

2019 IVI-IPO CHICAGO ALDERMAN QUESTIONNAIRE

Part I: Instructions for questionnaire completion, file naming and saving, and submission.

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From within your Word processor, please answer all questions in Part I (Instructions and Candidate Details) and Part II (Issue Questionnaire). This questionnaire uses special formatting features: please see the specific instructions below for each type of question.

Question Type: Yes/No and Short Answer

- Please click within the appropriate box to mark your answer for each yes/no question.
- If you wish to add comments to a yes/no question, or if elaboration is requested, you may click within the gray rectangle directly below the question text (next line, flush-left) to type your answer. The rectangle will expand to accommodate the length of your entry.
- by adding a paragraph return at the end of the question and typing your comments in the same cell as the question. Use such comments only when clarification is necessary.

Question Type: Select Choice(s), rank choices, etc.

- These begin with a prompt (e.g., “I am a member of the following groups:”) then ask you variously to “select one” or “select all that apply” or “rank from 1 highest to 4 lowest”). If you wish to elaborate, you may click within the gray rectangle directly below the question text (next line, flush-left) to add text.

Question Type: Essay

- Click within the gray rectangle directly below the question text (next line, flush-left) to type your answer. The rectangle will expand to accommodate the length of your entry. Please answer the questions at the length you deem sufficient. It is OK if your comments cause tables, etc., to shift pages.

Saving and Naming Your Questionnaire

Please follow the form detailed below exactly. Your questionnaire was downloaded to your computer as a Microsoft Word file (docx) with a generic name that identifies the office for which you are running. After you complete your questionnaire, but before submitting, you must save your questionnaire as a PDF file and give it a new name to which you will append your personal name and the election year as specified below.

General Form:

- If you were running for a suburban mayor’s office, your downloaded file (doc) name would be: Mayor_SUB_f
- You must save-as a PDF file (.pdf) and replace the “f” part of the downloaded file name with your last and first name and add the election year.
- Use capitals for the first letter of your last and first name and lowercase for the rest.

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Specific Example:

- Suburban Mayor candidate Elizabeth Rias would rename the Mayor_SUB_f file to:
Mayor_SUB_RiasElizabeth2019

If you are familiar with file saving routines, you may skip the step-by-step instructions below.

Step-by-Step Instructions for saving as a PDF file and personalizing your questionnaire file name:

1. Open your completed questionnaire in your word processor.
2. From the FILE menu, select "Save a Copy" (or "Save As").
 - 2.1. In the dialogue box that appears, find the pull-down list that shows the file type. It will show .doc or .docx.
 - 2.2. Click on the small triangle within the file-type box and select the "PDF" (.pdf) option from the menu.
 - 2.3. BEFORE selecting the "save" or "export as" option (varies depending on your computer platform set-up), rename your file.
 - 2.4. You will see the generic questionnaire title in a fill-in box (e.g. Mayor_SUB_f) with the first word identifying the office for which you are a candidate and the second indicating the jurisdiction (in the example, Mayor, suburban) followed by an underscore and the letter "f."
 - 2.5. Click on the generic name field to highlight the name.
 - 2.6. Then, click just after the END of the generic title (so that the entire file title is no longer highlighted but the field is active).
 - 2.7. Backspace once to eliminate the "f."
 - 2.8. Type your last name then first name, using appropriate capitals and lower-case letters (no space necessary: e.g., JohnsonJuan).
 - 2.9. Add 2019 (the election year).
 - 2.10. **Your file name should look like this (but with your specific office and name):**
Mayor_SUB_JohnsonJuan2019
3. BEFORE SELECTING "Save" look to be sure you are saving the file to the location you want (if you need to change the location, click on the file path and navigate to the location you wish to save the file (e.g., your desktop, a specific folder, etc.)
4. Make sure you remember this location: this is the location you must navigate to when you attach your file to an e-mail and submit to the IVI-IPO.

Submitting Your Completed Questionnaire to the IVI-IPO

- Your properly named PDF file (see above) completed questionnaire should be attached to an e-mail and sent to: : iviipopac@gmail.com.

Please go to the next page to begin your questionnaire.

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Part II: Candidate Contact Information

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Answers to Part II questions with an asterisk will be redacted prior to public distribution.

1.	DATE:	12/13/2018
2.	NAME:	Robert Bank
3.	WARD:	45
4.	PARTY AFFILIATION:	Independent
5.	VOTING ADDRESS*:	
6.	MAIN PERSONAL PHONE*:	
7.	BUSINESS PHONE*:	
8.	CAMPAIGN PHONE	
9.	CAMPAIGN FAX:	
10.	PERSONAL EMAIL*:	
11.	CAMPAIGN ADDRESS:	5506 N. Lotus Ave.
12.	CAMPAIGN WEBSITE	www.our45thward.com
13.	CAMPAIGN MANAGER:	Ron Ernst
14.	CAMPAIGN MANAGER PHONE:	773-578-9720
15.	CAMPAIGN MANAGER EMAIL:	

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Part III: Candidate Background Information

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16.	How many petition signatures were you required to file? 473
17.	How many petition signatures did you file? 1026
18.	Elective or appointive, public or party, offices previously held (<i>including dates</i>). None
19.	Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate. 2004 45 th Ward Committeeman, 2007 45 th Ward Alderman
20.	What is your primary occupation? AT&T Technician
21.	Briefly list your civic activities of the past ten years. President of the Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association (JPNA)
22.	What experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek? Working as President and presiding over the JPNA Board.
23.	Please list any candidates have you supported in past elections and specify your role in each campaign. Pete Conway for 45 th Ward Alderman 2003, Forrest Claypool for County Board President
24.	Which candidate, if any, are you supporting for Mayor? No one yet
25.	Please list all endorsements you have received. None so far
26.	Who are your top 5 contributors and how much has each contributed to your campaign? Myself, Brian Wardman, JPNA VP
27.	Please concisely state (a) why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidate(s) and (b) what goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally? I have been the most involved with the citizens of my community, and for the most years. I have the best message.
28.	What is your campaign budget and (b) how much have you raised to date? \$40,000, raised approx. \$5,000
29.	How many paid staffers and (b) how many volunteers do you have on your campaign? 0 paid, 12 volunteers

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Part IV: Issue Questions

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City Council Reform and Ethics

Yes/No			
	YES	NO	
30.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you employ or have you employed staff, in your office who hold other public sector jobs concurrently?
31.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Are you in favor of procedures to ensure that privatization arrangements are not being used to move patronage workers outside of the scope of anti-patronage rules or protocols?
32.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support an ordinance that bars city employees and elected and appointed officials from taking on any outside employment, or other responsibility for which they receive compensation, which conflicts with the city's interests?
33.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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?
34.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote for an ordinance mandating that the City contest unemployment claims by former employees who were fired for cause?
35.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote for an ordinance forbidding the City to hire or contract the services of anyone previously fired for cause from the City or any other unit of government?
36.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you joined, or will you join the Progressive Reform Caucus? Progressive Reform Caucus is fluid, I cannot say for sure that I will join them.
37.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support changing the state statute to return to filling aldermanic vacancies by special election, rather than Mayoral appointment? No, It is not worth the expense of an election.
38.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote for an ordinance requiring redistricting of the wards to be based on non-partisan criteria and not to benefit any specific individual or political party?
39.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support a limit of two 4-year terms for Mayor?
40.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from people or businesses seeking zoning changes in your ward?

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Yes/No			
	YES	NO	

Select all that apply			
41.	Do you support an ordinance banning contributions in any amount from:		
41 a.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	city vendors and contractors?	
41 b.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	entities seeking licenses, permits or zoning changes?	
41 c.	<input type="checkbox"/>	registered lobbyists?	

Essay:	
42.	Should the Inspector General be authorized to independently initiate his or her own investigations of Alderman, in the absence of a complaint from someone outside of the Inspector General's office. Please explain your position. Not sure, my main concern is the IG office would be used for political persecution
43.	Do you support public financing of municipal campaigns? Please explain your position. I would only support this if there was a guaranteed maximum. This seems impractical with all the PAC money out there.

Revenue and Budget

Yes/No			
44.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support a progressive City income tax for Chicago?
45.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you institute participatory budgeting to allow ward residents to vote on discretionary spending in your ward?
46.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support creation of a public bank for Chicago? Not sure, I would need more details.
47.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to hire independent analysts to conduct a forensic audit of past City spending?

Choose One			
48.	Should discretionary funds for ward services and infrastructure improvements be allocated:		
48 a.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	in equal amounts to each ward	

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Choose One		
48.	Should discretionary funds for ward services and infrastructure improvements be allocated:	
48 b.	<input type="checkbox"/>	based on the size of each ward
48 c.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	based on the needs of each ward
48 c.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other-please specify

Select all that apply		
49.	Will you vote for a budget ordinance which would require:	
49 a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	public questioning of city department heads concerning their departments' specific budget requests?
49 b.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	making budget copies available to the public 30 days in advance of hearings?
49 c.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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?

Essay	
50.	What measures will you vote for to reform the city pension plan and ensure its solvency? I would move new employees into relying more on 401K type retirement benefits. A casino may help cover the pension deficit.
51.	What additional revenue sources, if any, would you propose? A casino may be able to help cover the pension deficit. I would also like to lower the sales tax, and business property tax expecting this to increase sales enough to make up the difference and created more business, which would increase revenue overall.

Planning, Zoning, Economic Development, and Privatization

Yes/No			
52.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to terminate a TIF if the objectives of the TIF plan have been accomplished before the 23-year period is ended?
53.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to return unspent and uncommitted TIF funds on an annual basis to the various taxing bodies?
54.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support a moratorium on creation of any new TIF districts until new funding sources are identified to replace the revenue diverted to the TIF?

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Part IV: Issue Questions

Yes/No			
55.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to invest substantially more in job-training and the creation of transitional job programs in disadvantaged communities, including the formerly incarcerated, homeless, youth, and non-English speakers?
56.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the Fair Workweek Chicago Ordinance which would give employees greater control over their schedules?
57.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the Development for All Ordinance which would eliminate "in lieu of" fees and require developers to include 30% affordable units on site?
58.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	"Will you support guarantees that some of the foreclosed properties saved through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program are made affordable to families at 40% and 60% of the Area Median Income?
59.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support policies to ensure that there is an adequate supply of affordable family sized units available to families in the Section 8 program?
60.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to privatize Chicago's water delivery system?
61.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support privatization of Midway Airport?
62.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote for an ordinance requiring independent analysis and evaluation of any lease or outsourcing arrangement at least 30 days prior to any City Council vote.

Select all that apply:		
63.	Do you support any of the following to be built in your ward?	
63 a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	low income rental housing that is affordable to those at 15% to 30% of the Area Median Income? I think the percentage of Median Income is too low for my ward, which has a modest Median Income to begin with.
63 b.	<input type="checkbox"/>	supportive housing for people overcoming addiction and other problems which contribute to homelessness? I only support this under extreme supervision and in low numbers.
63 c.	<input type="checkbox"/>	shelters for the homeless? I only support this under extreme supervision and in low numbers

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Choose one		
64.	Which standard should the City use to define affordable housing?	
64 a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Area Median Income of Chicago
64 b.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Area Median Income of the Community Area

Essay	
65.	Which city services or assets, if any, do you believe should be privatized and what is your criteria? None
66.	What criteria do you or will you use in determining whether or not to grant a zoning change or variance? I would rarely if ever support increased density. A zoning change for use should be vetted through community meetings.
67.	How do you propose to replace property tax revenue for CPS and other taxing bodies that is lost to TIF development? Get rid of the Downtown TIFs for starters.

Housing

Yes/No			
68.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support guarantees that some of the foreclosed properties saved through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program are made affordable to families at 40% and 60% of Area Median Income?
69.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	If the General Assembly repeals the pre-emption of rent control consideration by local government, would you support some form of rent control for covered units of rental housing in Chicago? Never!
70.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the Homes for All Ordinance which would establish an automatic approval process for affordable housing applications if not acted upon within 90 days?

Schools

Yes/No			
71.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you support a city-wide lottery for enrollment in magnet schools?

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Yes/No			
72.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support Local School Councils (LSCs) in maintaining full powers, and support them through adequate funding levels that provide training and support for LSCs to do their jobs?
73.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you support a moratorium on school closings until a detailed analysis of the impacts of shuffling children is completed, and a real plan to address the quality of education and safety for every child is in place? The CPS budget can't afford to be running half empty schools.

Select all that apply		
74.	Will you support an ordinance requiring every school to have a:	
74 a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	full-time nurse?
74 b.	<input type="checkbox"/>	full-time social worker?
74 c.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	full-time librarian?

Choose one		
75.	Which of the following options for choosing the School Board do you support?	
75 a.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Popular Election
75 b.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mayoral appointment from nominations made by community representatives
75 c.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining the current system of Mayoral appointment
75 d.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A mix of elected and appointed members

Environment

Yes/No			
76.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you oppose disposal of contaminated dredging sediment from the Cal-Sag Channel within Chicago city limits?
77.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you consult with neighborhood residents before approving permits that could affect air or water quality?

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Parks

Yes/No			
78.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support park prioritization of land acquisition and capital improvements first to those neighborhoods which are underserved by existing facilities?
79.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support election of the Chicago Park District Board?

Transportation

Yes/No			
80.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to increase the City subsidy to the CTA? I would have to see what the current subsidy is and has been over the years.

Rank from 1 st to last preference (1, first – 4, last)		
81.	Please indicate which CTA expansion plans, if any, you support and rank them in order of priority.	
81 a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Line south to 130th Street 1
81 b.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Orange Line to Ford City Mall 2
81 c.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Downtown-O'Hare Express
81 d.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other – please specify

Criminal Justice

Yes/No:			
82.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support re-allocating police services from low-crime to high-crime neighborhoods?
83.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote for more funding for alternative crime prevention programs such as Cease Fire?
84.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support an ordinance codifying the provisions of the Consent Decree regarding the duties and accountability of school resource officers? I am not sure what Consent Decree you are referring to.
85.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the proposed Civilian Police Accountability Council (CPAC) Ordinance?

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Essay	
86.	Please discuss 911 service in your ward: are there inequities, is response time adequate. If so, how the service be improved. I feel the 911 response is good in my ward.

Civil Rights

Yes/No:			
87.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support affirmative action based on race, gender and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees? Condoning hiring based on race should never be considered by a government agency regardless of the good intentions.
88.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support affirmative action as a criteria in letting city contracts? No, two wrongs do not make a right.
89.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of city employees to institute gender-equal pay for jobs of comparable worth? If two people of different sex work at the same job, they should be payed the same, and they are now. Who is to decide what is comparable worth?

Aldermanic Priorities

Essay	
90.	What are your top priorities for the Ward? Addressing rising crime and making our communities safer. Holding the line of property tax increases. Protecting the character of our residential neighborhoods. Boosting the shopping area.
91.	What is your long-range plan for development of the ward? 2-4 story max in the commercial/business/retail districts. I will make a slightly higher maximum height exception for the Six-Corners shopping area.
92.	How will you involve ward residents in planning? I will end Ald. Arena's secret Zoning Advisory Council, and have well publicized meetings at large venues.
93.	How will you work with community groups and residents on City matters? I will keep community groups updated on any development proposals, and hold a State of the Ward meeting once a year.
94.	Do you intend to hold employment other than alderman? If so, what employment do you intend to hold and how will you divide your time between your aldermanic duties and your other occupation (please note the minimum hours per week you will spend performing your aldermanic duties)? No

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Essay	
95.	<p>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.</p> <p>M-F 7-7, I expect to have a Chief of Staff and 2 other office staff. The City alots each ward a budget, I will work with that.</p>

Thank you for your participation!