

## 2023 Denver City Council Candidate Questionnaire

## **Nick Campion**

## What are your top priorities related to transportation as a candidate? How do you expect to address them if elected?

We need to make Denver streets safer through Vision Zero projects in Denver's Vision Zero Action Plan, increase bicycle infrastructure through Denver Moves: Bicycle Program projects and build a network of low-stress bike routes. Additionally. we need to bolster our public transportation infrastructure through Denver Moves.

Since Denver leaders made a commitment in 2017 to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious bodily injuries by 2030 (an initiative known as Vision Zero) over 460 people have been killed in preventable traffic crashes on Denver's streets. Fatalities have increased every year except 2020, when traffic volumes were significantly reduced during the pandemic. Meanwhile, other cities in the U.S. and across the world have succeeded in substantially reducing traffic fatalities. What actions do you think the City should take to ensure we reverse the current trend and actually make meaningful progress toward the goal of zero traffic fatalities here in Denver?

To make Denver street's safer, City Council we needs to commit to and hold city agencies accountable for the Vision Zero projects in Denver's Vision Zero Action Plan.

Recently, Denver has started making some limited investments in infrastructure to improve bus service, such as dedicated bus lanes, traffic signals that prioritize buses, and enhanced bus stops. The build out of this infrastructure has been slow, however, and the City has not proactively partnered with RTD to increase service frequency along these routes. What role do you think the City should play in ensuring that Denverites have access to enough frequent, reliable public transit service to make transit a practical option for daily trips and reduce our dependence on driving?

First and foremost, we need to allocate more funds to the purpose of public transportation. Second, we need proactive partnership with RTD to increase the frequency of buses and trains.

Parking issues inevitably come up in any discussion about modifying our streets to better accommodate people walking, biking, and accessing transit, and can often be a stumbling block that prevents much-needed street safety projects from moving forward. What changes, if any, would you make to how the City manages parking to ensure we are using our limited street space in the best way possible to achieve our community's goals for providing healthy, safe, and affordable transportation options for everyone?

I would remove the parking requirement for new buildings which will free up space and encourage using public transportation assuming Denver transportation is reliable.

Denver Streets Partnership sponsored the Denver Deserves Sidewalks ballot measure, which passed in November 2022 with 56% of voter support. How will you ensure that this new sidewalk program is successfully implemented in a timely manner?

Working with DOTI to ensure that the timeline that is set an efficient use of time and planning ahead for setbacks that weather and other factors may cause is how we can ensure that Denver residents are getting the sidewalks they voted on.

While funding over time for biking, walking, transit, and Vision Zero has generally increased over the last five years, including the recently established Transportation and Mobility Fund, the City is still well short of what's needed to build and maintain safe, accessible infrastructure citywide. How would you expand funding for these needs?

To start, I would look into any federal funding or grants that could be provided towards these projects. Then analyze the budget and find programs that aren't effective and move those funds towards these infrastructure projects.

## **District**

7