



**TULSANS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY**  
*Safety. Prosperity. Community.*

## 2022 CITY OF TULSA COUNCIL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Estimated time to complete is 5 minutes**

DATE: August 16, 2022

SENT VIA EMAIL, PHONE, OR  
AVAILABLE AT [TULSANSFORPUBLICSAFETY.COM/SURVEYS](https://tulsansforpublicsafety.com/surveys)

Michael Birkes  
1021 E 7Th St  
Tulsa, OK 74120

Dear Michael,  
Cc: Channel 2, 6, 8, 23, the Tulsa World, et. al.

My name is Stephanie and I have the privilege of serving as the President of Tulsans for Public Safety, Inc. We are a 501(c)3 non-profit, non-partisan organization comprised of Tulsa citizens with animal welfare background and experience, healthcare professionals, veterinary professionals, wildlife biologists, science-based professionals and property owners. While there are numerous public safety issues we care about as citizens who love and live in Tulsa, in this year's Candidate Questionnaire for Tulsa City Council Candidates, we are focusing on animal welfare and its relationship to public health and safety.

For the past two years, the City of Tulsa Animal Welfare Commission has been evaluating Tulsa's animal welfare issues, including a proposal to implement a Trap-Neuter-Release ("TNR") program regarding feral cats. The Commission has studied the issues and has not yet made a recommendation. They plan further analysis and discussion before doing so. Proponents of TNR also refer to "TNR" as "community cats", "cat colonies", etc. TNR means trapping, neutering, and releasing feral cats into public parks or neighborhoods. Feral cats expose the public to rabies and other serious diseases, including a deadly parasite uniquely attributable to cats, called "toxoplasmosis" that causes fetal death and profound congenital birth defects and is linked to neuropsychiatric and behavioral disorders.

We respectfully ask for your response to the attached survey. **The deadline is Saturday, August 20, 2022. We will text a downloadable link of your responses to voters of your district before Tuesday, August 23, 2022.** Please also note that while we are not eligible to endorse your campaign, individuals from our roster of 1,500 donors, activists, and supporters may. Your responses, or lack thereof, will be shared with our supporters. We appreciate your timely response.

Sincerely,

*-Stephanie*

Stephanie G., President  
Tulsans for Public Safety, Inc. 1611 S Utica Ave #177, Tulsa, OK 74104-4904  
Cc: Team, Supporters, and General Counsel

ENCLOSURES

### **Please Return Your Completed Questionnaire to:**

Tulsans for Public Safety, Inc., via email: [info@tulsansforpublicsafety.com](mailto:info@tulsansforpublicsafety.com)  
You may mail an additional hard copy to: 1611 S Utica Ave #177, Tulsa, OK 74104-4904

**LEARN MORE AT:** [www.TulsansforPublicSafety.com](http://www.TulsansforPublicSafety.com)



## 2022 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE FOR TULSA CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Your (Candidate) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Your (Candidate) Phone Number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Campaign Donation Link: \_\_\_\_\_

***We cannot donate as an organization. Individuals who support your position(s) on these response(s) may have eligibility to contribute up to \$2,900 or \$5,800 as a couple. Please refer to campaign finance law for more information.***

### **I. Please answer YES, NO, or UNSURE to the following (8) questions:**

1. Do you believe the City of Tulsa should be enforcing its existing animal welfare ordinance(s)? Yes No Unsure
2. Do you expect the City of Tulsa to conduct independent due diligence when considering new policies, rather than accepting at face value claims of biased special interest groups? Yes No Unsure
3. Do you believe the city should spend taxpayer dollars on animal control policies that are controversial and have been rejected as ineffective and harmful-by legitimate, reputable animal care experts, healthcare professionals, veterinarian groups, conservation groups and property owners? Yes No Unsure
4. Do you want city officials to be fully transparent with the public regarding animal welfare, include all relevant stakeholder input prior to implementing controversial policies where residents, healthcare professionals, animal welfare experts, wildlife biologists, veterinarians have raised legitimate concerns? Yes No Unsure
5. Do you believe the city's Tulsa Animal Welfare department should be free to disregard existing animal ordinances and pursue activities that the public has challenged to be ideological and ineffective? Yes No Unsure
6. Do you believe the city's Tulsa Animal Welfare department should be restricted from closely aligning with third-party organization(s) to prevent a "conflict of interest" when making decisions regarding his/her duties?  
Yes No Unsure
7. Let's assume the animal shelter is full and there's no room left for admitting a feral/stray cat or dog and that those feeding feral cats, have the option to contain/fence a limited number on their own property (e.g., "catios") and work with national groups to construct and maintain contained cat sanctuaries. Which method do you believe would then be best?  
 A. Trap, neuter, promote adoption and if no one adopts or contains, humanely euthanize the animal  
 B. Trap, neuter, promote adoption and if no one adopts release stray/feral animals into public park, rights of way, or neighborhoods  
 C. Humanely euthanize the stray/feral animal because it should not be the City of Tulsa's responsibility to care for it or expect taxpayers to do so
8. If elected, would you vote in favor of a TNR program? Yes No Unsure

### **II. Please rate the following on a scale of 1-10, with 1 being not important and 10 being very important:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Public health and safety considerations and inclusive evaluation and study regarding releases of strays
- \_\_\_\_\_ Rights of citizens to have recourse for damage caused by released cats and to prevent released TNR cats on their property for health or other concerns
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tax dollars spent on surgeries for injured or diseased stray/feral cats

Candidate Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ District #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Return Your Completed Questionnaire to:**  
Tulsans for Public Safety, Inc., via email: [info@tulsansforpublicsafety.com](mailto:info@tulsansforpublicsafety.com)