

Boston Mayoral Candidate Questionnaire 2013

Housing and Community Development

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.
The deadline for submission is Tuesday, July 30, 2013.**

Please email your completed questionnaires to Joe Kriesberg at JoeK@macdc.org

For questions, email Joe or call 617-379-5922.

Completed questionnaires may also be mailed to CHAPA at 18 Tremont Street, Suite 401, Boston, MA 02108

General Information	
Candidate Name:	John Barros
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The responses provided by you will be distributed to the members and affiliates of the organizations included in the cover letter. Your answers may also be made available to the general public for educational purposes. Our publication of your response is not an endorsement of any candidate or political party.

We will not alter or edit your answers. Please spellcheck and proof read your answers before submitting this questionnaire. Candidates that do not submit answers to this questionnaire will be noted as "Did Not Respond". Answers left blank will be marked "No Answer". Thank You.

Record answers in "Answer" field. Electronic submission is appreciated.

Limit to 50 words or less.

Please sign below.



Aug. 8, 2013

Candidate Signature

Date

Question	Answer
<p>1. What is your opinion on enacting the City's Inclusionary Development Policy as an official ordinance with a higher percentage of the units required to be affordable to Boston residents and a larger cash-out payment for developers who do not provide on-site units?</p>	
<p>2. Do you support increases in city resources for developing affordable housing, such as the City's Linkage Fee, maintaining a specific line item in the City Budget of at least \$10 million, and the Community Preservation Act? Please explain.</p>	
<p>3. What will you do as Mayor to increase business opportunities for minority and women owned small businesses on housing development projects, including both professional services and construction work, as well as employment opportunities for Boston residents?</p>	
<p>4. How will you ensure that people of all incomes have housing options in neighborhoods throughout Boston?</p>	

<p>5. How would you use your leadership role to stand up for new affordable housing development in the face of opposition from a small, but vocal, number of local residents?</p>	
<p>6. Do you support a Responsible Banking city ordinance that would mandate annual rankings of which banks are best serving Boston's neighborhoods with loans and services to first-time homebuyers, small businesses and non-profits? Please explain.</p>	
<p>7. As Mayor, would you direct the Department of Neighborhood Development to link city-funded down payment assistance grants exclusively to lenders that offered the ONE Mortgage Program, the state's most affordable product for first-time homebuyers, or other comparably affordable mortgage products? Please explain.</p>	
<p>8. As Mayor of Boston, would you advocate for increased BRA funding for pilot green building and sustainability projects for multifamily affordable housing? Would you also support a health-based housing standard for all rehab investments made by the City that ensures the creation of healthier housing?</p>	
<p>9. What tools and strategies would you implement to stabilize neighborhoods where owner occupants and long-term tenants are leaving due to a rising rents driven by more and more students living off campus?</p>	

<p>10. Do you support the allocation of Community Development Block Grant and other resources for comprehensive, cross-sector (housing, jobs, public safety, education) neighborhood development efforts? Please explain?</p>	
<p>11. The rental market in Boston is out of reach for low income families. How would you address this issue to assure that all of Boston residents, including elders and people with disabilities, low wage workers, families, students, unaccompanied youth, and people who are homeless, can have a safe place to call home?</p>	
<p>12. How will you help address the issue of foreclosures impacting our communities and help homeowners facing foreclosure stay in their homes?</p>	
<p>13. What is your opinion on enacting an ordinance that enforces the upkeep and maintenance of vacant properties, including those owned by banks and mortgage companies?</p>	
<p>14. How will you preserve affordable housing developments, whose affordability requirements are expiring, to maintain long term affordability to help existing tenants stay in their homes?</p>	

<p>15. On May 1, 2013, the Boston Housing Authority eliminated the resident services program for over 2,500 elderly and disabled residents, citing federal budget cuts. How can you ensure that residents have access to the services and supports they need and that the BHA is able to provide safe, well maintained housing to the 27,0000 residents it serves?</p>	
<p>Additional Comments:</p>	