



## Questions for Candidates for City Council from the Conservative Coalition of Harris County

*This questionnaire will be posted onto the Conservative Coalition of Harris County website for public viewing ([www.cchc-pac.org](http://www.cchc-pac.org)).*

Candidate Name	Position that Candidate is Running For
<b>Sonia Rivera</b>	<b>Houston City Council District H</b>

*Candidates please give your answer to each of the following questions and include your rationale with each answer. Please be concise and clear.*

1. Why are you running for City Council? If elected, what will be your priorities?  
**Answer:** Crime, Infrastructure, Quality of Life
  
2. What experience or skills have prepared you to serve as a city council member? What differentiates you from the other candidates and/or council members?  
**Answer:** I am the only candidate that has the knowledge and experience to lead this District with over 25 years working grassroots, anti gang, anti drug, and homeless youth populations, in addition to collaborating with education institutions, and law enforcement. I am also the only Republican running for this seat.
  
3. What is the effectiveness of the current system for City of Houston residents to report issues/file complaints? How can this system be improved to better serve residents?  
**Answer:** The 311 system is outdated and needs review to assess how to make more efficient, in addition to getting responses from your elected representatives can be frustrating, time consuming, and often doesn't lead to a resolution. I would like to have multi tiered levels of communication between my office and communities. Regular communication with churches, community centers, Civic clubs, and community gate keepers. I will implement flow charts and gather daily/weekly constituent progress reports to ensure that issues are prioritized and tackled within a timely manner, in addition to gather information on what issues are reported repeatedly to facilitate long term solutions to those issues.

4. How would you characterize the funding of the following items; Please rank selections, check funding boxes below and provide a short explanation of your reasoning in answer section box:

	Over-Funded / Adequate / Under-Funded		
___ Solid Waste Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
___ Parks and Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
___ Houston Police Department	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
___ Houston Fire Department	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
___ Houston Health Department	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
___ Municipal Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
___ Libraries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
___ Public Works	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
___ Technology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
___ Conventions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Answer:** The fire department and police department are critically underfunded, however, I would need to engage financial professionals to seek advice and provide a thorough evaluation of the financial situation and whether it's underfunded or overfunded.

I would recommend regular monitoring and adjustment of department budgets and regularly reassess whether the entity remains adequately funded based on changing circumstances, goals, or external factors.

Determining whether something is underfunded or overfunded is a complex and nuanced task that requires a deep understanding of the specific context and careful analysis of financial data and projections. It's important to approach this assessment with diligence and consult experts when needed.

5. Crime problem in Houston--can the police force be increased? Immigration impact--should Houston be a sanctuary city?

**Answer:** I propose to create a task force made up all law enforcement entities and community stakeholders to identify hot spots, and strategies to cover areas with most need and increase information sharing.

The immigration issues need to be addressed at the federal level, until the federal government take responsibility and passes comprehensive immigration policy, all citizens are negatively impacted by illegal immigration.

6. Do you support amending the City Charter to allow council members to add items to the meeting agendas?

**Answer:** Yes

7. Do you support the proposed Hospital Bond issue for \$2.5 billion dollars?  
**Answer:** , I need to research the specifics of the proposal, to understand its implications, and consult with experts / organizations that can provide guidance on the matter. In addition I need feedback from local community groups, government agencies for more information and perspectives.

BY RETURNING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, THE CANDIDATE ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ANSWERS TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE. THE ANSWERS ON THE FOREGOING REFLECT THE CANDIDATE'S BEST EFFORTS TO ANSWER THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HONESTLY AND DIRECTLY.

Once this questionnaire has been completed, please email it to: [alex@cchc-pac.org](mailto:alex@cchc-pac.org).

**Please note:** You ***must*** return your questionnaire from the email address to which it was sent. Questionnaires returned from any other email address will be considered fraudulent and will ***not*** be recorded and no answers will be published in the voter's guide. CCHC deems a return from the proper email address as authentication of the correct respondent.