

Name	City/Municipality	Running For:	District:
Zachary Typhair	Kingston	Councillor	Pittsburgh
Will you promote municipal policies and investments that create and maintain good stable and fairly paid jobs in our community? Yes/No			
Yes			
If elected, what specific action will you take to fulfill this commitment?			
If elected, I will support municipal investments that create stable, fairly paid employment while ensuring public funds provide strong value for taxpayers. I will support maintaining a strong municipal workforce, investing in infrastructure and public services, and using the City's procurement policies to support Ontario and Canadian businesses and local economic activity where legally permitted. I will also support reviewing major municipal investments for their long-term impact on local employment and economic sustainability.			
Will you oppose the sale of public land and the corporatization (decision-making in the hands of a board independent of city council) out of municipal services when those services can be effectively delivered by municipal employees? Yes/No			
Yes			
If elected, what specific action will you take to fulfill this commitment?			
If elected, I will oppose the unnecessary sale of public land and the transfer of municipal services to corporations when those services can be effectively delivered by City employees. I have yet to see privatization deliver better results for the public, and I believe it too often comes at the cost of transparency and accountability. I will push to keep essential services publicly owned and accountable to City Council and residents, while protecting the good municipal jobs that deliver those services. Before supporting any proposal to sell public land or change how a municipal service is delivered, I will look at the long-term cost, impact on workers, service quality, and public accountability.			
What will you do to make housing more affordable? Affordable to whom?			
Affordable housing needs to mean housing that people can actually afford based on their income, not simply a unit that is cheaper than the market average. That includes minimum-wage workers, working families, seniors, young people and people on fixed incomes. If elected, I will support increasing the supply of housing while making better use of City-owned land and supporting non-profit and co-operative housing providers. I will also support protecting existing affordable housing and using City planning and housing programs to encourage more affordable rental and ownership options. Housing policy should be focused on what people can realistically afford, not just how many new units are built.			
Talk about your approach to homelessness & investing in social housing.			
If elected, I will support greater investment in social, supportive and non-profit housing that provides people with more than just a place to sleep. Wraparound housing should connect people with the supports they need to stay housed, including mental health and addiction services, employment assistance and other community supports. Emergency shelters are important, but they should not be the end goal. We need to help people move from homelessness into stable housing and give them the support needed to remain there. I would also work with the federal and provincial governments, surrounding municipalities and community organizations to coordinate funding and services, because homelessness does not stop at municipal boundaries.			

Will you stand up for workers' rights and safe, fair workplaces? Yes/No

Yes

If elected, what specific action will you take to fulfill this commitment?

If elected, I will stand up for workers' rights, safe workplaces and fair treatment. I will support the right to organize and collectively bargain, and I will expect the City to be a fair employer to its own workforce.

When the City awards contracts or considers changing how a service is delivered, I will look at the impact on workers, including wages, job security, safety and working conditions. I will not assume that contracting out is automatically better or cheaper for the public. Where the City has control over procurement, I will support policies that encourage good jobs, safe workplaces and fair employment practices. I will also support apprenticeships and training opportunities that help people build long-term careers in our community.

Most importantly, I will listen directly to municipal workers and their unions when decisions before Council affect their jobs and working conditions. Workers should have a voice when decisions are being made about the services they provide.

Will you support using public dollars in ways that strengthen public services, support good local jobs and provide the greatest benefit to the local community? Yes/No

Yes

How will you make sure public dollars support strong services, good jobs and our local community?

I will treat public money as money entrusted to the City by residents. Before supporting major spending, I will look at whether it strengthens public services, supports good local jobs and provides a clear benefit to our community. I will support investing in City services and infrastructure rather than cutting services simply to reduce costs in the short term.

I will scrutinize major contracts and procurement decisions, including the long-term costs of contracting out services. Where the City has discretion, I will support keeping work local and using procurement to support good jobs and responsible employers, while following applicable procurement and trade rules.

I also want to bring back community bonds as a way for residents to invest directly in local projects and keep more of the benefit of those investments within our community. Finally, I will push for greater transparency around major spending decisions so residents can see where their money is going and what they are getting in return.

What is your position on the use of Section 107 of the Canadian Labour Code and government intervention during legal strikes?

Yes, I believe workers deserve to have their voices heard, and that includes having the ability to withdraw their labour when negotiations have reached an impasse. A legal strike is not something workers take lightly; people are putting their paycheques and livelihoods on the line because they believe they have no other way to be heard.

I do not support governments routinely using Section 107 of the Canada Labour Code to end legal strikes or take away workers' bargaining power. Collective bargaining only works when both sides have meaningful leverage at the table. If governments can simply step in and end a legal strike whenever it becomes difficult or inconvenient, that leverage is weakened.

Government intervention should be reserved for truly exceptional circumstances involving a serious and demonstrated public interest, after every reasonable effort to reach a negotiated agreement has been exhausted. Workers should not have to wonder whether the government will take away their legal right to strike simply because their employer and government find the dispute difficult.

I will always stand up for workers' right to organize, bargain collectively and have a meaningful voice in their workplace.

Will you support municipal policies and services that promote equity, inclusion, accessibility and equal opportunity for all members of our community? Yes/No

Yes

If elected, what specific action will you take to fulfill this commitment?

As a white man, I recognize that there are barriers to inclusion and accessibility that I have never personally had to navigate. I don't want to pretend that I understand those experiences better than the people who live them. I believe the first step is for Council to actually listen.

If elected, I will make a point of speaking directly with people who experience barriers in our community, including people with disabilities, people facing poverty, seniors, newcomers and others who may have difficulty accessing City services or participating fully in community life. Their experiences should be part of the conversation before decisions are made, not an afterthought once a policy has already been adopted.

That means looking at accessibility in our public spaces, sidewalks, transit, housing, recreation, libraries and City services. It also means making sure residents can communicate with the City, understand the information they receive and participate in decisions that affect them.

I don't believe inclusion is achieved by simply passing a policy and checking a box. It starts with Council being willing to listen to people who face these barriers, understand what is actually getting in their way, and then make practical changes based on what we hear. As a councillor, I will make that part of how I approach decisions at Council.

Will you advocate for the protection of local jobs and programs at St. Lawrence College? Yes/No

Will you oppose reductions in library staffing that results in fewer services or reduced access for local residents? Yes/No

Will you advocate for maintaining reliable accessible door to door mail delivery for local residents particularly seniors, people with disabilities and others who rely on home delivery? Yes/No

Yes

Yes

Yes

If elected, what specific action will you take to fulfill this commitment?

I will use my position as a councillor to advocate for these services and the workers who provide them. For St. Lawrence College, I will support protecting local programs and good local jobs and work with the College, students, workers and other levels of government when decisions threaten them.

The Pittsburgh Library is particularly important to me. I live directly across from the branch, and I have heard the concerns about staffless hours and what that means for access and safety. This is not only a labour issue for me; it is also a public safety and accessibility issue. I have a personal understanding of why having staff present matters. As someone who experiences seizure episodes, the idea of relying on an entirely unstaffed public facility is deeply concerning. If someone has a medical emergency, there needs to be someone there who can recognize what is happening and get help.

I will oppose reductions in library staffing that result in fewer services, reduced access or compromised safety. Libraries are public services, and residents should be able to use them knowing that assistance is available when they need it.

On mail delivery, I will advocate to Canada Post and the federal government for reliable, accessible door-to-door delivery, particularly for seniors, people with disabilities and residents who cannot easily travel to community mailboxes.

For me, these commitments are about more than budgets. They are about the people who provide these services and the people who depend on them. I will listen to workers and residents, bring their concerns to Council and advocate with the appropriate level of government when an issue falls outside municipal jurisdiction.