

Shape Tomorrow. Vote Today. Lowell Votes C/O CBA, 517 Moody St. 3rd Floor Lowell, MA 01854 info@lowellvotes.org

Lowell Votes Candidate Policy

Lowell Votes recognizes that maintaining a non-partisan stance in a politically active world can be a thin tightrope to walk. We welcome any who are interested in furthering our mission of improving citizen engagement in our city, as long as they can maintain reasonable neutrality while representing Lowell Votes.

City Councilors, Representatives, and other Elected Officials as well as previous office holders and people running for these offices are welcome at our events. With the exception of meetings that are intended to be working groups for committees, we allow candidates to introduce themselves and speak briefly about their issues. In these cases, a designated time for candidate introductions will be given, and all candidates at the event will be offered equal opportunity within that designated time.

To avoid any appearance of endorsement, we maintain the following limitations, with "candidates" defined as anybody who has pulled papers or publicly announced a run for an elected office in the current election year:

- 1. We respectfully decline any donations from candidates.
- 2. We respectfully ask candidates not to participate in activities in which they would represent Lowell Votes, such as (but not limited to) canvassing and tabling.
- 3. We respectfully ask anyone else participating in such activities to refrain from wearing any paraphernalia representing a candidate, party, or opinion on a ballot question while doing so.
- 4. Unless otherwise allowed during special events such as candidate nights or rallies, we respectfully ask attendees of Lowell Votes events not to distribute or post literature specific to a candidate, party, or opinion on a ballot question.
- 5. Candidates are not eligible to win contests, raffles, or other activities in which there are prizes with cash value other than Lowell Votes paraphernalia such as buttons.
- 6. Candidates may attend steering committee meetings, but are prohibited from being a voting member of the steering committee as defined by Lowell Votes bylaws.

We know that a more civically engaged and educated population benefits everyone, and we look forward to working with anyone who shares that goal!