

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE St. Boniface Ward

Matt Allard

1. Public transit was identified as the most important issue facing Winnipeggers in the 2019 budget consult, followed by active transportation and roadway construction and maintenance. In your opinion, why is public transit deemed the number one priority?

Public Transit is critical to a large city - which Winnipeg is growing to be - to function properly. It is the only way to move 1 million people around our city, and it is the best way of fostering walkable neighbourhoods, thriving commercial main streets, and quality of life for those who depend on it to get around.

2. If you could give Winnipeg's transit system an overall letter grade, what would it be? What do you feel is holding the current transit system back from getting a better grade? If you could sum up your vision for the future of Winnipeg's transit system what would it be?

I would give the system a C. It meets the basic needs of some, the bare minimum of others, and for some like me in core neighbourhoods, it provides reliable service.

3. Safety is an increasing concern for transit riders and drivers, alike. What do you feel contributes to the lack of safety in the current system? How would you improve safety?

As a member of the Transit Advisory Committee, I have been working closely with the public service, ATU, their members, to implement and pay for the expansion of transit inspectors. Prior to that, I helped secure police officers on buses towards the beginning of my term. Council has also been testing the program of barriers for drivers. We need to continue pressing forward on these and further initiatives. If elected, I will support a low income bus pass would also reduce fare disputes as one of the primary triggers of conflict.

4. If you could sum up Winnipeg's current transit system in 3 words, what would it be?

Great unrealized potential.

5. Cities like Ottawa and Edmonton contribute over \$220 million to their transit networks, while the City of Winnipeg contributes just \$65 million. To match these other cities in per capita terms, Winnipeg should be contributing \$170 million. How will you fight for more funding towards transit?

I do believe more funding is needed. I will continue to fight, lobby, and advocate for it.

Bonus question: What is your favourite Transit App and why?

Winnipeg Bus Live because it usually guesses which bus stop I am at and tells me when the bus is expected to arrive if early or late.