

## **DeKalb County Democratic Committee**

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## 2021 Municipal Elections Candidate Questionnaire (Responses) №: 3

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Name	Alexis Weaver
Municipality	Tucker
Position for which you are running	City Council
District and seat (if applicable) for which you are running. If not applicable, please type "N/A."	District 3
Do you support your municipality's Nondiscrimation Ordinance (NDO)? Or, if your city does not have one, do you support passing an NDO? Please explain.	I'm an enthusiastic supporter of a Nondiscrimination Ordinance and ally of my LGBTQ neighbors. Discrimination has no place in our city. Neighboring municipalities have nondiscrimination protections. Yet, Tucker does not. For two years, our elected officials refused even to discuss publicly the proposed ordinance. Some—like my opponent—sadly offer a myriad of ill-informed excuses in an attempt to dodge this discussion.
Do you believe armed police officers should be dispatched to mental health calls? Please explain.	No. We need programs that develop community health workers with specialized mental health training to de-escalate this type of crisis situations.
Do you believe citizens should be arrested for possessing small amounts of marijuana? How is your view similar or different from the current policy in your municipality? Please explain.	Law enforcement is not part of Tucker's charter. However, I do believe that our Dekalb public safety officers have more pressing concerns to address than possession of small amounts of marijuana.
The pandemic has presented unique challenges to cities in many different areas. What is your position on masking and vaccine mandates?	As the pandemic continues, we must renew our focus on championing public health and vaccine promotion. We should incentivize and lift up businesses that require mask wearing and the city should do the same it is facilities and at indoor events. As a mom of three young children not yet eligible for the vaccine, I feel strongly that Tucker must go the extra mile for the sake of all its residents.
Please explain how you would address the current housing crisis at the municipal level. How would you help people who are homeless/unhoused in your city?	I was a leader among a group of residents who came together in Spring 2021 to propose to the city a community-based approach to addressing homelessness, which was dismissed. We should take seriously this proposal and convene an ad-hoc committee with social service providers, city residents, businesses and other experts, to evaluate that proposal and develop long-term solutions—not criminalization. We should have responsive zoning which allows for permanent supportive housing and other data-driven best practices in homeless response, and we should support a community coalition that works within Tucker and alongside Dekalb County to address housing needs over time.
What would you change about how development is being approached in your municipality? What is your position on affordable housing and making homeownership more accessible?	Tucker needs a housing development strategy informed by all residents in our community—which includes an inventory of current housing stock a needs assessment of housing types and densities, and seeks to identify creative strategies to ensure quality housing is accessible by all regardless of socio-economic status. This should include consideration of first-time home buyer programs for workers in Tucker, land-trusts, and public-private partnerships with nonprofit and affordable housing developers.



Do you consider the way your city government operates to be transparent, accountable, and effective? What would you change?

No, I have serious concerns about the lack of transparency in decision-making processes here in Tucker. I will be a champion for an open and transparent city government that values creativity and collaboration—essential ingredients to finding community-based solutions to solve complex challenges. I believe that the integrity of elected officials helps to foster trust within our community. Transparency is key to maintaining that trust.

Please give an assessment of your municipality's current infrastructure needs (roads, sidewalks, etc.). What would you change or do differently?

We need to ensure transparency and equity in processes to prioritize infrastructure projects in our community, as well as greater emphasis on continued collaboration with Dekalb County to keep Tucker a priority when it comes to getting these concerns addressed.

Are you satisfied with the number, quality and management of trails, parks and green space in your municipality? If not, what would you change?

Parks are one of the key services in Tucker's charter with robust plans for development and one of our most precious amenities. However, as the city develops these spaces, we should prioritize environmental sustainability, protection of old-growth trees, and heighten public engagement with neighbors to ensure we are developing these spaces in a manner consistent with the desire of the community. Funding strategies are needed as we expand bicycle and pedestrian access and build out the Tucker PATH, which will both increase economic impact and support further expansion. We need greater transparency in how decisions are made around our Parks & Recreation spaces.

Please list, in order, your top 3 priorities or things you would like to accomplish, should you be elected or re-elected.

Tucker is a young city experiencing rapid and multi-faceted growth and is at a crossroads—this growth can either offer opportunity for a few, or opportunity for all. Creating a clear housing development strategy as well as long-term planning to leverage our economic growth are two top priorities. What mix of housing types, densities, quantities as well as zoning tactics are required so that our community can grow well? We also must immediately also pass the Non-Discrimination Ordinance.