



Candidate Questionnaire for Atlanta's 2025 Citywide Elections

Section I: Personal Background and Motivation

- Full Name: Steven Dingle
- Office Sought: Atlanta City Council District 11
- Campaign Website and Social Media Handles: www.dingleforatlanta.com and @dingleforatlanta

Brief Biography (max 250 words):

"Steven Dingle is a 35 year-old Atlanta native running to bring fresh leadership to Atlanta City Council District 11. He is husband, and father of 3. Steven is a 13 year music executive veteran, teacher, and softball coach with a unique understanding of the challenges our communities face, and he's ready to deliver real solutions. His priorities are clear: safer communities, stronger schools, affordable living, strong infrastructure, and more opportunity through local business growth and economic development. Steven believes District 11 deserves bold leadership that listens, acts, and fights for real results, not empty promises. It's time for a new voice, real action, and a future we can all be proud of. Steven Dingle is ready to build it with you."

Section II: Priorities

1. What are your top three priorities if elected?

Public Safety. Education. Economic development and Infrastructure.

Section III: Public Safety

2. The Atlanta Public Safety Training Center has sparked both support and opposition throughout our city. How do you view the Public Safety Training Center's role in shaping the future of public safety, and how would you ensure it serves the needs of both first responders and the broader community?

The Atlanta Public Safety Training Center is here now. The efforts now should be around making sure our police department is adequately staffed and properly trained to better serve Atlantans. As long as this center exists, we should have the best police force in the country that also has the best relationship with the people they serve, and I will hold them accountable to that. I am also anti-militarization of the department. Our police should not be learning military tactics to serve an American city. I will make sure that is

not happening at the center. The Atlanta Public Safety Training Center being a success is a talented, properly equipped staff and department that meets the needs of the community while remaining safe, reducing harm, and having the best relationship possible with community members even when there are no emergencies.

Section IV: Transportation and Infrastructure

3. Traffic congestion, caused by delivery trucks and rideshare vehicles, physically blocks travel lanes on major roads like Peachtree and Piedmont. How can we ensure that this dangerous practice stops?

I know the police department in my zoning district, Zone 4, has added more police officers on bicycles in high travel areas. I believe having more officers on bikes in high travel areas, like Peachtree and Piedmont, especially during high traffic hours, could be of assistance telling care and delivery vehicles to move along, give a warning, or ticket vehicles to discourage the practice.

4. What is your vision for revitalizing the Lindbergh area and addressing the visible blight along Piedmont Road, a key gateway into Buckhead? How would you work with city agencies and law enforcement to improve safety and aesthetics in this high-priority corridor?

It is my belief as a representative of a different district, I lean on community members of other districts and their insight of what they want to see in their communities, neighborhoods, and areas. As an Atlantan and someone who enjoys visiting and patronizing the Lindbergh area, I support the reuse and/or redevelopment of certain buildings along Piedmont. I also support a heavier law enforcement presence if the community supports it as well. Possibly creating a community task force similar to the Edgewood force that was created a few weeks ago.

5. Buckhead lacks sufficient sidewalk infrastructure, particularly in some residential neighborhoods and near schools, making walking uncomfortable and unsafe for many residents. While progress has been made in the commercial core, large portions of the community remain disconnected. What specific policies or funding strategies would you support to accelerate and incentivize sidewalk construction throughout Buckhead?

I definitely want to work intimately with ATLDOT and GADOT to increase sidewalk creation around Atlanta. This is also a concern that my district holds. I know funding is

an issue as well as the time it takes to go through the process to get it approved and then the construction. Proper communication with the community is necessary so everyone understands the costs, where the funding would come from, and potential sacrifices that may be necessary.

Section V: Education - Atlanta Public Schools (APS)

6. Many schools throughout Atlanta are currently facing significant under-enrollment. As part of the ongoing Facilities Master Plan, the APS Board is considering recommendations for school consolidations and redistricting by late 2025. Specifically, APS has circulated a recent plan under community review that outlines various scenarios that could repurpose and consolidate existing facilities. What is your position on potential school closures or consolidations within APS? How do you believe these changes could impact schools in Buckhead, which currently experience some of the highest enrollment levels in the district?

These changes could impact everyone in Atlanta with students or potential students due to potential closures which affects students' and families' travel situations or impacting students and families in Buckhead with resources being sacrificed to assist other schools. With the Buckhead area experiencing some of the highest enrollment levels in the district, I would advise that all families inform their Atlanta School Board Member and every city-wide member of the importance on keeping their resources and whatever concerns they have. I met with Seat 9 Schoolboard Member yesterday and she said the more detailed comments and information she has, the more she can fight for the needs of families and students citywide.

Section VI: Watershed

7. Considering the recurring and increasingly severe flooding events along Peachtree Creek, what specific policies or infrastructure investments would you advocate for to mitigate future flood risks and protect vulnerable neighborhoods? How will we pay for these?

I would lean on the community and future council colleague to discover the absolute best ways to move forward. The fact that nothing has been done yet tells me there's either neglect or serious barriers in the way of fixing this problem in vulnerable neighborhoods. I would request intimate details of why this is happening and look for long term solutions and inform constituents of potential realistic outcomes.

8. The city has experienced multiple water main breaks and wastewater spills in recent years. What specific policies or oversight mechanisms would you support to prevent future infrastructure failures?

Staying on top of the department of Public Works and other departments and staff to ensure Atlanta repairs and creates quality infrastructure that stands the test of time with minimum overhauls. Making sure there are high standards and code enforcement in place will ensure this.

Section VII: Tree Protection Ordinance (TPO)

9. Buckhead contains the majority of Atlanta's tree canopy and has seen significant community concern regarding the finalized Tree Protection Ordinance (TPO). How would you balance the need for development with the goal of protecting Atlanta's urban forest, especially in rapidly growing neighborhoods? What new policies or solutions, if any, would you support to strengthen the Tree Protection Ordinance (TPO) code enforcement process, currently managed by the Arborist Division within the Department of City Planning?

Protecting Atlanta's trees and green spaces is important because it keeps our city healthy, aesthetically pleasing, and culturally rich. We must enforce current ordinances and create new ones where our trees and green spaces are threatened by new developments. I also support creating neighborhood specific codes and ordinances that protect trees or certain forest areas against being removed at all.

Section VIII: Final Thoughts – How Buckhead can Help the City of Atlanta

10. In what ways can the Buckhead community actively support the priorities you've set for your district or post within the City of Atlanta? Where do you believe Buckhead can have the most meaningful impact in advancing Atlanta's overall growth, prosperity, and quality of life?

Buckhead's infrastructure, education, amenities, and economic prosperity are extremely valuable to Atlanta and a main reason it is not just a great place for residents, but visitors, business leaders, dignitaries, and tourists. We need to continue to support Buckhead with resources to ensure it is a premier area that can compete with other areas around the country. The Buckhead community can actively support District 11 by supporting and patronizing our businesses and amenities. Want to play golf? Visit John A. White or Tup Holmes Golf Course. Want great food? Visit The Beautiful or Big Daddy's



Café. Also, I plan to return Southwest Atlanta to its prominence and would love to have businesspeople who live in or have businesses that are based in Buckhead, to come to our area and see what opportunities there may be to invest it before the hype comes.