

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 1

DATE 12/22/2014 WARD 30
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CAMPAIGN MANAGER Javier Maisonet
NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED 3800 NUMBER REQUIRED 473

Please provide the following background information:

- A. Elective or appointive public and/or party offices previously held including dates.
Alderman for the 30th Ward (May 2003-Present), 30th Ward Committeeman (November 2006- Present)
B. Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.

C. What is your primary occupation?
Alderman, 30th Ward

D. Briefly list your civic activities of the past ten years.
Active member of the National Association of Latino Elected Officials, American Society for Industrial Security, C.A.P.S., the Illinois State Crime Commission, founding member of the Registry of the National Law Enforcement Museum in Washington D.C., Chicago Public School Teacher, Deputy Commissioner for Chicago Department of General Services, Co-Founder and Board Member of the Northwest Youth Basketball Association, Board Member of the Building Operation Management Association, and Co-Founder of Latino City Employee Association, Advisory Council member for Jobs for Illinois General Council.

E. What subjects have you studied and what experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?

Education (B.A.) University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago Public School Teacher, Certified as a Hazardous Material Responder/ Technician from the University of Illinois at Champaign's Fire Academy, Manager for installation and upgrading of undergrounds storage tanks, and related Environmental Protection Agency Standards. All these experiences help me better understand the working environment of being Alderman by having experienced many different areas of Labor and Public Service.

F. What candidates have you supported in past elections? Please be specific in describing your role in each campaign.

I have worked on numerous campaigns since 1972, i.e. Richard M Daley for Mayor, Michael A. Wojick, John Merlo, Bernard Hansen, Ray Suarez, and Luis Gutierrez, Jesse White for Sec. of State, Lisa Madigan for Attorney General, and Pat Quinn for Governor.

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G. Please list all endorsements you have received so far.

It is still early in the campaign and the endorsement season, we are still soliciting endorsements. One that we have heard back from is Local 1092 who will be supporting us this year.

H. As concisely as possible, state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidate(s). What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?

I have 25 years of service with the Department of Fleet Management, Department of Water, Department of General Services, and have served the past 11 years as Alderman of the 30th Ward. This puts me in a position to work effectively with the City Council and Mayor to ensure that the needs of everyone in the 30th Ward and Chicago are met.

I. What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date?

Our budget is currently \$200,000 which we have raised \$130,000 to date.

J. How many people are on your campaign staff? How many volunteers are on your list?

I have 6 staff members, and over 60 volunteers

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Most questions on this questionnaire can be answered by checking either YES or NO. Others are essay questions and all have the option of answering in greater detail. Just hit enter at the end of the question and begin typing your answer in the additional space.

CITY COUNCIL REFORM AND ETHICS

	YES	NO	
1.	X		Do you favor maintaining the current number of City Council committees?
			Which committees, if any, would you combine or eliminate? I would no eliminate any of the current committees, our committees are overburdened already in addressing issues.
2.			What reforms are necessary in the City Council's committee rules and structure? We need to continue working closely with the Board of ethics.
3.	X		Would you give the Inspector General's office independent subpoena power or other compulsory process that can be directed against city officials, agencies and employees without necessitation the approval of the Mayor or Corporation Counsel?
4.	X		Should the Inspector General be able to initiate his or her own investigations of Aldermen without a complaint from outside the office?
5.	X		Should the Inspector General be able to pursue anonymous complaints?
6.		X	Do you support patronage in hiring and promoting public employees?
7.		X	Will you employ or have you employed staff, in your office who hold other public sector jobs concurrently?
8.		X	Will you employ or have you employed staff, in your office who have either outside employment or contracts with entities which do business with the City?
9.	X		Will you vote for an ordinance mandating that the City contest unemployment claims by former employees who were fired for cause?
10.	X		Will you vote for an ordinance forbidding the City to hire or contract the services of anyone previously fired for cause from the City or any other unit of government?
11.		X	Will you support an ordinance to reduce the number of wards?
12.			Have you joined or will you join:
			The Paul Douglas Caucus
	X		The Independent Progressive Caucus- I was previously a member of the caucus
			Both
13.	X		Do you support changing the state statute to return to filling aldermanic vacancies by special election, rather than Mayoral appointment?
14.	X		Will you vote for an ordinance requiring redistricting of the wards to be based on non-partisan criteria and not to benefit any specific individual or political party?
15.		X	Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from current or potential suppliers or employees?
16.		X	Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from people or businesses seeking zoning changes in your ward?
17.	X		Do you support public financing of municipal campaigns?
			Please explain your position. No. I support honest, open, and fair elections. Public funds are better used for our public services such as City operations and Public Education.
18.			Who are your top 5 contributors and how much has each contributed to your campaign? Consolidated Enterprises, Fresh Market Place, Arlington Glass, Nyleve Enterprises, Comcast
19.			What changes would you support to the redistricting process? I would support more public input to the process and the look at the possibility of having independent auditors put

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			forth recommendations.
REVENUE AND BUDGET			
20.	X		Will you vote to hire independent analysts to conduct a forensic audit of past City spending?
	Will you vote for a budget ordinance which would require:		
21.	X		public questioning of city department heads concerning their departments' specific budget requests?
22.	X		making budget copies available to the public 30 days in advance of hearings?
23.	X		restoring city-wide community group budget hearings several months prior to the publication of the budget, as were held under the Washington and Sawyer administrations?
24.	ESSAY		What additional revenue sources, if any, would you propose? I am not in favor of increasing fees or taxes.
25.	X		Do you support casino gambling for Chicago?
26.	X		Will you vote to require a citywide referendum before any gambling is instituted in the City?
27.		X	Will you vote to roll back Mayoral and Aldermanic salaries to pre-2007 levels?
28.	X		Will you vote for an ordinance limiting future Mayoral and Aldermanic salary increases to the same percentage as the lowest raise for any class of city employees?
29.		X	Do you agree with the criticism that City government is top heavy with management?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position. I do not agree with this because in many of our departments we are running with the bare minimum of employees and at times understaffed.
30.	ESSAY		What measures will you vote for to reform the city pension plan and ensure its solvency? I would recommend bonds as a means for pension dollars, I would also recommend that we do similar to what the state has done, new employees will need to be assessed differently and have to contribute more towards their pension.
31.	ESSAY		How would you modify (if at all) the benefit and contribution levels and eligibility requirements for public employee pensions? I do not believe that we should modify what we have already currently promised to our current employees and retirees. As stated previously I do feel that we need to ask for new employees to pay an additional amount and also look at an increase from our current members.
32.	Choose One		Should discretionary funds for ward services and infrastructure improvements be allocated
			in equal amounts to each ward
			based on the size of each ward
	x		based on the needs of each ward
	YES	NO	
33.	X		Will you institute participatory budgeting to allow ward residents to vote on discretionary spending in your ward?
PRIVATIZATION			
34.	ESSAY		Which city services or assets, if any, do you believe should be privatized and what is your criteria? I am not in favor of privatizing city services that will remove employees from their jobs. If there were to be privatization I would need to see that they are both cost-effective and they will not diminish the quality of service that that department currently provides.
35.	x		Will you vote for an ordinance requiring an independent analysis of any lease or outsourcing arrangement?
36.	x		Will you vote for an ordinance requiring detailed analysis and evaluation of any lease or outsourcing arrangement at least 30 days prior to the City Council vote?

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37.	ESSAY	Before voting on privatization contracts, what will you do to ensure that they deliver the maximum return and best service for city residents in the long term? I believe in transparency and accountability and know that these two things need to be improved within our city. In order to receive maximum return we must make sure that privatization is only used when necessary and ensuring that these contractors are held to the highest standards.
38.	ESSAY	What procedures will you implement to ensure that privatization arrangements are not being used to move patronage workers outside of the scope of the Rutan decision requirements or any other anti-patronage rules or protocols? If a municipal employee is qualified, then they should be able to apply for available positions. Everyone deserves a fair opportunity and it is important to allow for fair application processes.
PLANNING, ZONING, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
39.	ESSAY	How will you involve ward residents in planning? I will continue to hold town hall meetings, community meetings and work with block clubs, the 30th ward advisory council, chamber of commerce and other community- based organizations regarding plans for the Ward.
40.	ESSAY	What is your long-range plan for development of the ward? I will continue to wok on expanding our TIF Districts to increase infrastructure developments. I will continue to work with our chamber of commerce to build stronger relationships with our businesses and ensuring that we are meeting the needs that are being put forth. I will also work towards safer interior streets which is a priority to make them brighter and improve sidewalks and roadways.
41.	ESSAY	What criteria do you or will you use in determining whether or not to grant a zoning change or variance? Zoning changes are dependent heavily on community input. All changes go before the community to hear any concerns that may arise. Once we have gathered enough community input we then move forward with a decision.
42.	ESSAY	How will you involve residents in planning, approval, and oversight of TIF districts? I will continue to involve the community in this process as well. I believe it is important to work with the Department of Planning and Development to explain what TIFs are and how their impact the community as a whole.
43.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to terminate a TIF if the objectives of the TIF plan have been accomplished before the 23 year period is ended?
44.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to return unspent and uncommitted TIF funds on an annual basis to the various taxing bodies?
45.	ESSAY	How do you propose to replace property tax revenue for CPS and other taxing bodies that is lost to TIF development? In the event of continuing funding to the Chicago Public Schools, I would support increasing the 23 year life cycle of a TIF District.
46.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you support a moratorium on creation of any new TIF districts until new funding sources are identified to replace the revenue diverted to the TIF?
47.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote for an ordinance requiring that large corporate entities receiving \$250,000 or more in public subsidies, and their tenants, must pay their workers a living wage (currently \$11/hour)?
48.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to invest substantially more in job-training and the creation of transitional job programs in disadvantaged communities, including the formerly incarcerated, homeless, youth, and non-English speakers?
HOUSING		
49.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to amend the Vacant Properties Ordinance to require mortgage servicers to register their properties?
50.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support enacting an ordinance to preserve Single-Room Occupancy housing?

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51.	x		Will you vote for an inclusionary zoning ordinance requiring developers to set aside 30% of residential new construction or renovation for the creation of affordable housing?
52.	ESSAY		What measures will you support to guarantee that some of the foreclosed properties saved through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program are made affordable to families at 40% and 60% of AMI? These provisions must be in the program in order for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program to be effective. There needs to be a percentage set aside of affordable housing to satisfy this need.
53.	ESSAY		What procedures and safeguards would you put in place on conversion/demolition of SRO's and other low income housing to ensure that affordable housing will continue to be available for low income tenants who would otherwise be displaced? For any new development we need to know that there will be a plan and a percentage of availability for displaced tenants. What we cannot afford is to have individuals end up homeless and without opportunity due to new development of demolition.
54.	ESSAY		What measures will you support to ensure that there is an adequate supply of affordable family sized units available to families in the Section 8 program? I believe that this is a good program that provides many benefits to landlords. We need to make sure that we are attracting and marketing this program to landlords and also promoting the program to the community so individuals can learn more.
55.	ESSAY		What measures will you support to provide affordable housing for low-income individuals and families who are not served by any existing programs? I believe that our existing programs need to be adjusted to accommodate for as many families as possible. I will also continue to work with organizations such as the Spanish Coalition for Housing to ensure that those who are not enrolled in a program are able to get assistance and counseling that may be needed to learn about options for housing.
	YES	NO	Do you support any of the following to be built in your ward?
56.	X		low income rental housing that is affordable to those at 15% to 30% of AMI?
57.	X		supportive housing for people overcoming addiction and other problems which contribute to homelessness?
58.	X		shelters for the homeless?
59			Do you favor a moratorium on the conversion or demolition of SRO's pending the development of protections and remedies to protect the displaced tenants from becoming homeless?
60			Do you support allowing the demolition of existing public housing units without new or rehabilitated replacement housing on a one-for-one basis?
61.	Choose One		Which standard should the City use to define affordable housing?
			AMI of the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area
	X		AMI of Cook County
			AMI of Chicago
			AMI of the Community Area
EDUCATION			
62.	Choose One		Which of the following options for choosing the School Board do you support?
			Popular Election
			Mayoral appointment from nominations made by community representatives
			Maintaining the current system of Mayoral appointment
	x		A mix of elected and appointed members
	YES	NO	
63.	x		Will you support a city-wide lottery for enrollment in magnet schools?

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64.	x		Will you support LSCs in maintaining full powers, and support them through adequate funding levels that provide training and support for LSCs to do their jobs?
65.	x		Will you support a moratorium on school closings until a detailed analysis of the impacts of shuffling children is completed, and a real plan to address the quality of education and safety for every child is in place?
66.	x		Will you support development and implementation of a more comprehensive and accurate approach to evaluate student and teacher performance than reliance on the SAT and ACT tests?
67.		x	Would you favor repealing (or modifying) the 70% requirement for voting to authorize teacher strikes?
68.	ESSAY		What is your assessment of Renaissance 2010 and its implementation in your ward as well as the City as a whole? Please include in your assessment the role of charter schools as well as the power to reconstitute schools. I supported the Renaissance 2010 program. I believe that schools that are not meeting standards must be monitored and given guidance to make the appropriate changes necessary to educate our children. If a school should be closed students should have the first opportunity to attend the new charter school if one is available. Reconstituting a school should only happen if the schools fail to meet standards for 3 consecutive years. Before this happens we want to ensure everything possible was done to help the school succeed, we want to ensure that all education facilities are held accountable to meet the demands of quality education for our children.
69.	ESSAY		What should the City do to improve the quality of all local schools? School quality begins with changing school culture; this can be school leadership creating and fostering a stronger commitment to the community, parents, students, and their faculty. We need to also make sure that schools are provided with ample quality and beneficial professional development that allows for the continued growth of their seasoned and new staff members. Each community is unique and it is important for every school to reflect the needs of the community, we cannot provide a cookie cutter solution to all schools.
70.	ESSAY		What are your plans to improve the local schools in your ward? I will continue to meet with principals, staff, students, LSCs, and the community within the ward to hear what needs are and come to solutions to create plans for moving forward.
71.	ESSAY		How would you modify (if at all) the benefit and contribution levels and eligibility requirements for public school teacher pension? We cannot backtrack on what we have already promised our teachers, however we must look at the situation and determine if we will need an increase in the contribution from all parties involved. We will have to look at changing the levels for new members and possibly have an increase in their contribution to their pensions.
ENVIRONMENT			
72.	X		Will you vote for the Clean Power Ordinance?
73.		X	Will you vote to privatize Chicago's water delivery system?
74.	X		Will you vote to ban Styrofoam food containers in Chicago public schools?
75.	X		Will you vote to ban Styrofoam food containers in Chicago restaurants and food delivery services?
76.	X		Will you vote to adopt the water quality standards recommended by the Pollution Control Board?
77.	ESSAY		What should the City do to encourage and implement alternative forms of energy? The city has continued to be at the forefront of implementing alternative forms of energy. There are examples such as the Green/LEED certified schools and libraries. I support encouraging small business owners to utilize solar panels to reduce electrical energy dependence. The 30th Ward is home to solar panel light flashers, which has been used as a model for installation of additional light flashers in other area of the city. Our ward also has 2 green

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			houses.
78.	ESSAY		What other environmental initiatives, if any, do you propose? I support all initiatives that are for making our city more green and energy efficient.
PARKS			
79.	X		Do you support election of the Chicago Park District Board?
80.		X	Do you support increased privatization of park facilities and services?
	ESSAY		Why or why not? We may need to do some privatization, however it must be cost effective and must not diminish the level of quality that the Park District currently provides. I am a strong supporter of Chicago Park District Employees and do not wish to see their jobs replaced.
81.	X		Do you support prioritization of land acquisition and capital improvements first to those neighborhoods which are underserved by existing facilities?
TRANSPORTATION			
82.	X		Will you vote to increase the City subsidy to the CTA?
83.	Rank 1-5 or say no to any		Please indicate which CTA expansion plans, if any, you support and rank them in order of priority (1 highest)
	3		Red Line south to 130th Street
	4		Orange Line to Ford City Mall
	2		Downtown Circulator
	1		Downtown-O'Hare Express
	5		Other – please specify
	YES	NO	
84.	X		Do you support renegotiation of Chicago's parking meter privatization deal?
85.		X	Do you support privatization of Midway Airport?
86.	X		Do you support the O'Hare expansion plan?
CRIMINAL JUSTICE			
87.		X	Is 911 response time adequate?
	ESSAY		If not, how can it be improved? We need to increase the amount of dispatchers and officers. Our officers are stretched to thin and we need to support them by increasing the amount of officers available to respond to calls.
88.	X		Are there inequities in 911 service in your ward?
	ESSAY		If so, what can be done to redress them? As stated above, we need to hire more officers that are available to respond to calls.
89.	x		Do you support re-allocating police services from low-crime to high-crime neighborhoods?
90.	ESSAY		What changes, if any, would you suggest for the CAPS program? Staff must have more accountability in working with their districts.
91.	X		Will you vote for more funding for alternative crime prevention programs such as Cease Fire?
92.	ESSAY		What measures will you support to stop the schools to prison pipeline? We need to make sure that we have early intervention programs and more training for staff who need to recognize warning signs for the Children within the schools. We also need to offer more programs before and after school to keep students off the streets and doing productive work.
93.	X		Do you support gun control?
94.	ESSAY		What measures, if any, should the City Council adopt in response to recent court decisions striking down Chicago's handgun ban? We need to ensure that anyone who poses a handgun

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		is adequately trained and has been through the proper protocol.
95.	X	Will you vote to order the City to stop paying legal fees and attempt to recover past legal costs of city employees implicated in the Police Board findings of misconduct related to the Burge case?
96.	ESSAY	Please share your views regarding the functioning of the Independent Police Review Authority and whether it should operate more independently of the Police Department. I support an Independent review authority and believe that this office should be used to uphold the standards of the Police Department and hold officers who do not follow procedures accountable for their actions.
CIVIL RIGHTS		
97.	X	Do you support affirmative action based on race, gender and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees?
98.	X	Do you support affirmative action as a criteria in letting city contracts?
99.	ESSAY	Please comment on current participation of individuals with disabilities in city hiring and contracts. The City of Chicago strongly believes in diversity with hiring and contracts. This is evident with the establishment of the Mayors office of People's with Disabilities.
100.	ESSAY	Please comment on current women and minority participation in city hiring and contracts. Be sure your comments include firefighter and police officer recruitment and promotion. I strongly advocate for women and minorities participating in receiving city contracts. While receiving a contract is important, it is also critical that we have women and minority participation in managerial roles. Marketing efforts by both Police and Fire Departments show the city's commitment to diversity hiring and promotions.
101.	X	Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of city employees to institute gender-equal pay for jobs of comparable worth?
102.	X	Will you vote to require all City vendors and contractors to provide spousal benefits for same-sex partners of their employees?
103.	X	Will you vote for the Municipal ID ordinance?
	ESSAY	Why or why not? We have to look more at the program to receive details, this has to be more than just a way to increase revenue.
ALDERMANIC PRIORITIES		
104.	ESSAY	What employment, if any, other than alderman, do you intend to hold? None
105.	ESSAY	How will you divide your time between your aldermanic duties and your other occupation? N/A
106.	ESSAY	Please specify the minimum hours per week you will spend performing your aldermanic duties. 50-80 Hours per week
107.	ESSAY	Please describe your service office staffing plan, including the number of staff, full and part time, how you will pay for them, and the number of hours per week that your service office will be open. Utilizing funds allocated to run the Ward Office, I employ my Chief of Staff, Legislative Liaison, Scheduler/ Office Manager, Aldermanic Assistant, and Field Operations Assistant. My service office is open 5 Days a week from 8:30am- 6:00pm and on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month 10am-12pm, we also hold a ward night every Monday from 5:00-7:00pm.
108.	ESSAY	What services need improvement in your ward? How will you achieve this? We need to improve the delivery of City Services. To achieve this, I will work with my staff to ensure that all requests are put in to the 311 system and will continue to work with the individual city departments to make sure our service requests are completed.
109.	ESSAY	What are your top priorities for the Ward? Our top priorities for the Ward are to continue to push city services to our residents, economic development, increase fair market housing

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		<p>with a affordable component, and working with the community to recognize the needs of our seniors and youth. I will also be working to engage the new portion of our ward and educate them on the role of their Alderman office. I will work to provide them with additional information on how to be involved within their community and what city services are available to them.</p>
110.	ESSAY	<p>How will you work with community groups and residents on City matters? I will continue to use community meetings to host discussions with our residents. In addition, I host a “State of the Ward” every year to address specific concerns and statistics that are brought to my attention. I will also work with the 30th Ward Advisory Council that is made up of community leaders. I will sponsor quarterly meetings with this council to obtain and share their feedback. Once a week I host a Ward night out of our office, where residents are able to come with no appointment necessary to speak with me and my staff regarding any concerns they may have. I will also continue our town hall meetings in different areas of the ward to make it accessible for residents who may not be able to make it out to our ward nights.</p>