



July 26, 2021

The Honorable Joyce Craig  
Mayor of Manchester

Mrs. Victoria Sullivan  
Candidate for Mayor

Sent Via-Email

Re: Debates

Joyce and Victoria:

As you know, our city is facing serious challenges.

Historically high crime rates that reveal Manchester is less safe than 86% of cities across the nation.

Historically low school test scores released by the district prove our schools are failing our kids.

Homeless vagrancy is despoiling our city.

Housing development of all kinds has lagged.

Hopeless Middle Class families are leaving our city in record numbers or avoiding Manchester for communities with safer streets and better schools. Businesses are doing the same.

Defunding the police and Critical Race Theory are among the social issues upsetting many in the city.

The concerns of our citizens are many and they deserve more than a soundbite campaign. We owe it to the voters of our city to stand before them to answer their

questions and make our case. Two of us have records in city government and all of us have records as elected officials. We all have proposals for the future of our city. We should eagerly stand before the public to discuss all of it in debates or forums across the city.

Mayor Craig, in 2015 you challenged Mayor Gatsas to debates across the city and he agreed. I trust you will do the same in the coming primary.

Rather than arrange for the debates myself, I have copied local media outlets on this letter for the purpose of asking them to arrange and host the debates. This will ensure the events are neutral and objective. Hopefully, it will provide different formats and forums. All you need to do is agree to attend whatever events are arranged as a result of this letter.

I'm looking forward to seeing you both on the campaign trail.

Very truly yours,

*Rich*

Richard H. Girard