

2021 PLATFORM SIMSBURY DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE

The Simsbury Democratic Town Committee is dedicated to:

Keeping Simsbury a desirable place for all to live, work and play.

1. We pledge to uphold the laws, rights and privileges for all people regardless of a person's age, ethnicity, race, national origin, legal status, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability or political affiliation.
2. We believe in facilitating inclusive policies and practices in support of a vibrant and diverse Simsbury honoring the contributions of all who live here and reversing generations of prejudice.
3. We believe in supporting our seniors, people with disabilities, people in recovery and economically diverse households to maintain affordability in housing, services and programs, including the development of a senior/community center.

Fiscal responsibility while delivering quality services to our residents.

1. We are committed to appropriately allocating our resources to preserve high quality public education and town services in Simsbury.
2. We support continuing efforts to find efficiencies in town government including shared town services and ways to optimize collaborative efforts with neighboring towns.

Quality education and excellence of performance for every child.

1. We advocate providing every student a place to learn in a welcoming and supportive environment regardless of ethnicity, race, national origin, legal status, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability and hometown.
2. We believe that our schools should offer an optimal and equitable educational experience that adapts to all students' abilities, fostering an enthusiasm for life-long learning in support of their unique aspirations.

Visionary planning and development, based on broad community input, that grows our tax base while both supporting our business community and maintaining architectural charm and natural beauty.

1. We support the Town's efforts to promote sensible economic development to provide jobs, goods and services, and net tax revenue.
2. We support efforts to strengthen Simsbury and all of our village centers.

3. We pledge to promote efforts to identify and establish a robust stock of inclusive and diverse housing options.
4. We are committed to having those who work in Simsbury be able to live here.

Environmental stewardship to preserve Simsbury's beauty and health for generations to come.

1. We support environmentally sound policies that address the crisis created by climate change, sustain open spaces, preserve farmland and expand outdoor recreational opportunities with access to Simsbury's natural lands and waterways, including but not limited to:
 - a. Increasing pollinator friendly habitats for pollinating insects and wildlife;
 - b. Passive forest management that allows forests to naturally mature through a hands-off approach.
2. We seek innovative policies to mitigate the impact of the climate crisis including but not limited to:
 - a. Tax incentives to businesses for the utilization of green energy technologies;
 - b. Efforts to reduce the carbon footprint of public buildings and transportation systems, while supporting jobs associated with these initiatives.

Strong local leadership and good government.

1. We are committed to government transparency and accountability.
2. We are committed to civility in our affairs.
3. We are committed to ensuring equitable access to voting so all eligible people who want to vote can fully participate in our democracy.
4. We are committed to everyone's right to freedom of expression as the bedrock of a functioning democracy.
5. We are committed to affecting state level policies to benefit our town and local region.