



Progressive Newton 2023 Municipal Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Holly Ryan

Office Sought: Ward 8 Councilor

Website: <https://www.holly-ryan.org>

Facebook: [Holly Ryan Newton City Councilor](#)

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- 1. Did you support the three override votes on the ballot this past spring? If not, why?**

Yes. Will continue to search for funding and remaining ARPA funding should be used for NPS. I believe in academic diversity.

- 2. Following the Override votes, what concrete actions will you take to ensure that NPS students have the greatest opportunities to succeed? Additionally, how do you define “academic excellence”?**

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- 3. On March 29th, the School Committee voted against the creation of a “NPS Academic Principles Advisory Committee.” What is your stance on this vote and the proposed committee?**

I agree with the vote because the APAC was a false narrative. As a Trans Women and one of the people responsible for our present non-discrimination laws in the Commonwealth, I was fighting for DEI before it was called DEI.

4. What does “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion” mean to you, and how will you ensure and protect the wellbeing of all students?

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5. What does “Black Lives Matter” mean to you?

There is still racism and violence towards people of color. We must remain vigilant.

6. How would you improve access to affordable transportation in Newton?

Public transportation should be free to all.

7. What concrete steps will you take to combat global climate change, increase renewable energy, and decrease energy consumption in Newton?

I am a supporter of the Green New Deal. I support Newton’ Climate Action Plan.

8. What value do you place on increasing affordable housing in Newton, and what concrete steps will you take to expand affordable housing?

I am a big supporter of the Housing Trust. Newton must work in collaboration with State, Federal funding.

9. What is your definition of public safety? What actions will you take to further this definition in Newton?

A welcoming city.

10. What do you believe is the role of local elected leaders in promoting progressive policies at the state and national level?

To be outspoken and take part in the debate.

11. Use this space to add anything you have not mentioned and that you would like us to know about your experience, vision for Newton, etc.

YES/NO (Massachusetts state legislature bill numbers follow in parentheses, where applicable)

1. Do you support lowering the municipal voting age to 16?

YES.

2. If the MBTA is unable to expand service, would you be in favor of having the MWRTA (MetroWest Regional Transit Authority) expand service instead?

YES.

3. Do you support the “Real Estate Transfer Fee”? (S.1771/H.2747)

YES.

4. Do you support the “HERO bill”? (S.1799/ H.2894)

YES.

5. Do you support “An Act to Promote Yes in My Backyard”? (S.858/ H.1379)

YES.

6. Do you support raising the minimum wage to \$20? (S.1200/ H.1925)

YES.

7. Do you support “Preventing Fair Share Amendment Tax Avoidance”? (S.1866/H.2909)

YES.

[*Read about the aforementioned bills here*](#)