



2020 Candidate Survey on the Environment

Hector Arzeno Democrat
House , 151

1) 100% Zero Carbon:

Do you support codifying this legislation?

- Yes
Absolutely.

2) Environmental Justice:

Do you support the provisions that were contained in the Environmental Justice legislation?

- Yes
I have had in an international career seeing this both globally and locally. My campaign is conversation with a number of groups to see how we can best add awareness and impact change.

3) Municipal Funding Option :

Would you support legislation to allow, but not require, municipalities to establish a dedicated fund for local open space, farmland, water resources climate mitigation strategies through a limited conveyance fee on buyers of real estate?

- Yes
Greenwich did something similar to this concept, at a local level Greenwich Land Trust and Aquarian partnered with the municipality for land conservation. I serve on the Representative Town Meeting and supported this partnership. My record vote of the 2020 Greenwich Town Budget shows my support.

4) Bottle Bill :

Do you support modernizing Connecticut's bottle bill by 1) expanding the list of beverage containers accepted, 2) raising the deposit amount on covered containers, and 3) raising the handling fee paid to authorized dealers for each container they collect?

- Uncertain

This bill must work in a network of environmental initiatives. First, I believe in reducing plastics and single use containers at home. I would like to see a more tailored approach to make sure we make waste reduction accessible while not penalizing communities.

5) Climate Change Education:

Do you support a requirement to teach climate change education in public schools?

- Yes

This is common sense and has my full support.

6) Transfer Act:

Do you support switching to a release-based cleanup program that would require sufficient DEEP oversight, mandated reporting of all cleanups and other safeguards to ensure a successful program that increases the number of sites cleaned?

- Yes

7) MDC Water:

Would you support legislation to require rates set by MDC to be approved by PURA (the state regulatory authority that sets rates for private water utilities)?

- Yes

This policy is a responsible safe-guard to provide oversight to public resources.

8) Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS):

Do you support advancing legislation that would prohibit PFAS chemicals wherever possible?

- Yes

Greenwich is already supporting this initiative with "A Tripple F" foam replacement for our firefighting forces, I fully support this initiative with my votes on the RTM for the Town of Greenwich Budget.

9) Chlorpyrifos:

Will you support legislation to ban the sale and use of Chlorpyrifos in CT (as was the intent of House Bill 301 considered earlier this year)?

- Yes

I support reduction of pesticides holistically and working with farmers to find better solutions to improve their yields. My volunteer work with the Fish Ladder here in Greenwich has taught me intricacies of how pesticides are in direct opposition to all our efforts in protecting wild life and their delicate ecosystems.

10) No New Gas Infrastructure:

Will you oppose a tax on CT ratepayers to fund new gas pipelines?

- Yes

Open Question:

What environmental issues have you worked on? What will be your top environmental priority for the 2021 legislative session?

- As an elected official on the Greenwich RTM, in 2020, I worked closely with CT DEEP and Patricia Sesto our Director of Environmental Affairs on a unit-based pricing (PAYT) ordinance initiative for our residents, a known forward thinking initiative for Connecticut. Furthermore, I worked with delegates and my community to collaborate, draft, and introduce this ordinance when our First Selectman put forth only a "tipping fee" ordinance for the RTM to vote on. While we were unsuccessful, I understand this needs to be addressed beyond the municipal level in conjunction with decisions at the State legislation to truly reduce and solve our solid waste which is being sent to outdated incinerators, that is my top environmental priority.

Additional Comments:

- Thank you for your efforts for all our residents. Kindly and with purpose
- Hector Arzeno