# **How to Host a Candidate Forum**

#### **Speakers:**

Mike Sule • Asheville on Bikes October 10, 2023



### How to Host a Candidate Forum

- Consider community readiness & identify the purpose
- Establish the format
- Plan and host event
- Reflect, Adjust, Iterate, & Repeat

## Consider Community Readiness & Identify the Purpose

- Readiness:
  - You know your community, build from there.
- Purpose
  - Prioritize TRUST over POLICY
  - Open lines of communication
  - Establish credibility

## The Invite & Communication w/ Candidates

- 1. The invitation
- 2. RSVP
- 3. Follow Up













#### Establish the Format

- \*III Acts
  - Act 1: Candidates Stump (3min / candidate)
  - Act 2: Quick Conversations w/ Candidates (15-20min)
  - Act 3: Candidates Report & Close (3min)
- Question & Answer
  - Provide candidates resources
  - Ask open ended questions
  - Embrace humor

\*You know your community. Just because it works in AVL, NC doesn't mean it's universal.









