

# District 11 Candidate Questionnaire

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**CANDIDATES FROM EACH OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S 13 DISTRICTS WERE ASKED QUESTIONS ON THE TOPICS OF DEMOCRACY, HOUSING, CLIMATE, SAFETY, AND TRANSPORTATION.**

All candidates with more than \$1,000 fundraised as of June 1st were invited to respond to the following questionnaire. Candidate responses to each question will be listed alphabetically.

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The following candidates did not respond:  
**Joe A. Martinez**



**Having a local government that is responsive to residents and gives everyone an equal voice is crucial for democracy. What specific policy changes would you pursue to expand civic participation and reduce the influence of special interests?**

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## **ROBERT ASENCIO**

COVID response to recovery; Increase Housing Affordability (AH) Programs for Renters & Buyers; Small Business Investment; Job Creation; Workforce Development Training / Employment Partnerships; Prioritizing Improved Delivery of Public Services; Fortifying Safety Net Policies Against Expansion of UDB; our immediate needs are extensive - please visit <https://robertasencio.com/issues/> for more.

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## **CRISTHIAN MANCERA**

It is very important to allow the community to be a part of the discussions at The Miami-Dade board of commissioners. Being able to build bridges and listen to all in the community, allows the process to be more effective and the fundamental principle of governance is applied. The people work hand in hand with the elected official to build a better community.



**An analysis by Apartment List shows 62.7% of renters in Miami are cost-burdened, the highest percentage of the nation's 100 largest metro areas. Why do you think this is and what are the most important steps you'll take to address this problem?**

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## **ROBERT ASENCIO**

Prior to COVID 59% of households in MD were either at poverty or 1 to 2 paychecks away from economic disaster.

Higher now. I seek policies that invest in workforce development & jobs creation in high wage emerging industries & revamp AH assistance & development programs. Currently only two builders are authorized to build AH in MD. Lobby for use of state Sadowski Trust Fund in MD.

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## **CRISTHIAN MANCERA**

We have allowed for years that developers and real estate companies determine how the prices evolve in our county based on the rich and wealthy foreigners and not those who live here and contribute for the growth of the county. We need to demand affordable housing but not only at the most disadvantaged part of our society, but also at the middle class of our society.



**Climate change is a massive challenge to Miami and is particularly harmful to under-resourced communities. What are your plans to make us more resilient and sustainable? How will you ensure all communities have access to resources to adapt and thrive?**

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## **ROBERT ASENCIO**

Present policy changes that mandate increased resiliency in new prop. developments. Negotiate with FPL, Co. & stakeholders for economic incentives on improvement by them & home owners. Work closely with MD Resiliency Office and community on innovative improvement measures. Lastly, local jobs creation will reduce carbon foot print caused by commuters forced to leave areas of homes for work.

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## **CRISTHIAN MANCERA**

By making the environment a priority and not an ideological issue. This is a human issue and we need to work together on building bridges to make this issue part of the conversation. It cannot continue to be ignored.



**The County spends over \$1 billion dollars of the budget on police and corrections. How do you weigh this against making investments in communities to tackle issues such as homelessness, education, and public health?**

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**ROBERT ASENCIO**

Ensuring public safety is a joint community effort. I seek to audit budget of PD and public service providers to ensure appropriate funding of safety (sworn and non-sworn) health programs. The legislature has been defunding support services. As a legislator, I fought and will continue to fight for funding for services like mental health, arrest diversion, homeless assistance, AH, etc.

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**CRISTHIAN MANCERA**

We must find resources to invest in our communities but defunding our law enforcement agencies is not an option. We must make the use of the resources we have and invest them appropriately but defunding is not an option nor is ignoring our most disadvantaged communities.



# Given the lack of reliable and easily accessible **public transportation**, what are your plans to expand public transportation options for constituents?

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## **ROBERT ASENCIO**

Demand full allocation of half penny sales tax to improving public transportation - as taxpayers were promised. Hold Mayor and County Transportation Director accountable to this. Lobby for added state & federal funding. Fight to stop or reverse passed policies that divert or limit use of transportation funding. To start.

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## **CRISTHIAN MANCERA**

I will be a champion of mass transit alternatives and my priorities will be focused in finally bringing change to how we use public transport in Miami Dade. Extension of metro rail, BRT And the building of smart stations along key corridors like Kendall drive and Killian parkway. Along with using existing rails to build a unified transport system.

