

# Candidate Questionnaire on Housing Issues

# 2022



## Allen Shen

**City/Town:** Fridley

**Legislative District:** HD 40B

**Party:** R

*Candidate responses in italics.*

1. In July 2021, a [national poll](#) found that 68% of the public believes that elected officials are not paying enough attention to the rising cost of housing and ensuring everyone can afford a place to live. **What do you believe is the role of government in ensuring everyone has a place to call home?**

*Section 8 had been a solution for a long time, and government subsidy programs.*

2. Nearly all counties in Minnesota (92%) are not able to provide sufficient shelter or temporary housing to those who are homeless. **What will you do to end homelessness?**

*Each homeless person has a different story, and has a different situation, we need to look at each individual and help them separately. Some have drug problems, some have mental issues and others have addictions. WE can not use One Size Fits all solutions, we need to look at each case and solve them based on their situations. I talked to a homeless in my district, it's not a shelter that she is looking for, she had a life before, and a job. We can help to get her job back.*

3. Emergency rental assistance keeps people stably housed, as we saw with federal pandemic-related funding. Historically, nonpayment of rent is the most common reason landlords evict their tenants. During times of financial crisis, families without access to financial resources may be displaced, evicted, or even become homeless. **What will you do to prevent evictions?**

*Government should stop creating emergencies to break the laws, and government should stop locking down our society and get people fired from their jobs. Keeping people at their jobs would do a lot of good to prevent evictions. Again, first step to prevent evictions is to prevent a dictator in our government to shutdown our economy.*

4. Minnesota's housing crisis disproportionately harms families of color, especially Black and Indigenous households. Minnesota is one of the worst states in the nation for racial disparities in homeownership. Additionally, 58 percent of Black renters are paying more than they can afford on housing costs. **What meaningful steps will you take to eliminate racial disparities in housing?**

*Job trainings and job creations  
Build more single family homes.*

5. There are approximately 170,000 renter households in the state that earn less than \$31,200 per year. But rental assistance is only available to one out of every four income-qualifying households. Even though more than 100,000 lowest income households need homes, the state only supports the production of 100 homes each year for these families. **What will you do to support the housing needs of those at the lowest income level in Minnesota?**

*Create more well paying jobs for everyone in the state and take away the high cost regulations that stifle employers. Instead of forcing employers to pay the government, we want them to pay their employees. Government needs to stop being so greedy from the people.*

6. Energy efficiency improvements in multifamily buildings and weatherizing single family homes improve indoor air quality, eliminate drafts, and protect residents from extreme cold and heat—delivering health benefits and lower health care costs. **What strategies do you support to improve housing conditions and reduce utility costs?**

*1) Disclose the Tesla Formula for cheap energy  
People should build habits to save resources, adjusting your home temperatures accordingly to your daily life style. Turn down your heat or AC when you are not home.  
Put more clothes on during the winter at home, so you can turn down the temp for your furnace to reduce energy use.*

7. Minnesota's home values are increasing rapidly, constraining low- and middle-income families from achieving affordable homeownership, including more than 64,000 households of color. **What steps will you take to increase opportunities for renters to purchase homes, condos, or cooperative ownership models?**

*Fix this inflation caused by Federal Policies first, inflations tend to hit housing prices the most on building materials.  
Stop foreign rich home buyers coming from Asia or South America. They come here and buy large number of homes for money laundering but that disrupts our housing markets and driving up the prices of home.*

8. Including the recommendations of the community when developing policies and programs is a best practice for effective and lasting solutions. **How will you include those most impacted by housing needs in developing and implementing housing solutions?**

*Take away the costly government regulations on home ownership and slash the property taxes by 50%.*