



Economic Development Candidates' Forum Survey Questions

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Vision for Greensboro

1. What are the three most pressing issues facing Greensboro?
Job Creation, Public safety, Economic Development

2. What do you see as your most important challenge if you are elected?
We have to work hard to create jobs so people have the opportunity to work.

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 consider looking at how our City and County water and sewer could run more efficiently and effectively.

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?

People need to want to volunteer on our boards and commissions first and foremost. I have appointed people from all backgrounds to represent the city and I will continue to do so.

4. How do you plan to support continued business development in Greensboro?
In everyway possible. We need to collaborate with all groups as we all want the same thing and that is to give people the opportunity to work.

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?

This is an example of where we need to have partnerships with the county, and state as well. I will consider all options when it comes to jobs.

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?

I will consider all options such as working with the state, and toll roads. The city in the past has worked with the state on major thoroughfares to lend money and be paid back to build infrastructure.

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. Yes, we have to look at all options. A major concern would be to raise fees and taxes. This has the potential to harm our local businesses, especially small businesses.**

Future Outlook

10. What options are you willing to pursue to promote regional cooperation?

- a. Tax sharing **-yes**
- b. Merger of certain departments **-yes**
- c. Multi-jurisdictional infrastructure projects **-yes**
- d. Multi-jurisdictional development projects (public) **-yes**
- e. Multi-jurisdictional development projects (private) **-yes**
- f. Support for inter-basin water transfers **-yes**
- g. Economic development recruitment **-yes**
- h. Regional planning collaboration **-yes**
- i. Technology compatibility **-yes**
- j. Regional water & sewer solutions or authority **-maybe**
- k. A structured, formal framework for regional collaboration **-yes**

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?

I am currently working diligently with DGI and the downtown stakeholders to support the current needs of downtown. We have continued to keep them in our budget to aid their efforts. I will continue to hold meetings in support of public safety, parking, and whatever else is needed.

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?

We need to consider banking land and having ready made sites with infrastructure in place. We need to make sure any land around the airport is utilized in the proper way.

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?

I am in favor of the current annexation policy.

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.?

Quality of life is one of the best selling points of Greensboro. We have to focus on public safety as a primary, but we need to fulfill all the needs and services for the city of Greensboro citizens and we need to have balance. I have supported the Downtown Greenway before I was elected in 2007 as an elected official.

14. What is your position regarding the Downtown Greenway and what, if anything, would you do to ensure its success?

I have supported the Greenway as a speaker from the floor prior to getting elected and have continued that support as a councilperson. We have agreed to sell bonds in January to support the Greenway.

Please return to:

Greensboro Partnership

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