



A Citizen-Centered, Transparent, and Ethical One Philadelphia

Summary

A Transparent, Citizen-Centered Government:

- **Implement Full Budgetary Transparency**
- **An Accessible, Online Government**
- **Implement Performance-Based Budgeting**
- **Create a Public Data Inventory**

Enhancing Integrity and Ethical Government:

- **Make Inspector General permanent**
- **Ban Outside Employment with Firms Doing Business With the City**
- **Ban Nepotism in City Government**
- **Implement Whistleblower Policy**
- **Prevent Conflicts of Interest**
- **Appoint Qualified Members, Increase Funding for Board of Ethics**

Campaign Finance Reform:

- **Explore Public Financing of Elections**
- **Disclose Independent Expenditure Donors**
- **Improve Campaign Finance Database**
- **Level the Playing Field for Challengers and Incumbents**

Tony's Vision

In politics, the meaning of words like transparency, ethics, and integrity are too often lost in platitudes. These three words are the pillars upon which public trust in its government rest. When these values are recognized and harnessed as strategic assets, public trust in government will grow, and entrepreneurs and investors will feel comfortable doing business in Philadelphia. In the last several years, Philadelphia has made significant strides to become more open, transparent, and ethical. But there is much more to be done.

The long-term fiscal challenges facing Philadelphia offers the next Mayor a unique opportunity to fundamentally rethink how city government communicates with its citizens. A citizen-centered government means proactively, and transparently, engaging Philadelphians in the hard work of governance and service provision. No longer can local government simply do more with less. Now is the time to govern differently. Too frequently, city government faces the choice between reducing service levels, increasing taxes, or some combination of the two. Across the country, cities are integrating technology in ways that dramatically reduce costs, improve performance, and provide data that closes the information chasm between government and its citizens. Full and proactive transparency is the hallmark of a citizen-centered approach to governance, and will be the modus operandi of a Williams Administration.

Anthony Hardy Williams Record on Transparency, Ethics and Campaign Finance

“Changing the way Philadelphia does business requires an independent leader, a Mayor that cannot be bought or rented by anyone.”

- Anthony Hardy Williams

As a leader in the Pennsylvania State Senate, Tony served on the Committee on Ethics and Official Conduct, and introduced comprehensive ethics legislation. He sought to ban cash gifts to public officials, limit non-monetary gifts, increase criminal and civil penalties, and mandate annual ethics training for all state government employees. He co-sponsored legislation to strengthen the state's Ethics Commission, and to require candidates for statewide office to file all campaign reports electronically, including reporting for PACs raising more than \$10,000 a year.

When Tony announced his candidacy for Mayor, he talked about changing how the City of Philadelphia does business. Citizens, entrepreneurs, and investors should have confidence in the city's ability to improve our quality of life, grow businesses, and attract

investment without concerns about ethical misconduct. As Mayor, Tony will bring a citizen-centered orientation to City Hall, and will make our city the nation's leader in transparency through open data and a performance-based culture. With a CEO mentality, and an entrepreneurial spirit, Tony will lead an ethical government, committed to using a data and evidence-based approach to inform policy decisions, use taxpayer dollars wisely, and create economic growth.

Strategy I: A Transparent, Citizen-Centered Government

"We have an opportunity to change things with this election. We don't need to accept the old way of doing deals in Philadelphia."

- Anthony Hardy Williams

For decades, the private sector has used technology to generate data that identifies opportunities for cost savings and improved productivity. Despite the widespread availability of computers over the last twenty years, Philadelphia city government is still largely run with paper forms that can be cumbersome to convert into usable and shareable data. Indeed, the costs of city government should be tracked in real time down to the penny, so city government can better use its scale to reduce procurement costs, and citizens can have ready access to this data to fully understand where their tax dollars are going. It is not enough to have data available, city leaders must bring it to the neighborhoods.

Tony will implement full budgetary transparency in government

The effective use of open data is a crucial component of an ethical and transparent government. For example, budget ordinances passed by City Council provide departmental allocations, and divide the allocations by class (personnel, services, etc). What does not exist is the ability for a resident or civic innovator to search through expenditures in every city agency down to the penny. As Mayor, Tony will build upon the Open Budget, and use the data we already capture to provide full transparency about government spending. This is not a new idea, and was created two years ago by then-City Controller candidate Brett Mandel to visualize government spending by agency. Tony will also work closely with the Chief Data Officer and city agencies to make city contract data for supplies and equipment, non-professional services and construction publicly available. While government can use this data to find cost savings across agencies, as Mayor, Tony and his Managing Director can leverage this to promote greater government effectiveness and efficiency. It will also build credibility with Philadelphians who will finally be able to hold city government fully accountable for its spending habits. In addition, improving how Philadelphia spends its funds will provide

the city with a strong narrative in Harrisburg that we are well-managed, and prudent stewards of taxpayer dollars.

Tony will create an accessible online government

Tony's vision is a city government in which citizens and municipal employees can complete all city-related business online. Every paper form should have an online equivalent unless there is a hardship. From licensing and permitting, to signing up for public benefits, government often makes it too difficult for citizens to interact with it. For example, there are dozens of residential programs, and federal, state, and local benefits that Philadelphians do not claim because they are not aware. As Mayor, Tony will work with the Chief Data Officer to direct agencies to improve how they communicate with citizens, and work to ensure that every Philadelphian can access the programs and services for which they are eligible.

One idea he supports is modeled on Single Stop USA's Benefits Enrollment Network, a comprehensive database that assesses eligibility for untapped government services. Leveraging the BenePhilly centers across the city, Tony will explore the implementation of a system of manned and unmanned city service kiosks like Boston's Mobile City Hall, which can be placed throughout the City in schools, libraries, and recreation centers so Philadelphians can conduct city business without traveling to City Hall or the Municipal Services Building. At these kiosks, citizens could also sign up to be informed about all public meetings held by city government agencies, boards, and commissions.

Tony will fully implement performance-based budgeting

Simply put, the City of Philadelphia has limited funds to invest in its most pressing priorities. Evaluating the effectiveness of city government programs and services should be a basic rule of municipal management. City government has an obligation to invest in and expand policies and programs that are proven to work, and re-direct funding away from policies and programs that do not. Thanks to City Council, performance-based budgeting is now the law of the land in Philadelphia but it has not been fully implemented. As Mayor, Tony will direct his Budget Director to fully implement this law, and build upon performance management initiatives like PhillyStat to bring transparency to service delivery. He will seek to expand city agencies' capacity for program evaluation, similar to the Philadelphia Police Department's data scientists initiative. Tony is committed to a data-driven performance culture in city government that is focused on delivering a better quality of life for all Philadelphians.

Tony will create a Public Data Inventory

City government should create a public data inventory for civic innovators, social entrepreneurs and everyday citizens to access government-wide data. As Mayor, Tony

will reauthorize the Office of New Urban Mechanics and formally partner with Philadelphia's great civic innovators and social entrepreneurs to strategically address societal challenges. Initiatives like FastFWD that developed solutions to address public safety challenges will continue and thrive under a Williams Administration. This approach can also provide training in our public schools, and local colleges and universities that will empower citizens to create solutions to problems city government could not tackle alone. If city government can support an ecosystem that allows civic innovation to thrive, it will attract investment, unlock economic growth across the city, and fundamentally reshape the relationship between citizens and their government through direct engagement and input.

Strategy II: Enhancing Integrity and Ethical Government

“With power comes responsibility. We must be more accountable to the taxpayers of Philadelphia, and implementing clear and common sense guidelines will reinforce public trust in elected officials.”

- Anthony Hardy Williams

The current mayoral administration made ethics and integrity a crucial component of its work, and for good reason. A culture of corruption and lack of accountability places a stain on the city, and is a barrier to attracting business, and more importantly, earning the trust of Philadelphians. This work must continue in order to change the culture of city government, and provide certainty that public servants are operating for the public good. The next mayor must build upon that culture, and develop safeguards and safe spaces for city employees who are not pleased with the status quo. Strengthening the city's ethics and integrity infrastructure should be a priority, and highlighted as a strategic asset for the City of Philadelphia to business leaders, investors, and citizens.

Tony will push to make the Inspector General permanent in the City Charter

As Mayor, Tony will reauthorize the Chief Integrity Officer and Inspector General positions via executive order, and implement a bi-annual government-wide survey on ethics and integrity to track progress and make changes when necessary. He will also advocate for a City Charter amendment to make the Inspector General position permanent. Unlike the current bill in City Council, Tony proposes that the jurisdiction of the Inspector General include all elected officials and their offices, such as City Council and row offices.

Tony will ban nepotism in city government

As Mayor, Tony will issue an executive order banning nepotism within the executive and administrative branches of city government. He will also advocate for legislation that

forbids any city official or employee from having a role in hiring, promoting, or participating in other personnel decisions involving members of their immediate family (spouses and children).

Tony will work to eliminate conflicts of interest

The 2009 Task Force on Campaign Finance and Ethics recommended that outside employment for city elected officials and employees be registered with the Board of Ethics. Tony believes that does not go far enough to eliminate the appearance of a conflict of interest. As Mayor, Tony will issue an executive order that bans all executive and administrative branch employees from outside employment with firms that conduct business with the City. He will advocate for legislation that prohibits outside employment with firms that do business with the City, and mandates all City elected officials and employees to annually register their outside employment with the Board of Ethics, including the declaration of all outside income.

Tony will also sign an executive order requiring that all eligible employees report to the Board of Ethics any ties to non-profits that receive city contracts. He will also lead by example, and personally disclose ties that his spouse and children have to non-profits. All information will be made publicly available. Finally, Tony will sign an executive order requiring that City officials and employees inform their supervisor about conflicts related to a potential employer.

Tony will create and implement a whistleblower policy for city employees

While certain protections currently exist for city employees, as Mayor, Tony will work closely with City Council and municipal unions to advocate for and aggressively implement a whistleblower policy for city government employees who report improprieties in good faith.

Tony will make strong appointments, and increase funding for the Board of Ethics

As Mayor, Tony will appoint members of the Board of Ethics with significant experience in election law and Philadelphia municipal elections to provide aggressive, and wise oversight. Tony will also propose an increase in funding for the Board of Ethics to strengthen its work. To offset new funding, Tony will work with City Council and the Board of Ethics to increase filing fees.

Tony will not allow municipal employees' political involvement on the job

Tony will oppose all efforts to amend the City Charter to allow non-elected city employees to serve as ward leaders, committeepople, or from taking part in the management of affairs of a political party or political campaign.

Strategy III: Campaign Finance Reform

“Political campaigns should represent the best of democracy, not the worst. Increasing public trust in elected officials starts with improving how they are elected in the first place.”

- Anthony Hardy Williams

Campaign finance reform is an ongoing challenge at all levels of government. Campaigns are incredibly expensive, and require significant time on behalf of a candidate to raise money from supporters. The process can create public distrust when those who donate to a campaign also receive city contracts, or when independent expenditures are not required to disclose donor names. The city’s campaign finance database should be easily searchable with the information citizens need to trust the government they choose. Elected officials must tackle this challenge directly to enhance public trust in our democratic process. In Philadelphia, the cradle of American democracy, we have an obligation to get this right.

Tony will put incumbents and challengers on a level playing field

Consistent with the recommendation from the 2009 Task Force on Campaign Finance and Ethics, Tony will push to change contribution limits from calendar year to election cycle. This reform measure will limit incumbents' ability to stockpile resources for in the first three years of their reelection cycle, and limit their ability to expend money based on whether funds were received for the primary or general election, similar to federal law. According to the Task Force, and as we've seen in the current election cycle in which few incumbents face meaningful opposition, the current structure disadvantages challengers, and this change will put incumbents and challengers on more equal footing. To create consistency in the law, Tony will also push to change the “Millionaires” provision from calendar year to election cycle. Currently, candidates who spend \$250,000 of their personal funds on their campaign trigger a doubling of political contribution limits for the entire election, rather than during the primary or the general.

Tony will explore public financing of elections

Tony believes that there are changes that could improve Philadelphia’s campaign finance ordinances. As Mayor, Tony will create a task force to study the public financing of municipal elections.

Tony will require making independent expenditure donors public

To ensure the integrity of the democratic process, as Mayor, Tony will forcefully advocate for legislation to require the disclosure of donors to independent expenditures to the Board of Ethics, and make it publicly available.

Tony will improve Philadelphia's campaign finance database

In a digital age, how city government interacts with city residents, and how it conducts business must reflect that reality. As Mayor, Tony will work with the Chief Data Officer and the Office of Information Technology to improve the city's campaign finance database so that it can be easily searched and understood by the public.

The next mayor must be positioned to lead a complex, multi-billion dollar enterprise with over 20,000 employees. Most importantly, the next mayor will be responsible for improving the quality of life of over 1.5 million Philadelphians. As Mayor, Tony will bring a citizen-centered approach to City Hall. He will position Philadelphia as the nation's leader in transparency and ethical government because it is a strategic asset that enhances public trust, citizen engagement, and economic growth. Changing the way Philadelphia does business requires an independent leader that cannot be bought or rented by anyone. Tony Williams will be that Mayor.