



## Houston 2019 Mayoral Candidate Scorecard

Pure Justice contacted each mayoral campaign and invited each candidate to complete the questionnaire. Below are their responses to the questions asked. We asked each candidate to respond with support or oppose to the questions asked. Reflected is the overall answer, some candidates offered commentary along with their responses, that commentary can be found at [www.purejustice.org](http://www.purejustice.org). At the end of the questionnaire, there is a section for you, the voter, to give an overall score to the candidate based on their responses to the questions, “A” being the highest and “F” being the lowest. Find out where the candidates are on issues important to community members!

The entire country is facing an affordable housing crisis and Houstonians are struggling to find a quality, affordable housing for their families. When developers seek tax abatements for residential housing developments, they are held to this standard as stated in the language of the tax abatement: *“Qualifying residential projects or projects with a qualifying residential component will be required to develop and commit 20% or more of the project residential units for residents with income levels between 30% and 120% of area median income for the duration of the tax abatement agreement.”* As Mayor, would you be willing to amend the tax abatement ordinance to require developers to commit 20% or more of the project units for residents with income levels between 30% and 80% of area median income?

Candidate	Mayor Turner	Demitria Smith	Bill King	Johnny Taylor	Kendal Baker	Dwight Boykins	Naoufal Houjami	Tony Buzbee	Sue Lovell	Victoria Romero	Roy Vasquez	Derrick Broze
Candidate Responses	Unsure	Support	None	None	Support	None	Support	None	Support	None	None	None

As discussed above, affordable housing is an issue for many in the city; however, there are enormous barriers for returning citizens in terms of finding housing. As Mayor would you be willing to require developers seeking tax abatements or chapter 380 agreements to commit between 15% to 20% of the project units for residents with criminal records?

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Candidate Responses	Oppose	Support	None	None	Support	None	Support	None	Oppose	None	None	None

Despite the fact that 1 out of 4 adults in the US having a criminal record, employers remain skeptical of hiring returning citizens in various places of employment, creating economic barriers and an increased likelihood of recidivism. It has been shown that most returning citizens find the most economic advancement when they are able to create their own businesses. As mayor, would you be willing to provide entrepreneurship training and business development opportunities specifically for returning citizens?

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<b>Candidate Responses</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>
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According to a 2015 Houston Chronicle article, 80% of police officers on the City of police force live outside the city. Trust of law enforcement in many communities is strained; however, having police officers living in the communities they are tasked with patrolling would help to restore trust and build relationships between community members and law enforcement officers. As mayor, would you be willing to offer incentive pay to officers willing to move into the city of Houston and do targeted recruitment to prioritize hiring officers from within the city?

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<b>Candidate Responses</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>
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There is an increased desire from community members that they and police officers have an opportunity to work closer together. Studies have shown that community oversight committees create a level of transparency that builds trust between these two groups. As mayor, would you be willing to create a community oversight committee that has the authority to appoint its members, launch independent investigations into police officer complaints, and receive access to officer disciplinary reports?

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<b>Candidate Responses</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>
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It has been said that mental health is a major factor that often leads to the arrest of those who have and haven't been diagnosed medically. Mental health should not be criminalized and police officers should not bear the burden of becoming mental health experts. As Mayor, would you be willing to create a division of mental health, trauma-informed officers to be dispatched to incidents where there is a high probability that the suspect has a mental health issue?

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<b>Candidate Responses</b>	Support	Support	None	None	Support	None	Support	None	Support	None	None	None

Immigrant families make up a significant portion of the city of Houston's population. Additionally, these families positively contribute to the workforce in various industries as well as to our local economy. All workers should be able to go to work and return home to their families without facing the possibility of being arrested. As mayor, would you be willing to encourage employers seeking tax incentives from the city of Houston to set up ICE free work zones, which are work zones in which the employer refuses to voluntarily allow ICE officers to enter into a workplace?

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<b>Candidate Responses</b>	Oppose	Support	None	None	Oppose	None	Support	None	Oppose	None	None	None

As mayor of the City of Houston, in your first year, will you formulate public policy that ensures the safety of residents by implementing accountability on behalf of the Fire Department with regards to warehouse inspections?

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<b>Candidate Responses</b>	Support	Support	None	None	Support	None	Support	None	Support	None	None	None

### RATE THE CANDIDATES!

<b>CANDIDATE</b>	<b>Mayor Turner</b>	<b>Demitria Smith</b>	<b>Bill King</b>	<b>Johnny Taylor</b>	<b>Kendal Baker</b>	<b>Dwight Boykins</b>	<b>Naoufal Houjami</b>	<b>Tony Buzbee</b>	<b>Sue Lovell</b>	<b>Victoria Romero</b>	<b>Roy Vasquez</b>	<b>Derrick Broze</b>
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<b>VOTER'S SCORE</b>												
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*Pure Justice is a multicultural, multigenerational membership based grassroots nonprofit organization that works to bring fairness and equity to our criminal justice system and create economic opportunities for marginalized communities. Learn more about Pure Justice at [www.purejustice.com](http://www.purejustice.com) and follow us on social media to stay up to date on our work in our communities.*

