

Charlotte Mayor 2009 Candidate Questionnaire

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What is the number one issue facing our community and how do you plan to address it?

Protecting the lives and property of citizens is the most important function of government. I would seek to reduce the operating budget by 5% (OB is \$1.06 billion) and use the approximately \$50 million to hire 300 additional police officers. I would also implore the state to adequately fund our criminal justice system. If they continue to shirk their legal duty they would continue to systematically deny us our 5th and 14th Amendment right to equal justice and due process under the U.S. Constitution which gives us standing in Federal Court to pursue our civil rights, which I would insist we do. We face the same situation regarding illegal immigration regarding the U.S. Congress, and I would attempt to follow the same strategy with them.

Do you support a transfer tax or impact fee on real estate? Please explain your answer.

I would not support transfer taxes and impact fees. Consumers pay all taxes. We have ruinously high taxes as it is. I would do my best to cut taxes so people would be able to afford homes.

How do you propose to keep housing affordable in our community?

Low crime, low taxes, better roads.

Inclusionary housing policies, voluntary and mandatory, have been suggested for developing additional affordable housing in our community. Do you support any type of inclusionary housing policies? Please explain your answer.

I do not support the government price fixing in the housing market, or any market for that matter. "Inclusionary housing" reduces property values which is a "taking" under the 5th Amendment. Citizens who fall victim to this illegal behavior are due compensation from the government. I would encourage citizens who have fallen victim to this city government crime to seek legal redress.

Do you support a fee-based rental registration program for all rental units throughout the city of Charlotte? Please explain your answer.

I do not support a fee-based rental registration program . Property owners already pay horrific property taxes. The city can register landlords effectively with current revenue.

Paying for roads is a community responsibility. How do you plan to address prioritizing and funding the road construction and maintenance needs of Charlotte?

Due to a absurd sums spent on transit by city government we are facing an \$11 billion road building backlog. In 2008 the city paved less road and fixed fewer potholes than in 1999, this despite major growth during that period.