



## **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](mailto:electionguide@gbm.org) by July 2.*

**Name: Q. Cory Pettway**

**District: 4**

**Campaign Email: [Coryforcitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:Coryforcitycouncil@gmail.com); [coryp4citycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:coryp4citycouncil@gmail.com)**

**Campaign Phone Number: 205.847.7948**

**Campaign Address: PO Box 170562 Birmingham, Al 35217**

**Campaign Website: [www.corypettway.com](http://www.corypettway.com)**

**Campaign Social Media Pages: Facebook (Vote Qunelius “Cory P” Pettway District 4 City Council; Committee to Elect Cory Pettway) Instagram (Cory4citycouncil)**

- 1. Please provide a 2-3 sentence biography.**

**Hello, My name is Cory Pettway, resident of the Inglenook neighborhood within District 4 of Birmingham, Alabama. In 2017, I became a first-time candidate for Birmingham City Council District 4. Despite the outcome of the election, I have continued to work and be actively involved in the community. I am a father, community organizer and leader who has the trained experience along with the commitment to serve the community alongside other community members and partners to strengthen the connection between local government and my fellow citizens it serves.**

- 2. Please name any endorsements you have received.**

**DSA Birmingham**

**The Working Families Party**

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

**The largest issues in my district, among the many, are the lack of communication, education, and resources to solve a lot of the issues that exist. As a Councilor I would use the powers given to Councilors under the Alabama State Code to help my district improve. Advocate, Appropriate, & Legislate. By building a relationship and communicating with the residents within my neighborhoods I will know exactly what issues are important to them so I can Advocate to those with the means or resources to help. I will also use resources to educate the citizens (who are interested) on the processes of governmental agencies. This will teach others how to assist with getting resources to their communities specifically for their unique issues.**

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

**It has always been my desire to see the city move to more a transparent process when providing incentives. 1<sup>st</sup> I think we should always include the Neighborhood Association Officers for that area but also go further by reaching out to other residents who do not attend the meeting but also live in the area. 2<sup>nd</sup> I Think we should require a Community Benefits Agreement with all Economic and Corporate incentives given. If a company is coming to an area to make a profit from the land and the people who visit their company then there should be some type of component that speaks to the concerns of the neighborhood.**

- 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?**

**As Councilor, I can help advocate for a change in how we address violent crimes. I believe in a model of Prevention, Accountability, and Rehabilitation. I will advocate to appropriate more funding to preventive measures against crime and more conservative spending on the enforcement aspects of crime..i.e. "Safety Checkpoints"**

- 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?**

**If elected my ideal budget would have a high investment in Education, Neighborhood Infrastructure, Prevention of Crime and Public Transportation. Specifically additional resources for those affected by poverty.**

**I would vote against a budget that was not in the best interest of the citizens. Mainly any budget focusing more on heavy policing, entertainment, large corporations and environmentally harmful investments I would be against. I would also educate the citizens on how the budget is made and when to get involved to help advocate for funding to help solve some of their issues.**

- 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?**

**There are several opportunities to address some of the issues of inequity within our city. One is in our Public Transportation Industry currently there is a lack of investment to offer all citizens alternative means of transportation. As Councilor I will work closely with the different Transportation Agencies to advocate for more funding to help develop the systems and services. Our home ownership is another major gap that has to be filled. Currently in my district we have a large number of residents who are struggling to make it and living in a temporary situation. As Councilor, I would partner with organizations, agencies, banks and other companies to help provide opportunities to learn about home ownership, financial literacy, and help improve the quality of life for ALL of my residents and the citizens of Birmingham.**