

# 2022 Candidate Questionnaires

## Nebraska State Senators

**Candidate Name: Ben Hansen**

**District 16**

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### **Question 1:**

Nebraska's state highways function as local streets within municipal boundaries while remaining under the purview of the Nebraska Department of Transportation.

What safety concerns are you seeing on these streets in your district's communities? (Are these streets safe for all ages and abilities to cross?) What should the state be doing to make these state highway segments within local areas safer?

### **Candidate Response:**

*Two of the biggest concerns I have heard and seen from my district is deterioration of highway roads within city limits, and semi truck traffic in downtown Blair. The state can help play a role in the repair of highway tops in town by working with municipalities in coordinating repair times to use both local and state services to fix the problem areas.*

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## Question 2:

Too many Nebraska children have died or been seriously injured in crashes involving people running red lights or speeding. Automated enforcement measures such as red light or speed detection cameras placed at intersections with demonstrated safety concerns could reduce law enforcement burden and eliminate potential biases.

Would you support a change in state law to allow automated enforcement in Nebraska? If so, under what conditions?

## Candidate Response:

*I would possibly support this measure, depending on the specific conditions of their use. I also would have to investigate and study the data on increased safety and automated enforcement*

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## Question 3:

Workforce issues in Nebraska have been described as "the most pressing economic issue in the state" and "very quiet and...happening at record speed."

Knowing that young professionals increasingly prefer walking, biking and taking transit over driving, what should the state be doing to invest in or encourage active transportation options that will help stem the tide?

## Candidate Response:

*I think the state can help in funding such projects in the form of grants. But the majority of the development and funding would primarily be the responsibility of larger municipalities since, I assume, these will be occurring in Omaha and Lincoln areas more.*