Do you support a rule requiring all city council proceedings to be transcribed verbatim and published by the City Clerk?

Yes, and I also believe that all City Council meetings should be broadcast both on public access television and live via the City Council's website.

c. Do you support mandating the Clerk's office to provide copies of pending ordinances to the public upon request?

Yes and they should also be posted online for public review.

d. Do you support a rule requiring roll call votes?

Yes and they should also be posted online for public review – this measure would help to ensure aldermen are held accountable for their voting records.

CIVIL RIGHTS

40. a. Do you support affirmative action based on race, gender and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees?

Yes.

b. Do you support affirmative action as a criteria in letting city contracts?

I believe WBE and MBE requirements should be closely adhered to and periodically reviewed for effectiveness,

c. Please comment on current women and minority participation in city hiring and contracts. Be sure your comments include firefighter and police officer recruitment and promotion.

The City of Chicago must do all that it can to promote a representatively diverse workforce in city departments including the Chicago Fire Department and Police Department. The City must dramatically improve women and minority-owned business participation in letting of public contracts and strengthen oversight and enforcement to prevent unscrupulous business operators from abusing the bidding process by using women and minority representatives as fronts.

41. Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of city employees to institute gender-equal pay for jobs of comparable worth?

Yes.

42. Do you support requiring all City vendors to provide spousal benefits for same-sex partners of their employees?

I support providing spousal benefits for same-sex partners but would need more information about the impact of this program before commenting on this particular initiative.

ETHICS & CAMPAIGNING

43. Do you support patronage in hiring and promoting public employees?

No.

44. Do you support the Accountability in Privatization Ordinance?

I believe privatization should be an option of absolute last resort after all other budgeting and fiscal accountability measures have been fully exhausted.

45. In what circumstances should the City contract for outside professional services? Please comment on any existing abuses.

46. Would you support contracting for outside services with companies located outside Chicago? Why or why not?

I believe local firms should always receive the utmost consideration before companies located outside Chicago would be considered to provide services to the city. The City should do all that it can to support our local businesses and employers that are investing in our local economy and creating jobs for local families.

47. a. Will you employ or have you employed staff in your office who hold other public sector jobs concurrently?

No.

b. Will you employ or have you employed staff in your office who have either outside employment or contracts with entities which do business with the City?

No.

48. Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from current or potential suppliers or employees?

As Alderman, I will not accept campaign donations from city employees and will abide by the provisions of the City Ethics Ordinance.

49. Do you support extending all of the provisions of the City Ethics Ordinance to City Council members?

Yes, particularly section 2-156-030 (a) that states that no official or employee shall make, participate in making or in any way attempt to use his position to influence any City governmental decision or action in which he knows or has reason to know that he has any economic interest distinguishable from its effect on the public generally. I also feel that section 2-156-080 (a) which states that no official or employee shall make or participate in the making of any governmental decision with respect to any matter in which he has any economic interest distinguishable from that of the general public are important to adhere to, and would feel compelled to follow that ordinance to the letter.

50. Do you support expanding the jurisdiction of the City Inspector General to include City Council members?

Yes.

51. Do you support public financing of municipal campaigns? Please explain your position.

I support the concept of the public financing of municipal campaigns – to limit the influence of special interests in municipal elections as long the right of individuals to participate in the political process is not overly limited.

52. Who are your top 5 contributors and how much has each contributed to your campaign?

Unlike my opponent, more than 90 percent of our campaign contributions have been made by individuals – the majority of which have been in \$50 and \$100 increments - not LLCs or corporate entities. Details related to our financial disclosures are readily accessible via the State Board of Elections website.

53. Are you supporting any mayoral candidate?

We are squarely focused on winning election to the office of Alderman of the 42nd Ward.