

**Coalition For Responsible Tax Abatement
Questionnaire for Candidates for Mishawaka Political Office, 2011**

1. Should the following principles should be included in a tax abatement ordinance?

a. Improving Wages for Low-Income Workers, by

- Requirement of at least a Poverty Wage (\$8.80 per hour) for all employees
- Incentive to pay a Self-Sufficiency Wage (\$12.90 per hour)

Yes _____ No _____

b. Affirmative Action, by

- Requirement of a written affirmative action plan to “take specific steps to encourage the hiring, promotion, and retention of qualified members of historically disadvantaged groups, such as minorities, women, and the disabled.”
- Requirement for construction contractors to follow the affirmative action standards for federal government projects (Executive Order 11246)

Yes _____ No _____

c. Maintenance of Community Wage Standards, by

- Incentive for construction contractors to pay all construction employees one-hundred percent (100%) of the most recent total wage package adopted by a Common Construction Wage Committee

Yes _____ No _____

d. Linking Tax Subsidies Closely to Benefits to the Community, by

- Requiring basic benefits for any abatement: at least a Poverty Wage for all employees, affirmative action, and not misclassifying construction employees as independent contractors
- Extending the length of abatement only if important benefits are provided

Yes _____ No _____

e. Documentation and Compliance, by

- Requiring written documentation for all benefits claimed.
- Authorizing the Council to end an abatement if claimed benefits are not provided, requiring repayment of abatement savings if a company ceases operations before the end of its abatement, and requiring the company to sign a Memorandum of Agreement that specifies the events that would entitle the Council to end the abatement or require repayment of taxes.

Yes _____ No _____