



This survey of municipal candidates was administered by the People's Climate Mandate coalition. Questions align with the 10 policy priorities in the People's Climate Mandate. For more information visit: <https://www.climatereality.ca/peoples-climate-mandate>

Ward: St. Norbert - Seine River

Registered candidates:

Ray Dubois

Louise May

Anita Roy

Govind Thawani

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- The questionnaire was sent to all registered candidates.
- Candidates' answers are presented unedited and in their entirety.
- [No response] = the candidate has not answered the survey.
- [Blank] = the candidate left this question blank.

1. Climate Action Plan: Will you work with Council to fund the updated climate action plan?

Ray Dubois	Louise May	Anita Roy	Govind Thawani
[No response]	Yes	[No response]	Yes

Louise May: I will work to properly fund the Climate Action Plan. I will work with citizens, community stake-holders, and environmentally-focussed non-profits to fast-track the target of 45% by 2030. Substantial climate related emergency management practices must be communicated broadly to citizens. I will work with Indigenous-led groups to see that UNDRIP is implemented with a local lens.

Govind Thawani: 1. Increase trees planted to 1 billion . Trees reduce temperatures in the summer and filter air.

2. Clean and store sewage and sell treat sewage for fertilizer for agriculture.

3. Assist and support safe bicycle transport .

4. Change snow clearing practices to not damage boulevards during winter. This will be done, by not storing snow on blvd., and blowing it direct into trucks .

5. Restrict herbicides and pesticides .

2. Adaptation and Resilience: Would you support the development of a maximum temperature bylaw, in order to protect tenants from negative health impacts of extreme heat?

Ray Dubois	Louise May	Anita Roy	Govind Thawani
[No response]	Yes	[No response]	Yes

Please elaborate on your position, including any other actions you would take to ensure the city is prepared for extreme heat and other climate impacts:

Louise May: The issue of preparedness for extreme heat requires full study to create a plan with multiple solutions including maximum temperature bylaw, community cooling stations, increase tree planting, more water parks and back-up power systems for critical housing such as care homes.

Govind Thawani: Climate change is causing extremes in weather, temperatures and wind and rain . Homeowners have energy efficiency Manitoba grants . For residents , nit able to take advantage of Energy Manitoba, community centre will be available .

3. City Budget Process:

A. Would you support the development of an accountability framework for the budget,

that clearly demonstrates how funding decisions align with OurWinnipeg2045, the climate action plan, and other foundational policies?

Ray Dubois	Louise May	Anita Roy	Govind Thawani
[No response]	Yes	[No response]	Yes

B. Would you ensure public engagement for the budget process is consistent with the Engage Winnipeg policy?

Ray Dubois	Louise May	Anita Roy	Govind Thawani
[No response]	Yes	[No response]	Yes

Please elaborate on your position, including what else you would do to make the budget process participatory and accountable:

Louise May: The budget must be developed with stated connections to Our Winnipeg 2045 and other well-researched policies. Public budget consultations must be held in the first phases which are scheduled for late-2026. The multi-year budget is a welcome improvement but only if there are adequate opportunities within the four-year period for scheduled reviews. The recently released Alternative Municipal Budget will provide more background information and insights into various overlapping issues.

Govind Thawani: Public engagement for management.

4. Planning and Development: Would you work with Council to ensure planning decisions and investments align with meeting the city's mode share goals?

Ray Dubois	Louise May	Anita Roy	Govind Thawani
[No response]	Yes	[No response]	Yes

Please elaborate on your position, including how else you would ensure that future city growth is compact, supports mixed-use neighbourhoods, and enables sustainable modes of transportation:

Louise May: The St. Norbert, Seine River Ward is a suburban community where many, if not most people require cars for basic necessary transportation. See question 5 for notes on public transit. Increasing the connectivity of bike and walking paths is a significant project in our ward. Strategic projects can be brought forward with robust community consultation. Other policies I

will work towards include increasing park-and-ride spaces and encouraging proven car share models like Peg City Car Co-op.

Govind Thawani: 1. Short run to change transportation routes gir busses to meet the needs of citizens.

2. Reduces fares for the vulnerable.

3. Long term lite- rail .

5. Public Transit: Please tell us about your position on transit, including your position on operational funding increases, and how else you would ensure the transit system runs on-time, efficiently, and frequently?

***For more on candidates' positions on transit, see Climate Action Team's [Municipal Candidates Transit Pledge](#)**

Louise May: A whole-community, whole-city lobby to the provincial government is necessary to substantially increase funding for public transit so that bus routes can be expanded from the basic "spine". In the St. Norbert, Seine River ward, I will work to study how increasing the "On Request" system with smaller electric shuttles might significantly increase bus ridership and reduce carbon output. I will support the lobby to protect bus drivers with full shields and random plain-clothed police officers to quell the instances of bus violence.

Govind Thawani: Please read the above question / answer.

6. Active Transportation: Would you support increasing capital funding to \$20 million for the Pedestrian and Cycling program in the 2027 budget in order to ensure the timely completion of the cycling and pedestrian network?

Ray Dubois	Louise May	Anita Roy	Govind Thawani
[No response]	Yes	[No response]	Yes

Louise May: The community-led CCPA Alternative Municipal Budget presents many good ideas for revenues to cover these necessary expenditures. As a Councillor, I will make sure that these concepts become part of the early discussions in the upcoming budget sessions. The St. Norbert, Seine River has some specific challenges in connectivity that I am eager to address including all the major routes: Perimeter, Pembina, St. Mary's, and St. Anne's.

Govind Thawani: An increase budget to nether needs of citizens , twenty million too low .

7. Buildings & Energy: Would you support the exploration of policy tools to phase-out natural gas from existing and new buildings across the city?

Ray Dubois	Louise May	Anita Roy	Govind Thawani
[No response]	Yes	[No response]	Yes

Please elaborate on your position, including how else you would accelerate energy retrofits and clean energy installation in buildings across Winnipeg:

Louise May: The proposed development of Southwood Circle by the University of Manitoba is just north of the St. Norbert, Seine River ward and is an exciting opportunity to see a major development of a carbon-free, district geothermal system. Over 1000 homes will be heated and cooled by the earth's core temperature. Personally, my business Aurora Farm has invested in solar power to remain carbon-neutral. I will work to encourage all homeowners to take advantage of the Home Energy Audit and other programs with MB Hydro to help with cost saving renovations and best energy-saving practices which will increase affordability.

Govind Thawani: 1. Geothermal assistance is available with efficiency Manitoba grants.

2. I would support, further property tax credits for environmental efficiency in solar and get thermal .

8. Composting & Waste: Will you work with council to ensure the greencart program stays on track for 2030, and to begin planning for expansion to multi-family households now, so that there is as little delay as possible in including multi-family households in the program?

Ray Dubois	Louise May	Anita Roy	Govind Thawani
[No response]	Yes	[No response]	Yes

Please elaborate on your answer, including any other steps you would take to reduce food waste across the city:

Louise May: I have completed the Master Composter program with Green Action Centre and have developed a large-scale composting program for Aurora Farm, my business in the St. Norbert, Seine River ward. I am encouraged to think that, with diligence, we will be able to roll-out a comprehensive and practical curb-side home compost pick-up. I will immediately request a study to explore revenue generation with methane-to-energy conversion. Equally, I will request a study to explore other waste-to-energy opportunities to create heat and electricity for

nearby homes.

Govind Thawani: 1. Compost centres in every neighborhoods.

2. Processing and storing sewage and remarking to framers as fertilizer. This will reduce the algae bloom in lake Winnipeg.

3. Support agriculture without non organic means

9. Trees, Greenspace, & Waterways: Will you work with Council to ensure the new Greenspace Plan and Biodiversity Policy is completed by spring 2027, and fund its implementation?

Ray Dubois	Louise May	Anita Roy	Govind Thawani
[No response]	Yes	[No response]	Yes

Louise May: My position has been strongly supportive of protecting and expanding urban greenspace and mature trees since 1993 when I first became involved with environmental protection when the 80 acre forest surrounding the Trappist Monastery site was threatened by development. Working with the Coalition to Save the Elm Trees and 25 other local groups, we saved this forest permanently. More recently, I was involved with saving Lemay Forest along with many other local residents, environmental and historical groups, government officials and the Lemay Forest Sacred Firekeepers who brought First Nation and Métis cultural ceremony to educate people and permanently protect the forest. I was involved with Mayor Brian Bowman's Million Tree Challenge securing a \$250,000 donation from our family business with the goal of planting 100k trees. That project continues with over 40,000 trees distributed and planted to date. My business, Aurora Farm has committed to planting 30,000 trees in the coming years and creating a public walkway that has been named by a First Nation elder as "Reconciliation Way."

I will work to push these plans to be as ambitious as possible. The St. Norbert, Seine River ward has an abundance of existing connected natural eco-systems. I believe we can work within the ward and with neighbouring wards to increase eco-system connectivity greatly.

Govind Thawani: 1. 17,000 Trees increase is not justified . I would substantially increase the number of trees . As an example, Brady land fill has 2,500 acres of Land 100,000 trees can added annually in city owned lands .

2. Tree canopies have demonstrated, a reduction in green house gasses and cooling effect on the environment. I support Tree canopies .

3. Provide work for residents that want to work in tree planting .

4. Provide a plan for homeless and youth to participate in employment in this endeavour.

***For more on candidates' positions on tree canopy and the urban forest, [see Trees Please](#)**

10. Local Sustainable Food: Would you support the timely completion of the Winnipeg Agricultural and Food Strategy?

Ray Dubois	Louise May	Anita Roy	Govind Thawani
[No response]	Yes	[No response]	Yes

Please elaborate on your position, including other ways you would support the local, sustainable food system in Winnipeg:

Louise May: Yes, food security is a strong component in my campaign platform and it is a personal strength that I bring to the community. My business Aurora Farm has grown and sold produce for over 15 years initially through a food box system and in recent years selling fresh produce through Fireweed Food Hub and at the farm gate. I participated in the Winnipeg Food Council groundwork report and presented several times at committee and full council levels. Food security is an imperative component to a climate adaptation plan.

Govind Thawani: My policy is to treat sewage and store sewage for fertilizer use and profit .

11. Do you have anything else you'd like to share that wasn't captured above?

We welcome additional comments about your platform to make Winnipeg a liveable, green, healthy, climate-friendly city; your work on climate and environmental issues as an incumbent city councillor or in your professional and personal life; or any other information you wish to share.

Louise May: I am encouraged by the increasing sensibility of all people who I meet and talk with about the importance of our natural environment. I was a founding board member of BizforClimate. Over the past 5 years, I have been inspired by 270 businesses to date who have signed the Climate Pledge. I have worked diligently in my own business Aurora Farm to explore every best-environmental-practice that I can. I'm hopeful that I can bring that sense of accomplishment, both personal and from the environmentally-minded business community, to City Hall.

Govind Thawani: I have stated my plans above .

Full Question Text

1. Climate Action Plan: According to a Probe Research survey, three quarters of Winnipeg residents are concerned about climate change, and one third say it is a big priority among all the issues facing Winnipeg.

The city is currently developing an updated Climate Action Plan, which is expected in summer 2027. The new plan will be guided by the climate targets in OurWinnipeg 2045 (20% below 2011 levels by 2030 and net-zero by 2050), as well as the Community Energy Investment Roadmap.

Will you work with Council to fund the updated climate action plan?

2. Climate Adaptation and Resilience: The updated Climate Action Plan will also include a climate risk and vulnerability assessment and climate resilience strategy. This should include measures to address extreme heat, which is the climate impact that poses one of the greatest direct risks to Winnipeg residents and their health. 1/4 of residents say they cannot afford to cool or heat their home to a comfortable temperature during periods of extreme weather.

One step other Canadian cities are taking is passing a maximum temperature bylaw, which sets an upper temperature limit (e.g. 26 degrees) that rental units cannot exceed during periods of extreme heat. This past summer, Mayor Scott Gillingham stated that “a bylaw establishing a maximum indoor temperature deserves consideration.” This measure would ensure tenants are able to stay comfortable and safe in their own homes during extreme heat.

Would you support the development of a maximum temperature bylaw, in order to protect tenants from negative health impacts of extreme heat?

3. City Budget Process: The city has many evidence-based policy plans for improving liveability, affordability, and reducing emissions—goals which Winnipeg residents support. However, these plans cannot be implemented without adequate funding.

It is not transparent to an average resident how the Strategic Priorities Action Plan, which guides the budget, aligns with OurWinnipeg2045, and other foundational policies. In contrast, the City of Edmonton’s Strategic Planning framework for the budget is explicitly grounded in its Strategic Plan, City Plan, Corporate Business Plan, and carbon budget.

Findings from public polls show that only 1 of 5 agree the city does a good job being accountable to the public, and only 2 out of 5 residents believe they can influence the decisions or direction of the City of Winnipeg.

This demonstrates that the city has an opportunity to improve both accountability and public participation in the budget process.

A. Would you support the development of an accountability framework for the budget, that clearly demonstrates how funding decisions align with OurWinnipeg2045, the climate action plan, and other foundational policies?

B. Would you ensure public engagement for the budget process is consistent with the Engage Winnipeg policy?

4. Planning and Development: Winnipeggers say they would like to drive less, but many aspects of the city's planning and development approach—including outward expansion, low-density land use, and continued road expansion—encourage automobile travel to the detriment of sustainable transportation options.

This has a major impact on how people travel around the city and on Winnipeg's ability to meet its mode share target (50% of trips being made by transit, cycling, walking, and ride-sharing by 2050) and reduce transportation emissions.

Would you work with Council to ensure planning decisions and investments align with meeting the city's mode share goals?

5. Public Transit: The City has committed to implementing the Transit Master Plan. The launch of the Primary Transit Network in 2025 was a first step, but riders continue to experience numerous challenges after the roll-out, including a lack of frequency, the inability to make timely transfer connections, reliability, and service hours.

At the root of these issues is a history of underspending on transit. According to the [2026 Alternative Municipal Budget](#), the Primary Transit Network launch was cost-neutral, with no new funding attached. Winnipeg's transit operations spending per capita consistently ranks among the lowest of urban cities in the country. It would take a 50% increase to match per-capita spending levels of Edmonton (or 25% if the 50-50 funding agreement with the province were to be restored).

Public Transit: Please tell us about your position on transit, including your position on operational funding increases, and how else you would ensure the transit system runs on-time, efficiently, and frequently?

6. Active Transportation: Public engagement for the Pedestrian and Cycling Strategy identified that gaps in the cycling network are a major obstacle to cycling more, and the strategy names "Improve Connectivity" as its first Strategic Direction out of six. However, in the 2025 Resident Satisfaction Survey, only 59% respondents said that it is easy to get around by walking, and only 51% said the same for cycling, a drop of 10% for both modes compared to the previous year. To accelerate the completion of the cycling and pedestrian network, the [2026 Alternative Municipal Budget](#) recommends increasing capital funding for the Pedestrian and Cycling Program to \$20 million in the 2027 budget.

Would you support increasing capital funding to \$20 million for the Pedestrian and Cycling program in the 2027 budget in order to ensure the timely completion of the cycling and pedestrian network?

7. Buildings & Energy: Nearly half of all emissions in Winnipeg are produced by burning natural gas in our homes and buildings. To bring down building emissions, other cities have implemented policies that require or encourage new buildings to meet certain energy efficiency and clean energy or low emission requirements.

In 2024, the City's Climate Action and Resilience Committee brought forward a recommendation that the city conduct a feasibility study, including a jurisdictional analysis, to begin exploring policy options for phasing out natural gas from existing and new buildings in Winnipeg. Such a feasibility study would build on the city's ongoing efforts to reduce emissions from municipally-owned buildings, and provide the foundational analysis to assess options for meeting its wider building-sector emission reduction targets.

Would you support the exploration of policy tools to phase-out natural gas from existing and new buildings across the city?

8. Composting & Waste: Greenhouse gas emissions from waste represent the largest source of emissions from city-owned facilities and assets, and corporate waste emissions grew by 1% in 2025. Much of this increase comes from methane released from the breakdown of organic materials in the Brady Road Resource Management Facility. The city is working on rolling out a curbside composting program by 2030, which will help divert residential food waste away from the landfill. However, the 2030 rollout will not include multi-family buildings (which represent nearly half of all Winnipeg households).

Will you work with council to ensure the greencart program stays on track for 2030, and to begin planning for expansion to multi-family households now, so that there is as little delay as possible in including multi-family households in the program?

9. Trees, Greenspace, & Waterways: Natural infrastructure has a role to play in both climate mitigation and adaptation. Winnipeg's trees store ½ million tonnes of carbon, and help reduce air pollution. Tree canopy is essential to mitigate the urban heat dome effect and prevent heat-related illness and deaths, and both trees and greenspace reduce flooding risk by absorbing rainwater runoff. Beyond this, natural infrastructure has many recreational, aesthetic, health, and economic benefits.

Winnipeg has greatly improved on tree replacement practices since the adoption of the city's first Urban Forest Strategy in 2023. The next step is to reach the plan's canopy targets of 20% by 2045 and 24% by 2065, which would require planting about 17,000 new trees per year as well as continuing to replace trees that must be removed at least a 1:1 ratio.

The city is also developing a new Greenspace Plan and Biodiversity Policy, with the release planned for spring 2027. It will be the City's first comprehensive plan to address public and private greenspaces, natural corridors, and biodiversity in Winnipeg.

Will you work with Council to ensure the new Greenspace Plan and Biodiversity Policy is completed by spring 2027, and fund its implementation?

10. Local Sustainable Food: Investing in the local food system—whether by supporting food production within the city or expanding access to sustainably produced food from Manitoba farmers—can help reduce emissions from agriculture and food transportation, improve access to nutritious, high-quality food, and build a more resilient and sustainable city.

The City has taken steps to support and strengthen the local, sustainable food system, including through the Winnipeg Food Council. In 2022, the Winnipeg Food Council began laying the groundwork for a new Winnipeg Agricultural and Food Strategy, with the [Food Systems Snapshot report](#). However, the Food Council's budget has been cut in recent years, and the strategy has not yet been completed.

Would you support the timely completion of the Winnipeg Agricultural and Food Strategy?