

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE

Point Douglas Ward

Vivian Santos

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 a vital service to many residents in the Point Douglas ward. From students to workers as well as seniors and many other groups, Winnipeggers rely on robust and effective transit system.

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?

In Point Douglas, Transit would receive a B. BRT would provide an even higher grade.

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?

Safety is everyone's concern. The lack of safety is as a result of aggressive behaviour by individuals towards drivers and passengers. Safety matters will improve through the union working with Transit officials in conjunction with the Winnipeg Police Service. While full time police presence may be expensive, some additional elements of their presence may be required on certain routes.

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

Gets you there.

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?

Comparing cities that have different needs as well as different funding sources is not the best way to determine Winnipeg's needs. I will work to ensure Point Douglas receives its fair share of existing Transit funding for operations and infrastructure. I will examine and work with the Mayor and other councillors for ways to improve the system for the whole city as well. I will also push for the north BRT routes being moved up in terms of priorities, which will improve the system for those going downtown from our part of town.