



## District 9: Johnny Farias

**CANDIDATE RESPONSES TO THE ENGAGE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AUGUST 2020 VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE ARE BELOW.**

**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?**

I would sponsor an ordinance that would make it mandatory that every registered voter receive a vote-by-mail application. And to receive a call or email within 48 hrs, if one is provided, if their Vote-by-Mail ballot is rejected for any reason in order to give voters a chance to cure their signature.

**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?**

A lack of good paying jobs to meet a good living wage is a part of the underlying problem. We also must reform the PHCD, MDEAT and NHSSF to help renters become homeowners.

**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?**

It is hard but it has been done in this county before. We must change our building code, like we did after Hurricane Andrew.

**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?**

There is no cost on safety. As elected officials, we must balance other quality of life issues. I will deal with these investments the same way I've always done my entire life, by setting priorities, which is why we have elections. And priorities reflect our values and our values reflect what is most important when setting priorities as an elected official.

**GIVEN THE LACK OF RELIABLE AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS TO EXPAND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR CONSTITUENTS?**

One of the two emergencies in this county, this is one of them. Rail, Rail and rail. Leaders lead and priorities reflect our values.

