

2022 Candidate Questionnaires

Nebraska State Senators

Candidate Name: Angie Laurtisen

District 36

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:

My district is the fastest growing in the state. With the rapid expansion, there are constant infrastructure projects going on that cause traffic congestion, higher rates of accidents, and leave pedestrians without a safe place to walk or ride their bikes safely. In Gretna, where I live, there are often intersections where stoplights are needed, but don't exist. As we continue to expand, I hope the local municipalities, Sarpy County, and the State of Nebraska can come together to ensure that we are forward thinking to ease these problems, including making our community friendly for everyone.

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:

Too often, people aren't held accountable for traffic violations, especially those that cause injury or death. I am supportive of common-sense solutions in high traffic areas such as speed detection and red light cameras to help aid law enforcement. As the only candidate that has the endorsement of law enforcement, I'd like to work with you in coordination with law enforcement to find the solutions that allow them to do their jobs effectively and efficiently, while keeping our children and entire community safe.

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:

Again, my district is the fastest growing in the state and has the most young families with children under the age of 5. I believe there is a lot that makes a community an attractive place to live, work, and raise a family. As we continue to grow, we must think about alternatives to ease traffic congestion and provide safe alternatives for people to travel. An issue I've heard from many young people is this exact issue of how do we keep up with growth and provide options for transportation. For this reason, one of my top committee choices is Telecommunications and Transportation to find solutions for my district and across the state.