



City Council Candidate Survey 2021 Birmingham Municipal Election

Greater Birmingham Ministries invites you to complete this candidate survey. Your responses will inform our non-partisan 2021 Birmingham Municipal Election Guide, which will reach over 20,000 Birmingham residents. Please return your completed candidate survey to electionguide@gbm.org by July 2.

Name: Clinton Woods

District: 1

Campaign Email: ClintonWoods@me.com

Campaign Phone Number: 205-370-8471

Campaign Address: 2500 Centerpoint Parkway

Campaign Website: www.ClintonWoods.org

Campaign Social Media Pages: Instagram: [@clintonpwoods](https://www.instagram.com/clintonpwoods) Facebook: Clinton Woods

1. Please provide a 2-3 sentence biography.

I am extremely fortunate to serve as the City Councilor in the District that I grew up in; I have a unique understanding of the issues we face and was able to hit the ground running in 2019 to address many issues that residents brought to the table. I have been married for ten years and have two small children. I graduated from UT-Chattanooga with a degree in Economics, before returning home to UAB and obtaining a masters degree in construction management.

2. Please name any endorsements you have received.

None have been announced this cycle.

3. What are the biggest issues in your district and how would you address those issues in your role as a councilor?

The biggest issues that the residents of my District present are economic development, traffic safety, and infrastructure.

During my time in office I worked with the Administration and my colleagues on the City Council to approve an incentive package to bring a new grocery store to District 1 and have developed relationships with business, developers, and land owners in the district to discuss opportunities to further support growth.

I worked with the department of Transportation to approve a new process that created a process for utilizing speed cushions on city streets, this has historically been prohibited.

I have lobbied for and voted to approve over \$30M dollars in road paving funds. Over the last few years we have seen many of our worst roads be repaved and are on track to develop a sustainable cycle that ensures roads are not allowed to severely deteriorate in the future.

- 4. How do you think the City of Birmingham should provide economic and corporate incentives?**

I believe, when applied effectively, incentives are a powerful tool to spur growth and expansion. I am open to various methods of incentivizing businesses and developers to align with the goals of the city, but feel that the best fit over the last few years has been to offer future tax abatements. This method minimizes upfront money from the city; the business or developer only benefits if they successfully complete the project and operate for the full incentive term.

- 5. In 2020 Birmingham had the highest homicide rate in 25 years. So far 2021 is on trajectory for an even higher homicide rate. In your role as a councilor, how would you address crime and public safety?**

In my role as a councilor I constantly communicate with residents to understand what crime issues they encounter on a day to day basis; to effectively advocate at city hall it's important to understand the problems on each street. We have successfully researched and resolved many issues faced by residents in the district. I listen to our police department and work to provide them with the resources they feel they need to positively impact crime. Over the past few years I have researched several violence interruption programs and am currently advocating for the use of ARP dollars to fund local organizations implementation of these programs. I believe the issues that we are experiencing will require more than a singular solution.

- 6. In your opinion what are the most critical public services that the City of Birmingham is funding or should fund and how will you use your position as a councilor to ensure these are funded?**

Many of the most critical responsibilities that the City has to meet are things that can be easily taken for granted when done well, but become glaring flaws when not. Things like maintaining roads, storm water management, trash/brush removal, litter removal, transportation (traffic lights, signage, etc.), city dump, maintaining city facilities & parks are key pieces to the quality of life in our city. We also have to effectively focus resources to address other problems that we see such as access to quality affordable housing, removal of food deserts, and low reading proficiency among city school students. I have used my position to create partnerships with the non-profit community to leverage public dollars and allow us to have a greater impact with fewer dollars.

- 7. Where in our communities do you see opportunities for Birmingham government to address the inequity between people of different races, genders, and sexual orientations, and how, as a councilor, will you support policies to address these gaps?**

As a Councilor I have focused heavily on policy and actions that can directly impact the wealth gap. In 2020 I presented a “Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) resolution to the City Council; the resolution was passed unanimously and lays the groundwork for Birmingham to set specific percentage goals as it relates to government contracting (COB). The City is also in the process of completing a disparity study; the study will determine what percentage goal(s) the city can set for specific scopes of work.