

Antioch City Council Questionnaire

On behalf of Healthy & Active Before 5, the East County Regional Group (ECRG), and First 5 Contra Costa, thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. We have selected questions about the issues that matter most for families with young children in Antioch.

Please note: this questionnaire is for voter education purposes only, and responses will not be used to endorse any candidate(s). Responses in full will be made available for Antioch voters to review.

Email *

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What would be your top three priorities in office, and how do you see them impacting families in Antioch? (maximum 500 characters) *

The safety of our families and children is my highest priority. No one thrives in an unsafe environment. The quality of life, the success of our students, the vibrancy of our businesses is all contingent on a safe and thriving community. Affordable and accessible basic needs such as housing, food, health care is also a top priority. Finding equitable and real solutions to support our unhoused and help develop local living wages jobs are also one of my top priorities.ies

Please rank the following funding areas based on how much of a priority each would be for you if elected. *

	Highest Priority	Second highest priority	Third highest priority	Fourth highest priority	Fifth highest priority	Lowest priority
Parks and green spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Recreation programming for children and youth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Safety net programs such as food or rental assistance for low-income residents	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support for local childcare	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public safety	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mental health services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

In your opinion, what should be prioritized within the city's budget for parks and recreation for children and adults? (maximum 500 characters) *

Cities have the responsibility of providing quality and safe green spaces, parks and recreation areas for families and residents and must ensure that within their budgets they have set aside sufficient funds to maintain these spaces but also support opportunities to create new inclusive community spaces, especially in areas that have been historically underserved. I have been a proponent for years for the development of a community space in downtown Antioch.

What are your thoughts on local tenant protections policies in Antioch (for example: rent control, * just cause for eviction, anti-harassment)? (maximum 500 characters)

As the cost of housing and living continues to increase in California and with affordable housing options at crisis levels it is imperative that cities take actions to protect and keep low- and middle- income working families in their homes. . Local policy can bridge the gap between state laws and local laws for protecting tenant's rights and provide help with fighting for those rights. Cities must continue to work with agencies and developers to provide additional affordable housing options.

What are your thoughts on strategies to preserve and produce affordable housing in Antioch (for * example: inclusionary zoning, community/tenant opportunity to purchase, community land trusts, etc.) ? (maximum 500 characters)

I think it is clear that all options are on the table as legislators and cities face the reality of millions of Americans losing their homes. This is the current reality in California and in Antioch. Whereas rental stabilization policies and tenant protection laws are the band aid, the development of affordable housing like the Amcal project in Antioch and the Yellow Roof Foundation project in Pittsburg are a critical part of the long-term solution. Policies such as TOPA, should be considered.

What are the challenges you see with access to healthy, affordable foods in Antioch, and what * are some policies you would support or oppose related to food security? (maximum 1,250 characters)

From my home in downtown Antioch, I am over 2 miles away from a major supermarket where prices and abundance for quality food and necessities are more affordable than a small convenience store. For seniors or families with transportation challenges that is simply just too far away. This is a growing problem in urban low to moderate income communities. Access to fresh and affordable fruits and vegetables is key to addressing population health. If I was on Council, I would ask that the city be looking for ways and policy to promote farmers markets and make connections between residents and local sources of healthy food. Promoting rotating public markets, community gardens, healthy corner stores, availability to transportation, access to food pantries would all be critical to creating healthy food proximity. Working with local non-profits and faith-based organizations would be crucial in supporting this effort.

What role does the city play in meeting the health, mental well-being, and economic needs of families, and therefore what programs or policies would you support or oppose? (for example, local jobs, mental health services, guaranteed income, support for small businesses, preventing poverty, etc.) (maximum 1,250 characters) *

A city can play a critical role in the quality of life for its families. One of the leading causes to generational poverty is a lack of education. First and foremost, the City of Antioch should have a much more collaborative and working relationship with its schools and school district. We should also be working with our business partners, Chamber of Commerce and our local unions in supporting education, especially in keeping our children in school and in providing post high school education and job training skills. Educational opportunities for dual language learners and pathways to citizenship should be supported. Providing local jobs that provide a living wage are also critical to the health and well-being of our families, job development should be a priority for the city.

Making sure our families are aware of support through the 211 system and supporting community access to mental health services. Encouraging community health providers to use ACEs in determining the needs for prevention and intervention care programs is also crucial.

Please explain the role you believe local government should play in childcare and early education, and therefore the policies you would support or oppose. (maximum 1,250 characters) *

A child brain grows 90 percent of adult size in the first five years of life, setting patterns for how they will think, feel, and learn for the rest of their lives. Families need access to free or low cost early childhood programs. We need more funding for California State Preschool slots. Parents need before and after school care in order to make universal Prek work for them.

Parents are our children's first teachers; we need better connections between the educational system and families.

Again, this is the importance of the need for a higher level of collaboration and partnership with our schools.

What are your views on how climate change might impact Antioch families, and what climate-related city policies or programs would you support or oppose? (maximum 1,250 characters) *

Climate Change is the most existential threat to families and our world, The reality of sea rise, and global warming could very well affect our Antioch community sooner rather than later. Policies to plan for sea rise mitigation, severe weather must be supported. Antioch has taken the lead in addressing salt intrusion into our drinking water that comes from the San Joaquin River with the build of the Desalination Plant that I am proud i was part of approving. Additional efforts to move city vehicles to all electrics should be a priority, as well as promoting wind and solar on new and existing developments. Cities should be working closely with their Counties and State to implement new policy to address this massive undertaking of mitigating climate change.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with Antioch families about why you're running for City Council? (maximum 500 characters) *

I am lifelong resident and passionate advocate for my community. I go to great lengths to build relationships, and collaboration with other agencies, and my community, from spearheading the complete renovation of Antioch High School to the revitalization of our downtown. We are a beautiful and diverse community and I hope we can all work together to support our common good. I hope to have your support on Nov. 8th.

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