

CITY OF NORTH CHARLESTON

CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 7

Andrea Bailey Erb: NO RESPONSES

Sam Hart (I): NO RESPONSES

1.) One of Charleston Moves' top priorities is our Ashley River Crossing — Bridge Package proposal, for which the City of Charleston, the City of North Charleston and Charleston County would commit to work together on a plan, along with other relevant agencies, to make the North Bridge, the Ashley River Bridge, the James Island Connector and the Wappoo Cut Bridge safe for all modes of transportation. If elected, how will you support Charleston Moves' Bridge Package proposal, specifically as it relates to the North Bridge connection?

Greg Perry: I will work with Council members and the mayor to make certain that we approve any plan that will benefit our community. My premier goal is to make sure citizens are safe.

Saint Julian Corey Van Hannegeyn IV: I commute from North Charleston over the North Bridge to go to my gym in West Ashley. I've noticed numerous times people walking and bike riding over the North Bridge, which is dangerous. It has been a concern of mine for a while because I cringe whenever I see a pedestrian or bike rider crossing that bridge even though it is prohibited. If elected, I would push joint committee or advisory group of city council members from North Charleston and Charleston whose districts are close to the North Bridge to support a proposed engineer study on how to redesign the bridge to accommodate pedestrians and bike riders. To be honest, if there was a bike lane created, I would use it certain times of the week to go to my gym in West Ashley (unless it is leg day at the gym LoL)

2.) Lowcountry Rapid Transit is planned to connect Summerville and downtown Charleston, via Rivers Avenue, by 2025. What do you think needs to happen during this planning phase to ensure the project's success?

Perry: Allow residents to give input. This will ensure that the community supports the plan.

Van Hannegeyn: I am all for rapid transit along Rivers Avenue, but I think input is needed from the neighborhoods that are along Rivers Avenue and city council members (4 of them to be exact) whose districts include Rivers Avenue. There has to be information presented to those 2 specific groups on what the impact will be of the Lowcountry Rapid Transit plan.

3.) Please list your priority transportation projects and which modes each serve.

Perry: I would like to have more bus shelters in District 7. The citizens of the district have told me on numerous occasions that this is needed to protect from harsh weather.

Van Hannegeyn: We have sufficient bike lanes and sidewalks in my district. The only transportation projects that would be a priority is the pedestrian/bike lane for the North Bridge and the Lowcountry Rapid Transit.

4.) Please explain your thoughts on the principle of induced demand.

Perry: I think that it is possibility that once roads are built that it could get cause more people to utilize it. However, it's still necessary to build so that we can accommodate the new growth our great city has been experiencing.

Van Hannegeyn: I am an advocate for looking for alternatives for commuters outside of building more roads and lanes. I will say I have not seen any sufficient evidence of building more roads and lanes encourages people the incentive to drive more. In theory, it seems like there would be more people driving if lanes and roads capacity increases, but I have not researched evidence of this. I do think induced demand would encourage some people who have automobiles but use express buses to revert back to using automobiles versus using express buses. The principle of induced demand makes sense, but making sense and having factual evidence are 2 different things.

5.) What are your personal transportation values and how you would lead on transportation issues if elected?

Perry: I believe that transportation should have a strong focus on safety and reliability. When I am elected I will advocate for constant investment in our transportation system. It is imperative that we continue to build and expand our transportation system. Our city is great and we need to allow our transportation system to be reflective of the greatness that's growing here. I will be a strong advocate for more investment in transportation.

Van Hannegeyn: I've been taking the initiative to try to walk everywhere within a 5-mile radius. On the campaign trail, I made an effort to walk to every neighborhood in my district. As I am typing this response, I have been automobile free for 9 days. I feel we are 10 years or more behind on our transit system. We need to think ahead and figure out ways to get automobiles off the road with better alternatives for transportation. As an elected official I would align myself with advocacy groups like Charleston Moves to figure out long-term solutions for transportation issues.

6.) If elected, would you support a greater annual funding allocation from your municipality for bike, pedestrian and public transit infrastructure? And, will you lobby SCDOT to increase their spending on bike, pedestrian and public transit infrastructure as well?

Perry: Yes, I will!

Van Hannegeyn: I would be in support of a greater annual funding allocation depending on the means of paying for it. I will lobby SCDOT to increase their spending on bike, pedestrian and public transit infrastructure.