



Economic Development Candidates' Forum Survey Questions

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Vision for Greensboro

1. What are the three most pressing issues facing Greensboro?

Employment

Crime and Safety

Planned Growth and Vision for the future

2. What do you see as your most important challenge if you are elected? **Most important challenge if elected is getting strong consensus of Council members moving in the same (right) direction.**

Administration of the City

3. The City Council focused heavily on Water Resources during the budget discussions. There was discussion about the creation of a Water Sewer Authority to eliminate politics from the issues surrounding rate increases and projects. Would this be an idea you would support and why? **I would not support the creation of a Water Sewer Authority. That is the responsibility of Council, who are directly accountable to taxpayers, it should not be delegated to Staff, or a non-accountable commission or board.**

4. What role does diversity play in the Boards and Commissions of the City of Greensboro? How do you plan to ensure they are more reflective of our community? **Diversity plays a key role in Boards and Commissions. I will work to have each Board and Commission reflect the make-up of our community by having annual reviews to monitor appointments by Council.**

5. How do you plan to support continued business development in Greensboro? **By introducing incentives to help small businesses already here grow and expand.**

Public Funding Investments

6. Do you support public investment such as incentives in job creation? **Yes**

7. Do you see any area in which we should try to expand our incentive program (such as to the retail industry)? If so what? **Yes, my plan is to provide incentives for small businesses whereby the City will help pay down small business loans if growth plans and increased employment goals are met at the 1 year, 3 year and 5 year timelines. These type incentives are attached to performance rather than promises and occur only after the business has grown. Existing small businesses must first secure SBA or conventional loans with a business plan showing expansion details and growth projections.**

8. Completion of road projects, such as the Urban Loop, is of critical importance in our community. What are your thoughts on financing options our community should pursue? **My thoughts are that financing options should have taken into account the cost of noise buffers where the urban loop bypasses neighborhoods. A tiered approach to financing roads should be followed, utilizing impact fees, bonds, car registration fees and toll roads (if permissible).**
9. Public funding needs exceed the city's available revenue. Which of the following options would you support as a way to finance public budget items?
- a) Additional sales taxes.
 - b) Increased user fees.**
 - c) Increased car registration fees.**
 - d) Impact fees.
 - e) Real estate transfer taxes.
 - f) Increased property tax.
 - g) Use of special taxing districts.
 - h) Bonds.**
 - i) Certificates of Participation.
 - j) Increase permit, inspection and plan review fees.
 - k) Increased government efficiencies.**
 - l) Cuts in government services.**
 - m) All options should be considered.

Future Outlook

10. What options are you willing to pursue to promote regional cooperation? **All of the above.**
- a) Tax sharing
 - b) Merger of certain departments
 - c) Multi-jurisdictional infrastructure projects
 - d) Multi-jurisdictional development projects (public)
 - e) Multi-jurisdictional development projects (private)
 - f) Support for inter-basin water transfers
 - g) Economic development recruitment
 - h) Regional planning collaboration
 - i) Technology compatibility
 - j) Regional water & sewer solutions or authority
 - k) A structured, formal framework for regional collaboration
11. In what ways do you think the City government can continue to support and encourage DGI and Action Greensboro to facilitate and expand the growth of Downtown? **By seeking their input, advice and joint cooperation at regularly held business summits facilitated by the City.**
12. There is a growing Aerotropolis in and around the Piedmont Triad International Airport. How do you think Greensboro is best served in planning for the future development of this land? **I am in favor of a Piedmont Triad Aerotropolis and would support a master plan to develop the area for such as well as recruit for**

businesses in the industry and promote our City's ability to train a workforce through our college system.

Planning/Land Use

13. The issue of municipal annexation has come to the forefront in recent years. What is your viewpoint regarding Greensboro's current annexation policy? Is there anything you would change about this policy and why? Forced annexation is wrong. **It is un-American. Every American should have the right to live in a city or outside a City. And when the City wants to use its unmitigated power to encroach upon an individual's personal home, the individual should at least have a vote in the matter. As the only annexed candidate for City Council At-Large, I will seek to end this policy immediately.**

Quality of Life

14. What do you see as the city's responsibility for investing in programs that contribute to the quality of life, such as arts, development of trails/greenways, parks and recreation, etc.? **It is very important and it is the City's responsibility to create a community that offers quality of life to its residents. A great city is more than buildings and businesses. It should be a place people are proud to call home and one in which visitors and guests would love to move. This requires a strong contribution into the arts, parks, and other quality of life initiatives.**
15. What is your position regarding the Downtown Greenway and what, if anything, would you do to ensure its success? **I support the Downtown Greenway and will look for creative ways to continue its development and success.**

Please return to:

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