City of Miami 2019 Voter Guide Candidate Responses

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

Question 5: Campaign Finance Reform
Would you support campaign finance reform, including prohibiting donations by City vendors and lobbyists? Please explain your response.

District 1 Candidate Responses

Horacio Aguirre
I would indeed encourage campaign reform. The shenanigans and unlawful acts that today are part of a political campaign would shock the voters and media if it were reported. Reform is urgently needed and active oversight of campaigning conduct is needed.

Verania "Betty" Hermida
Lack of transparency and campaign corruption have made it very difficult for more qualified, grassroots, individuals to seek public office and allow for positive changes in our government system. It seems that special interests, corporations and individuals, are the ones steering the election ship. I would look forward to such a change.

Eleazar Meléndez
I will push for increased transparency, including for commissioners to disclose, at the time they take a vote, any contributions received or sought from parties that will be affected by said vote.

District 2 Candidate Responses

Javier Gonzalez
Yes, in 2015 I was the ONLY City Commissioner Candidate that signed on for campaign reform. It's simple 50K max for City Commission Campaigns and 250k max (5 districts x 50k) for Mayor.

Rosy Palomino
Yes! I call money from vendors, developers and lobbyists in political campaigns essentially "blood money." We are literally allowing our elected positions to be auctioned to the highest bidder!

Ken Russell
I am a proponent for transparency over outright bans that drive fundraising further underground. I have introduced the first digital and searchable campaign finance database and associated lobbyist tracker so that you can know who's giving money to who and who's lobbying who.