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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 3th, 2021

## **Response from ROOSEVELT The People's Mayor of Atlanta**

1. At a time when police-citizen relations are especially strained, how would you fight crime in Atlanta while also combating police brutality and staying conscious of many marginalized people's wariness of law enforcement?
  - a. **Everyday an officer puts on their uniform, badge and gun. The sole duty is to protect and serve the residents of their jurisdiction. Many times they forget this simple motto which leads to police brutality in most cases. My administration will implement several orders and introduce key pieces of legislation aimed at securing the safety, peace, and prosperity of Atlanta while easing tension on officers and freeing up non-emergency space. One key piece of legislation will be the "Protect and Serve Quota" requiring officers to do just that, protect and serve on each shift by positively engaging with the public.**
2. Crime has become the hottest topic of the Atlanta mayor's race. What policy issues do you think are being overshadowed that deserve more of the spotlight?
  - a. **Poverty and Homelessness. Unfortunately career politicians don't understand the severity of the issue. Lack of resources leads to hunger. Hunger leads to anger. Anger leads to crime. The pattern is simple to follow but some just choose to ignore it all. We have been clouded with corruption for decades and The People are finally starting to question where the money is going... Once we fully commit to addressing the poverty issue and wealth gap then the transformation will begin. Being that I have been homeless before, I know that any decisions made will truly be in the interest of The People.**
3. Housing experts have said Atlanta is in dire need of residential units that are affordable for households earning 50 percent of the area median income or less. How would you advocate for boosting the city's affordable housing stock?
  - a. **On day one, the plan is to introduce legislation to the city council making way for modular homes and buildings to be placed throughout the city. These cost efficient, sustainable homes, condos,**

**apartments, and centers, will be utilized to pick up those who have fallen. This technology has the capabilities of building an entire home in 24-48 hours. This will not only give us the opportunity to begin construction immediately but will allow those in need a chance to move in within a few weeks. With over 700 acres of unused, city-owned land, we have more than enough space to make this possible.**

4. As the population grows, Atlanta is aching for a world-class mass transit system. How would you leverage the existing transit network, public money, and relationships with neighboring governments to create a web of bus lines, train tracks, and bike paths to accommodate the many Atlantans who can't or would prefer not to rely on cars?
  - a. **The parks and recs departments receive over \$40 million per year, not to mention TSPLOST money. We have to see where the money has been going and redirect it to creating more public sidewalks. I have heard several complaints from parents and residents who do not feel safe walking to the store or down the block due to the lack of available sidewalks. We need more biking trails and I plan to hire the best Transit Advisor in the nation. We should look at other countries whose transit is far better, and see where we can improve ours.**
5. Would you change the way the city provides public incentives to developers? How would you utilize the influence of the mayor's office to advocate for reforms at Fulton County's embattled development authority?
  - a. **Most definitely. Right now they only provide them to the top dogs or ones whom they will receive a "kickback" from. We have to provide incentives all across the board. My administration will open an investigation into how prior funds were spent on top of how contracts were awarded. We will work to secure peace and advocate for a revitalization of the development authority regardless of what obstacles may arise.**
6. What can you tell voters to ensure them that your mayoral administration would prioritize government accountability and transparency? How would you prevent corruption on your watch?
  - a. **I'm a person not a politician. No prior pay for play politics. No bribes, no investigations, no indictments, no subpoenas, and no federal cases. I have dedicated my life to holding those myself and those around me accountable. The tract read displayed has many residents ready to annex or simply leave the GA all together. My administration has plans to audit and investigate each city department within 5 weeks of inauguration. In addition city officials will not be allowed to use government credit cards pending an investigation. We will #StopFraudCity**
7. As Atlanta grows, many residents and leaders believe it's imperative that we maintain our "city in the forest" nickname. What will you do to preserve the city's green canopy, and how do concerns of clearcutting factor into city decisions about major

developments, such as the so-called “Cop City,” which is slated for development where a premier green space was once promised?

- a. My administration would introduce legislation designed to protect the city’s green canopy. For far too long city hall has ignored the needs and wants of the people. Only making it possible for them to each take a little off the top. All you have to do is follow the money. Even when it comes down to “cop city” the money should be followed. Simply because we all know too well that contracts rarely fall in the hands of small business owners and contractors.**
8. What high-profile developments do you think will have the largest impact on the fabric of the city, and how will you monitor those projects to ensure they don’t become engines for rampant gentrification?
  - a. Many of these projects have already led to rampant gentrification so what we have to do now is repair. Go back and ensure those families have a secure place once their home is sold. That is why I support the work of ALT. By establishing relationships with community members and installing protections against gentrification. We will soon see the change we are longing to see.**
9. Why should Buckhead residents want their community to remain part of the City of Atlanta? Or, if you think secession is a better move, why?
  - a. Buckhead should get to choose who governs them. Therefore if they want to govern themselves by majority vote then they should be afforded the right to do so. We all live in a free country where anything is possible. Buckhead feels left out and so would I.. Only question is. What do we do today? I’ve spoken to Bill White directly and he assured me that Buckhead city was happening. We ought to be right when it gets here.**
10. How will you work to reduce the financial, cultural, and public health devastation of the Covid-19 pandemic? If the delta variant is still raging next year, would you consider shutdowns, curfews, and/or mask or vaccine mandates?
  - a. We are at a point of almost no return. Suicide, depression, anxiety, and being stressed out due to the lack of interaction with friends and family. America is under experimentation and we are all witnessing it first hand. I will do whatever it takes to ensure that we collaborate with APS, parents and those who fight daily for the choice to choose. I do not support mandated lockdowns or curfews. We saw how this destroyed businesses and the livelihood of so many. The time to rise up is finally here!**
11. Historically, officials at Atlanta City Hall have butted heads with those at the Gold Dome. How would you work together with the governor and the Republican-controlled statehouse to combat the coronavirus?
  - a. I am super excited to work with the governor simply because I am ready to negotiate and vouch for the cleanse of city hall. They have been using COVID as a cash cow and now they want to make vaccinations mandatory throughout the nation. Where did we go**

**wrong? That is why my relationship with the Governor is key and vital to the success of the progress.**

It is an honor to be afforded this opportunity and I look forward to speaking with you all.

Stay Blessed and Be Safe!

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*Roosevelt Searles III*  
The People's Mayor Of Atlanta