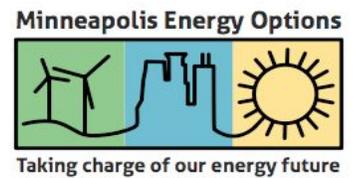




Community Power
2720 E 22nd St
Minneapolis, MN 55406



Community Power 2017 Minneapolis Candidate Questionnaire

Lisa Goodman, City Council Ward 7
friendsforlisa.com

Community Power invites all candidates to complete the following questionnaire to inform Minneapolis voters on positions shaping Minneapolis's energy future:

1. What role do you feel energy infrastructure, sourcing, and decision-making play in shaping livability, affordability, economic resilience and community health for Minneapolis residents and businesses? How do you propose to fulfill that role?

Yes, energy decisions made at the City level are important and Minneapolis needs to be a leader in the region and the state on moving Minnesota forward with an aggressive Clean Energy agenda. The City can do that through its franchise agreements with utilities, and by setting an example in its own municipal buildings and operations. We also need to work in coalition with other communities and interest groups to protect programs that support energy efficiency investments and Clean Energy.

2. Do you think Minneapolis is adequately prepared to respond to climate change? If yes, how? If no, what do you think Minneapolis should do to become prepared?

No, we are not fully prepared. We need much greater resiliency in our energy systems in the event of grid system failures. We need to anticipate more extreme weather events and be prepared to better manage major rainfall events or storms. I would like to see Minneapolis partner with the University of Minnesota to start measuring and benchmarking our urban heat island, which is already one of the most pronounced in North America. We need to make sure our emergency preparedness staff have the resources and the training to respond to changing climate conditions.

3. Do you support a policy of 100% renewable electricity for city operations by 2021, 100% renewable electricity by 2030 for all Minneapolis energy users, and 100% renewable energy in all sectors (electricity, heating, transportation, industry) by 2050 for all Minneapolis energy users (check one)?

- Yes, by those timelines

I support these aggressive and aspirational targets and believe they are appropriate to guide city policies, recognizing that when we move beyond city operations, we need the support of private businesses and our residents to meet the goals. We should also be prepared to "offset" our energy use through the purchase of Renewable Energy Certificates and subscriptions in community solar projects.

4. What do you intend to do during your time in office to help achieve the Minneapolis Energy Vision (established by City Council in 2014) and the goals of the Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership?

I believe we need to direct staff to give us regular briefings on the progress and metrics that will

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Minneapolis Energy Options



show how we are advancing toward our 2014 Energy Vision. I will support the work and city funding of the Clean Energy Partnership and give serious consideration to all recommendations made to the City Council by this group. Many on the city council want to participate directly in the CEP but only a small few get to serve, I have supported the leadership of my colleagues so they can lead on behalf of the city council.

5. Do you support securing universally-accessible financing that allows all Minneapolis energy users to make energy efficiency improvements and switch to clean energy with no upfront cost, no debt or credit checks, and monthly payments on utility bills that are overall lowered due to the energy saved?

Yes

Feel free to provide a deeper explanation of your position:

We need to protect the state's Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program for residential as well as commercial ratepayers. I was the author of the PACE program at the city and pushed hard for the city to implement the state legislation. I would prefer to see Xcel Energy and or Centerpoint implement on-bill-financing that allows ratepayers to finance energy improvements. We should seek state and federal funding support to help finance these improvements, particularly for low-income households. However, some of these program will require the use of debt financing and that may be acceptable if the costs of debt service is less than the savings from the energy improvements.

6. Do you support using the rooftops of Minneapolis public buildings to host community solar gardens that create access for low-income families as well as train and hire Minneapolis residents of color to install and maintain them?

Yes

Feel free to provide a deeper explanation of your position:

We should be fully utilizing the roofs of public buildings for solar energy when those roofs are well-suited to that purpose. I lead on this issue by working on the largest at the time solar installation on the convention center. However, not all of those roofs can be used for solar energy due to the condition of the roof. I support requiring the City to include a minimum level of "social benefits" in any energy projects that have any level of public funding, including participation by minority and women-owned small businesses and workforce training for local residents to participate in design, construction and operation of Clean Energy systems.

7. How would you advance equitable access to energy resources for renters and low-income families to ensure that all Minneapolis families have healthy, comfortable homes, affordable energy bills, and the choice to shift to clean and efficient energy?

Through our licensing and inspection programs, we need to engage with the owners of rental housing to encourage them to make investments in energy efficiency and Clean Energy and to share the benefits of those improvements with their tenants. On bill financing could really help in the case of low income renters who don't pay utilities directly. We need to work with our energy utilities to assure that a significant portion of their required conservation program spending (such as CIP) is targeted for low-income households.

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8. Would you support an increase in utility franchise fees of 0.5% of Minneapolis energy sales to be re-invested in dedicated long-term funding for local energy solutions (**check all that apply**)?

- Dedicated funding could additionally/instead come from these sources:

Feel free to provide a deeper explanation of your position:

Franchise fees are one source of funding for energy programs. We shall also be prepared to re-invest savings the City realizes from its own energy efficiency and Clean Energy investments. We need to facilitate access to funding programs such as PACE or from state and federal sources for our residents and businesses.

9. How should the City of Minneapolis evaluate the effectiveness of the Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership as its second two year work plan ends in late 2018? What criteria or thresholds would convince you that the Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership is succeeding (and should be sustained and expanded) OR is failing (and the city should pursue a different route)?

The Clean Energy Partnership is the City's principal advisory group for the City to achieve the goals of its Energy Vision. We need to support their work and rely on the group to make appropriate recommendations and benchmarks for measuring their effectiveness. I have encouraged members of the group to be bold in their thinking, capture lessons learned from other cities, and engage with City leaders to implement energy programs that help meet our goals.

10. If Xcel Energy and/or CenterPoint Energy refused to agree to the measurable outcomes you defined in question 9, or failed to achieve them, would you support active exploration of other options by the City of Minneapolis, including: terminating the franchise agreement, securing Community Choice Aggregation, or pursuing energy municipalization (**check one**)?

- Yes, under these conditions:

Feel free to provide a deeper explanation of your position:

I do not believe acquisition of the existing energy system and infrastructure through municipalization is the best option for the City. We would be paying a substantial price for a system that is based on energy generated from fossil fuels and a distribution system that needs huge amounts of capital to be modernized as a "smart grid". However, I would be interested in exploring a "special purpose municipal utility" that would use the structure and advantages of a municipal utility to develop renewable energy resources in the City and begin to modernize the grid with systems such as micro-grids and systems of integrated energy storage.