

COMMISSION DISTRICT 2

Questionnaire received

Mariah Parker

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Taylor G. Pass

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Are you a Democrat?

Yes

Yes

If elected, will you work to enact the ACCDC platform?

Yes

Yes

Have you ever been a member of the ACCDC? If you have, please indicate your years of service and describe your work with the ACCDC

I have not held an active role in the ACCDC.

No

Please list all campaigns you have worked on, regardless of party affiliation, in either a volunteer or staff member capacity, on either the federal, state, or local level, and briefly describe your work on each.

I was a canvasser for Barack Obama's 2008 campaign, when I was 17 years of age. For the past year I have been field director and, eight months ago, became campaign manager to Tommy Valentine for County Commissioner. During that time, I have also canvassed for Ted Terry's mayoral re-election campaign in Clarkston, Georgia, and for Johnathan Wallace's campaign for state house representative.

No

Please describe any work you have done in your community, either in Athens-Clarke County or elsewhere, in support of progressive causes.

I have spearheaded efforts to desegregate our city and raise awareness of ongoing issues of discrimination in Athens as a vocal supporter of the Athens Anti-Discrimination Movement and in my organization of integrated, culturally inclusive music and activist events such as the Hot Corner Hip Hop music series. Through an event series called the People's Power Happy Hour, my work empowered citizens to hold their representatives accountable by providing material and informational resources and social support for contacting their legislators. In these sessions, I coached friends and neighbors on writing to their legislators about issues of immigration/deportation, environmental justice, reproductive justice, gun control, and others. Hundreds of postcards, letters and phone calls were directed to our state and federal legislators through these events. Other events I have coordinated have raised hundreds of dollars for Girls Rock Athens and Chess & Community, organizations which empower minority youth, and for the Magnolia Fund, a reproductive justice and healthcare access network. On UGA campus in the fall and spring of 2015-2016, I organized a series of lectures, workshops and roundtables in coordination with the Willson Center for the Humanities aimed at increasing cross-cultural dialogue on issues of race. As well, as a policy manager of the Athens Anti-Discrimination Movement, I have researched policy solutions to meet the group's justice claims, including economic empowerment zones for minority business owners. crowd-funded bail-outs for

Worked with youth to promote education and sharpen their critical thinking skills while preparing them for life after graduation. As a member of the C&C Advocacy Group I was a mentor/tutor to elementary students while in college in Baltimore. I assist elderly members of my community when there are questions regarding Medicare and Health Marketplace plans. I believe that health care is a right but having the right plan for you is important as well.

for minority business owners, crowd-funded bail-outs for impoverished arrestees awaiting trial, Payment in Lieu of Taxes to Athens-Clarke County from the University of Georgia, among others. Further, I have been an invited speaker at a number of anti-deportation and anti-discrimination rallies and have helped organize a number of direct actions related to racial discrimination. In my work as a literacy scholar, I have led workshops on social justice and the arts at Coile Middle School and for undergraduates at the University of Georgia. I am currently in the process of writing a grant to start a civic literacy program for high school students interested in learning about activist practices and taking direct actions in their communities on issues such as criminal justice, housing discrimination, education equity, and gang violence.

Please list organizations and/or causes you have been involved with in any kind of substantial way.

The Athens Anti-Discrimination Movement, Girls Rock Athens, Hot Corner Hip Hop, Our Revolution Georgia

If elected, what will be your policy priorities? Please describe 3 - 5 priorities.

My every focus as commissioner-- fare-free, sustainable public transportation, affordable housing, criminal justice reform including marijuana decriminalization and bail reform, a \$15/hour minimum wage, and expansion of lifelong educational opportunity-- is oriented toward the alleviation of poverty and the end of discrimination in Athens.

Board Member of Champions Foundation, Graduate of Evelyn C. Neely Leadership Academy, Deacon at East Friendship Baptist Church, Member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, was member of Jr. NAACP, Member of C&C Advocacy Group, Actively attended Bethel Stockholder meetings, Actively attended CCHD HIV Consortium meetings

Tax stabilization - I believe that families who have lived in District 2 for decades should not face substantial tax increases as a result of gentrification. Thus, I support tax stabilization legislation that would not increase property taxes for seniors who live in communities, which are changing as a result of new development and citizens relocating to District 2.

Public Safety - The ACC Police East Substation should be a fully functioning precinct. This station should be available to citizens to report crimes and have those crimes responded to by police officers who are actively working in the East Substation Precinct. This would decrease the amount of time citizens have to wait for officers to respond to their concerns. District 2 citizens should feel comfortable engaging with officers in the community.

Education - I feel every child should graduate with a high school diploma. I believe we, as a community, should strive to have a graduation rate of 90% or higher. Every child should have a school system that understands and respects his/her needs.

Does your campaign have a platform? If so, please include a link here.

<https://www.taylorpassforathens.com/platform>

Do you support raising the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour?

Yes

Yes

Do you support making it easier for workers to organize and join unions?	Yes	Yes
Will you support policies aimed at increasing the stock of affordable housing in in-town neighborhoods and making home-ownership more possible for ACC's low-income residents?	Yes	Yes
Would you support initiatives to help keep longtime Athens residents in their homes -- people who are in danger of being pushed out of their neighborhoods by gentrification and rising taxes?	Yes	Yes
Do you support equal pay for equal work for women?	Yes	Yes
Should marijuana be removed from the list of "Schedule 1" federal controlled substances?	Yes	Yes
Should local law enforcement agencies be required to assist federal immigration law enforcement agencies with deportations?	No	No
Should military-style weapons be accessible to civilians?	No	No
Do you support repealing the Campus Carry law?	Yes	Yes
Do you support incentivizing investments in clean energy and ending tax breaks and other perks for fossil fuel companies?	Yes	Yes
Do you support increasing protections for wetlands buffers to help keep our waterways uncontaminated?	Yes	Yes
Do you support comprehensive non-discrimination legislation in ACC?	Yes	Yes
Should it be illegal for public businesses and institutions to discriminate against LBGQT people?	Yes	Yes

Do you support the expansion of Medicaid in Georgia?	Yes	Yes
Do you support the goal of Universal healthcare – healthcare as a fundamental human right for every American?	Yes	Yes
Should all state education funds should be directed to public schools?	Yes	Yes
What are your thoughts about how to secure safe schools for all students?	I think increased funding in schools but particularly for school counseling, teacher salaries and teacher professional development, reforming our disciplinary system to help connect troubled students with counselors and other transformative resources, and far stricter laws on gun ownership are three critical means of ensuring the safety of our schools.	To provide safe schools for all students, the installation of metal detectors and fully functioning security cameras can provide a reliable layer of security for students. The institution of properly trained security staff and active shooter training for staff and students can improve chances of survival if there is an active shooter.
Do you support the current Teacher Retirement System of Georgia?	Yes	No
Should legislation requiring electoral districts be drawn by an independent, nonpartisan redistricting commission?	Yes	Yes
Do you support restoring the full protections of the Voters Rights Act?	Yes	Yes