



## Progressive Framingham/MetroWest 2023 Municipal Candidate Questionnaire

**Name:** Katie Robey

**Office Sought:** Marlborough City Councilor At-Large

**Website:** <https://www.katierobey.com>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/kdr4mbo>

**Twitter:** n/a

**Instagram:** n/a

### **What would be your top three priorities if elected to serve?**

Finding site for new westside fire station/approve bonding; discuss/approve zoning for MBTA communities; continue steady, predictable tax rates for residents thru continued growth in city

### **What is the one policy you've seen pioneered in another city that you'd most like to see adopted in Marlborough?**

I don't have one.

**1. Same Day Registration is one of the best-proven methods of increasing voter participation in elections. Do you support allowing voters to newly register or re-register at the polls on Election Day and during the Early Voting period? (Y/N)**

YES.

**2. What steps would you propose to reduce income and wealth inequality in Marlborough?**

I'm not sure the role of a councilor is to reduce income/wealth inequality in any community. we can work to offer services to low income residents, have affordable housing options, continue to seek out grants to offer support

**3. Do you support local government investment in the fight against climate change including solar panel programs, purchasing electric or hybrid vehicles, and encouraging composting? (Y/N)**

YES.

**4. Do you support Metrowest communities including Marlborough adopting the opt-in stretch energy code that would increase sustainability in construction? (Y/N)**

YES.

**5. Do you support or oppose the expansion of charter schools in Massachusetts? (Y/N)**

It depends, too many charter schools in a community has a great impact on the non-charter public schools; not supportive in general, but they are here to stay so need to make case that they aren't always "a better option."

**6. Do you believe that Black Lives Matter and support police accountability measures and policies that will protect black lives? (Y/N)**

YES.

**7. Do you support a careful examination of the role of school resource officers (SRO) in Metrowest schools in the context of potential psychological harm done to students of color? (Y/N)**

Across the board, no; if there are specific communities with issues, then yes.

**8. How would you expand affordable housing in our community?**

Marlborough is an MBTA adjacent community. We have draft language for amending zoning but need to scrutinize it further. We have language in our zoning where affordable housing is required for some, but are proposing amendments to require all to have a percentage of affordable.

**9. Do you support local measures to address misinformation coming from crisis pregnancy centers? (Y/N)**

YES.

**10. The Supreme Court's Dobbs decision has threatened abortion access throughout our country. Do you agree that Massachusetts should take the lead on protecting the right to reproductive health for all residents? (Y/N)**

I believe MA's already taking the lead and support what is being done.

**11. The Supreme Court recently sided with a web designer who argued she had the right to refuse service for a same-sex marriage. Do you support legal mandates that mandate businesses to provide goods and services without regard to a person's background including sexual orientation, race, and gender? (Y/N)**

YES.

**12. What impact do you feel social media has on participation in local elections? How can we encourage greater participation in local elections?**

Lack of local newspapers had hurt communities across the country, but issues of importance to some can grow using social media-we saw it in Marlborough over a proposed housing development that went from a small group of opposed residents to hundreds of people. Also saw it when a site wanted to expand a pre-existing non-conforming site and reached out to its customers who showed up at a public hearing. People will participate if it's an issue they care about and there may be a story via social media. Sadly in Marlborough very few people vote in local elections, yet we have great turnout for national elections. I have heard it said, try calling the White House to complain about your trash pick-up or street issue-they can't/won't do anything yet people don't realize it's important to participate in the election at local level and it's important to learn about the candidates. I wish I had the magic answer for greater participation in local elections, but I don't. I belong to a service organization who has gone into high school to register students when they turn 18, that is a big first step and I do see the younger voters taking a greater interest in elections.