



Website: [amfdm.com](http://amfdm.com)

## **CAMPAIGN PLATFORM AURELIO MARTINEZ**

### **Neighborhoods In Control**

- Denver neighborhoods need to be in control as to what happens in their communities.
  - Our administration will enforce and adhere to Neighborhood Registered Organizations (NRO) neighborhood plans. Any Planned Unit Developments (PUD) application and land-use change request that will affect a Denver neighborhood will have to comply with residents and the neighborhood plan as stipulated in Blueprint Denver before being considered.
  - I firmly believe your neighborhood and home should be your safe haven! No more traffic driving through, in order to take 'short-cuts'. Developments, corporations and organizations that negatively impact Denver neighborhoods will not be allowed.
  - We will work with residents and Registered Neighborhood Organizations (NRO's) to take a larger role in addressing issues within the neighborhoods. Over the years, our neighborhoods have changed due to growth, residents being displaced, developments, lack of resources, school closures, and homelessness, along with other reasons. In our administration, we will send out neighborhood coordinators to interact with residents and NRO's to develop an assessment identifying needs in the community. We need to form a partnership with neighborhood residents as well as create a vision for neighborhoods.
  - Our administration will review NRO neighborhood plans to ensure it includes schools, churches, libraries, local businesses, and recreation centers, for these establishments are anchors in the community.

## Housing and Gentrification

- Housing and Gentrification work hand-in-hand.
  - People move into a neighborhood paying higher than normal prices and begin to change the standards of a neighborhood. These drastic and quick moving changes make it difficult for existing residents to meet the higher costs of living in the neighborhood and are forced to leave.
    - Our administration will put together bona fide programs such as down payment assistance that will not work against the applicant and their debt-to-income ratio. This can be done by providing down payment assistance loans that will not become due until the mortgage loan is paid for or the home is sold.
    - Our administration will also put together educational courses on how to raise their FICA scores, making qualifying for a home loan a strong possibility.
  - On the rental side of housing, we will look into ratifying a rent cap, this will help make rentals affordable for people that want to live in Denver and are not interested in home ownership or simply cannot afford to buy.
    - Currently there is a 40-year-old state law that prohibits local governments from enacting any form of rent caps. With the current housing affordability crisis, our administration will be a strong advocate to have Colorado lawmakers remove this law.
    - Denver needs to clarify affordable housing in development projects so the number of required affordable units targets families with an annual income of \$45,000 or less.

Our goal is to stop Denver residents from having to move out of Denver because they can no longer afford to live in Denver and also to bring back families that were forced to leave.

## Youth

- Youth and young adults are our future leaders!
  - Denver's youth and young adults have been forgotten and ignored. Youth violence and crime is increasing. We must provide outlets for our youth and young adults to succeed in life. At one time, Denver was a leader in youth recreation, youth team sports, and youth employment and training programs. To be that leader again we must retool and revamp our recreation systems with adequate staff and quality sports programs. Youth need to know and see that recreation centers are the places to develop their skills and have fun.

Young people are looking for opportunities. We must bring back summer jobs, youth training and apprenticeship programs. This starts with a strong workforce recruitment program that connects local, state, federal, and private sector employers. Let's prepare youth to compete in today's job market and develop career pathways. We will apply for youth grants and other funding opportunities. It's time to invest in our youth, and I will make it a priority.

## **Office of Ombudsman and Liaison**

- Our administration will be fully responsive to the people who live, work and do business in Denver.
  - We will incorporate an Office of Ombudsman and Liaison into Denver's administration whose duties will be to handle all complaints and inquires.
  - The Ombudsman must address all complaints and inquiries and come up with final resolutions.
  - Liaisons will be interacting coordinators for Denver neighborhoods and communities.

## **Homelessness**

- The plight of the homeless in Denver is worse than ever. We have to stop hasty remedies and work on solutions! If we analyze the problems that lead to homelessness, then we'll find solutions. Three top issues leading to homelessness are
  - loss or low income
  - mental conditions
  - drug addiction

Any current programs or facilities, Denver has in place addressing these issues are failing terribly because homelessness continues to rise. We need to focus on restructuring current programs and facilities or bring in new 'state of the art' programs and facilities to include:

- Career Education for better paying jobs
- Doctors and Psychiatrist specializing in mental health issues and Drug addiction

Our administration will focus on assisted living for people and families experiencing homelessness as well as expanding and improving on daily shelter facilities.

## **Beautification**

- Our goal is to make Denver the iconic city of the United States of America. And this begins with beautification!
  - First, we will begin with basic cleanup of Denver's right-of-way easements within the Central Business District (CBD). Businesses and property owners will be required to remove unsightly boulders, rocks and fencing.
  - Next, we will re-structure bike lanes and remove the unsightly white poles and neighborhood street roundabouts.
  - This would be the beginning of a continuing beautification process.

## **Small Businesses**

- Small businesses are the backbone of this country as they are in the city of Denver
  - Small businesses are struggling to survive and many had to shut down during the COVID pandemic. Denver has to do a better job in assisting small businesses become successful. Our Office of Ombudsman and Liaison will continuously meet and communicate with small businesses to come up with ideas we can implement to better serve Denver's small businesses.