

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE

Mynarski Ward

Mike Wiens

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?

As our population ages, transit will be required more than ever. Most people don't realize how important the bus system is until a doctor suspends their drivers permit.

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?

When I have used transit I felt it provided me with what I needed at the time. I would like to see transit expanded to the perimeter and build park & rides for the suburb commuters to reduce the daily demand during rush hour.

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 an employer I bear the responsibility for my staff. I wouldn't ask any bus operator to engage in a dispute with a problem patron. They have radios and I would instruct the operator to park the bus and leave it until the police arrive. Your job is not worth your life.

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

Not quite complete.

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 will go on record that I will increase transits budget to meet the expanded future version that is required for our city to alleviate traffic congestion and see further expansion to the bedroom communities. If I have to make financial decisions that effect the way the city grants are handed out, I would start with that.