

2022 Candidate Questionnaires

Nebraska State Senators

Candidate Name: Wendy DeBoer

District 10

Question 1:

Nebraska's state highways function as local streets within municipal boundaries while remaining under the purview of the Nebraska Department of Transportation.

What safety concerns are you seeing on these streets in your district's communities? (Are these streets safe for all ages and abilities to cross?) What should the state be doing to make these state highway segments within local areas safer?

Candidate Response:

When I'm out knocking doors in my community, one thing that I hear time and time again is that people want to have their roads fixed and kept in good condition. People are worried about the condition of their streets as well as how many cars they see speeding on a regular basis. We need to be doing everything we can do at the state level to ensure safe roads for both cyclists and pedestrians by ensuring proper funding for maintenance as well as support for enforcement of the laws. One thing we must do better at is installing more crosswalks and sidewalks, especially along major roads and highways.

Question 2:

Too many Nebraska children have died or been seriously injured in crashes involving people running red lights or speeding. Automated enforcement measures such as red light or speed detection cameras placed at intersections with demonstrated safety concerns could reduce law enforcement burden and eliminate potential biases.

Would you support a change in state law to allow automated enforcement in Nebraska? If so, under what conditions?

Candidate Response:

As a member of the Judiciary Committee, I have been a proponent of common sense legislation that works to further the goals of community safety and accountability. It is always my goal to find the best possible solution to problems and ensure that our laws are enforced equitably and efficiently. I believe that automated enforcement measures could absolutely be a part of the answer that keeps our pedestrians and cyclists safe. We need to ensure that such measures are implemented properly, but I would generally support modifications in state law that allow for such devices.

Question 3:

Workforce issues in Nebraska have been described as "the most pressing economic issue in the state" and "very quiet and...happening at record speed."

Knowing that young professionals increasingly prefer walking, biking and taking transit over driving, what should the state be doing to invest in or encourage active transportation options that will help stem the tide?

Candidate Response:

It is clear that if we are going to have attractive and thriving communities across Nebraska, they have to invest in infrastructure that supports diverse modes of transportation. I continue to hear people concerned with workforce issues in smaller communities as we see Lincoln and Omaha grow at a rapid rate. The state should be incentivizing and supporting communities that decide to invest in projects like trails and protected bike lanes in an effort to retain and attract workforce and tourist dollars to all parts of our state. As a member of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee I am uniquely situated to support programs and laws that create those incentives.