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: HARRY "TRAVELING SHOES" TURNER

District: 8

Campaign Email: 4TSP61@GMAIL.COM

Campaign Phone Number: 205 835 9133

Campaign Address: 1505 30TH ST ENSLEY

Campaign Website:

Campaign Social Media Pages: HARRY "TRAVELING SHOE" TURNER For Birmingham City Council District 8

1. Please provide a 2-3 sentence biography.

2. I am a 29 year Postal Employee, State Legislative Director for American Postal Worker Union, Ordained Minister, Founder of STAY IN SCHOOL WITH TRAVELING SHOES ORG.

3. Notary Public State of Alabama at large, Former Birmingham Mayoral Candidate, Former Special Projects Coordinator for Birmingham Metro NAACP, Community Activist

4. Please name any endorsements you have received.
5. What are the biggest issues in your district and how would you address those issues in your role as a councilor? CRIME, EDUCATION, ANGER MANAGEMENT, BUSINESS ATTRACTION, HIGH SEWAGE RATES, NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION.

6. I want to work with local churches, to help them with more outreach for communities, through grants to help with morality training, self discipline and conflict resolution. I want to partnership with local businesses, to employee local residence so people without transportation dont have to seek employment across town.

7. 

8. How do you think the City of Birmingham should provide economic and corporate incentives? Lease free rentals and tax abatements for terms of 6 months to 1 year on abandon commercial property. Terms could be longer depending on circumstance and how much renovation is required on such property.

9. 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? Only GOD can change the heart and mind of men, but he use people. Most perpetrators of these violent crimes are teens, young adults with nothing to look forward to but kill or be killed. I would love to have armed forces services house the police precent or close by, Army, Navy, National Guards, Marines ect, have to be a part of our crime epidemic. Jail reform, prison reform when our youth are locked up, I want neighbor churches to send letters to inmates, that you are cared for and loved, so while your locked up, turn your mind to the higher power to lead and guide you, encourged them to take classes or trades thats offered, so when and if your released you will be a better product for society, we have to control the repeat offenders. I work right now as school chaplain for Tellis Educational service, we offer High School Diploma for drop outs, last class was 41 graudates, District 8 has many drop outs and I want them in the program so their life is on a different path once they feel they have achieved something to motivate them for higher learning, which mean better job and they can walk away from street life. Open door policy for citizens to do more ride alongs with their beat officer, this way we can give police back the respect they deserve, and people want hesitate to report potential crimes even before they happen.
10. 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? Mental Health, Homelessness. Police Officer, Fireman, any first responders should have so many hours of such training, I would even open the training for citizens, many citizen are on the scene before 911 is even called. We cant have homeless people sitting on curbs on busy highways and streets waiting to get a quarter or get run over. We have to fund more mission that are equipped just to take care of homeless.

11.

12. 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? WORK, SCHOOL, GROCERY STORES, RETAIL STORES, CHURCH, RECREATION CENTERS, PARKS, Everyone should feel safe at all times and everywhere.