

City of Miami 2019 Voter Guide

Candidate Responses



Our Future. Our City. Our Vote. Election Day: Nov 5, 2019

Question 2: Affordable Housing

Affordable housing is a crisis in our city. What will you do to create and preserve affordable housing for low-income residents and renters, especially near the urban core?

District 1 Candidate Responses

Horacio Aguirre

I once played a role in creating a consortium of banks that created a non-bank lending agency that funded commercial projects in underprivileged areas. I intend to create a similar financial creature for low income housing for young people and senior citizens.

Verania "Betty" Hermida

By raising the bar on requirements to provide strong community benefits attached to large-scale developments, to include inclusionary housing requirements for low to moderate income families and individuals.

Eleazar Meléndez

I will push the city commission to declare a housing emergency in the City of Miami, which will open up a new toolbox of zoning options and put price control on the table. I will also push the city commission to enact a new impact fee for property owners who choose to keep blighted lots or vacant luxury condos, based on the impact that has on housing costs, and use the funds to subsidize rents or build new affordable units.

District 2 Candidate Responses

Javier Gonzalez

Will fund future "Affordable Housing Finance Corp" to allow preservation and expansion of existing housing stock where applicable.

Rosy Palomino

1) Preserve our naturally affordable housing by protecting our single family home neighborhoods. 2) Sunset "Special Area Plans" and/or requires such zoning applications to go to a referendum. 3) Allow more live/work living arrangements beyond a home office. 4) Create a Miami Housing Authority, get county out of the way.

Ken Russell

I helped structure and campaigned for the Miami Forever Bond, which provides \$100M in funding for affordable housing that will be leveraged to obtain matching funding from County, State, & Federal partners. The bond is overseen by a community advisory board with a social justice seat that I added and is guided by an action plan put together in partnership with FIU's Metropolitan Center.

This voter guide was created by Engage Miami. All candidates in District 1 and District 2 were sent questionnaires. We have included only the responses of candidates who submitted a response.