

Questions for Pittsburgh City Council District candidates:

1. HUMANE ACTION Pittsburgh is seeking to shape Pittsburgh into ‘America’s Model Humane City’. This means participating in an open dialogue on animal protection, working to end animal cruelty for all animals and passing protective legislation where needed.

What are your plans to protect animals and can you support our goals to make Pittsburgh America’s Model Humane City?

Answer: Increase Fines and Jail Time for Animal Abusers
I support the goals to make Pittsburgh America's Model Humane City.

2. The resilience strategy “ONEPgh” calls for a 50% reduction of the meat consumed in our city by 2030. This is in keeping with the United Nations recommendation to combat climate change, which states: The #1 corrective action is to greatly reduce or give up meat entirely. This is more impactful to the environment than discontinuing the use of cars and airplanes altogether.

What are your plans to protect animals and the environment through meat reduction?

Answer: I cannot answer this question at this time

3. Plastic pollution is a growing problem worldwide, and in the city of Pittsburgh. HAP’s “no plastic please” campaign works to end single-use plastic wherever possible. We also encourage people to examine their dietary choices as approximately half of the plastic in the ocean is from commercial fishing.

What are your plans to reduce or eliminate plastic use in the City of Pittsburgh?

Answer: I do not think that plastics will be eliminated but any policy that you put in place I will support.

4. Our city has one of the worst wildlife trapping policies, meaning highest kill rate, for a city of our size in the United States. Residents have become used to calling Animal Care & Control to trap groundhogs, raccoons and skunks which must then be euthanized at tax payer expense. For the most part, trapping is a temporary solution as other animals will fill the void, leading a cycle of trapping and killing.

Will you prioritize an education campaign for Pittsburgh residents that separates wildlife myth from reality and support a policy change to reduce the amount of needless trapping?

Yes I will support this policy.

Answer:

5. The Pittsburgh Zoo is currently ranked the #2 Worst Zoo in the County for elephants. They are in violation of their lease with the City of Pittsburgh for failing to maintain AZA accreditation. Further, no satisfactory answer has been received from the Zoo or the City as to whether the Zoo is following city law, which bans the use of bullhooks and other instruments of pain on elephants.

What are your plans to ensure the Pittsburgh Zoo follows city law and regains their AZA accreditation?

Answer: I would have to review the lease and get knowledge on what is going on and to go over the laws

6. Please let our members know what you have done in the past to protect animals.

Work at the Animal Rescue League
Been with animals all my life