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First Name: lan Last Name: Harwick

Email:

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Q1: What is your name please?

Ian Harwick

Q2: Which Counsel district do you hope to

District 7

represent?

Q3: Please tell us the best way to contact you if we have a question..telephone or email. Please provide either or both in the comment box below.

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Q4: Do you believe it is the ultimate obligation of City Council members to represent and advocate for their constituents in the neighborhoods they represent, rather than expedite the Mayor's office or private businesses that may benefit from these types of transactions between governmental entities?

Yes.

Comment:

As the president of the Athmar Park
Neighborhood Association, I realize how
important the involvement of my neighbors is to
my communities well being. We are only
successful if we are working together, and it is
very important for me to bring this into my office
as councilman. The neighbors need to be able to
voice their concerns, and know that the city,
especially their council member is listening, and
responding.

Q5: Do you believe that preserving strong public neighborhood schools in each of our communities is very important to the viability and strength for the future of our neighborhoods?

Yes.

Comment:

As a person that attended neighborhood schools in Jefferson County, I know the impact of great neighborhood schools. I believe that neighborhood schools are an intricate part of a strong neighborhood. I believe that with vibrant neighborhood schools, kids live near their schoolmates, parents know their neighbors because of their children, and the aging community feels an affinity for local schools that their children attended. Beyond this, when the children attend a neighborhood school, they create a critical mass in terms of walking/biking from home to school and back. This increase of children causes neighbors to slow down, look around, and be more attentive to driving through the neighborhoods.

PAGE 5: I. DESIGNATION OF UNDESIGNATED PARKS, PROTECTION OF OPEN SPACE, MORE PARKLAND

Q6: INC, in response to a request from the Department of Parks and Recreation, formed a committee to aid the department's effort to designate undesignated parks. While this committee has made progress over the past two years, the work is not finished. Would you support a concerted effort within all city departments affected to complete the designation of all undesignated Denver parks that are legally available for designation?

Yes.

Comment:

For me, the process of designating all undesignated parks is necessary to ensure that parks and open spaces are preserved and protected for the long term.

Q7: In addition to designating undesignated parks, we also need to prevent the transfer of open space within designated parks to institutions within parks. Over many years, open space in designated parks has been re-allocated by the Manager of Parks and Recreation to institutions within parks such as recreation centers, museums, and zoos. It is important that open space within parks is protected. Would you ask for policy changes to protect open space within designated parks?

Yes,

Comment:

Having access to open space is important for children, families, and the communities that these parks reside in.

Q8: There is inadequate urban parkland in Denver given the size, density, and expected growth of Denver's population. For example: The city had 555,000 residents in 2000 and is projected to have 700,000 in 2020. While the Hancock administration may add additional parkland to the park system, the current plans focus on the acquisition of land at the periphery of Denver. We need parkland in the center of the city where the population is growing and "density" is a goal of the administration's urban development plan. Would you support the acquisition of additional parkland and open space within the center of the City of Denver?

Yes,

Comment:

I think additional parkland in the center of Denver would be amazing. In my mind a few locations that might be applicable include the Gates Redevelopment, areas near to the Stock Show, and (well into the future) the underutilized railroad tracks north of Union Station.

PAGE 6: II. ACQUISITION OF PLAYING FIELDS AND A FESTIVAL SITE

Q9: The urban parkland that does exist is viewed increasingly as a site for multiple and oftentimes conflicting purposes-- opportunities to experience nature, spaces in which teams can play, and sites for large festivals. These uses of the same land has created problems within our parks including damage to parkland and vegetation, limitation of public access to parks, and distress for neighborhoods bordering parks (eg., unacceptable levels of noise, traffic congestion, threats to public safety, and problems parking). As a result, a site is needed for large ticketed events such as festivals that is not located within neighborhoods. Welllighted playing fields with bathrooms and parking outside of city parks are also required. Would you support the development of a Festival Site?

Yes.

Comment:

Yes, I think a festival site would be a great addition to the City of Denver. This would take the burden off a lot of city parks that are not built to take the sustained use by multiple events and 1000's of people.

Q10: Would you explore opportunities for and support the development of playing fields outside of city parks for Denver citizens?

Yes.

Comment:

Anyway that we can provide people of all ages with proper sports facilities should be looked at. Whether this is for soccer, volleyball, football, or even kickball. If new facilities cannot be constructed right away, we could also look into moving some of the playing density from certain parks to other less utilized parks around the city.

PAGE 7: III. USE OF RECYCLED WATER IN PARKS

Q11: Would you ask the City administration to convene a panel of independent experts in plant physiology, soil chemistry etc. to evaluate the safety of the type of recycled water used in our parks and to report the results to the public?

Yes.

Comment:

The use of recycled water with a high salt content is a recipe for disaster in my opinion. This is bad for the trees, plants, and the long term viability of the soil in the park.

Q12: If the risks of the type of recycled water currently in use are found to be too high, would you support all steps necessary to eliminate these risks?

Yes,

Comment:

Our parks are one of Denver's greatest assets. We need to do all that we can to make sure that these parks are available for generations to come. If the recycled water is too risky then we need to make changes that will keep the parks safe, clean, and sustainable long into the future.

PAGE 8: IV. PARK ADMINISTRATION

Q13: Effective government requires citizen engagement. INC has received multiple complaints and over many years pertaining to the use of parks. Complaints include the difficulty citizens have in influencing park policies. A new Office of Special Events has been formed by the Mayor and its function will have an impact on what events occur in parks. Would you advocate for INC representation on an Advisory Board for the Office of Special Events?

Yes.

Comment:

I think it is imperative that neighborhoods help make decisions about the future of their parks.

Q14: Would you direct funds to the Department of Parks and Recreation to ensure enforcement of park rules and regulations within the entire park system?

Yes,

Comment:

The City of Denver has great parks, but if they are not taken care of then they fall into disrepair and invite less respectable people into the parks. We need to make sure that Parks and Recreation can enforce all the rules and regulations within the park system; in addition, we need to make sure that our parks are well maintained, properly policed, and kept clean.

PAGE 9: V. PARK FUNDING

Q15: Denver's park and parkway system is grossly under-funded. A broad range of funding sources must be pursued in order to sustain and to expand Denver' park system. This funding includes local and state-level dedicated revenue sources. Denver is surrounded by municipalities that fund their parks with a tax levy dedicated to parks. Would you support a tax levy to provide a stable funding source with which to acquire land for parks, open space, a festival site, playing fields, and for maintenance of all these for Denver's park system?

Yes.

Comment:

I fully support creating a tax levy for the long term stability of Denver's Parks. This to me is obvious, we need to make that our parks are maintained, properly utilized, and able to handle the increase in people that move here every year.

PAGE 11: Discretionary Projects

Q16: If elected, would you support an increase to Public Works funding for discretionary projects in neighborhoods?

Yes.

Comment:

Living in a neighborhood that has seen a fair amount of neglect, I very much will advocate for more discretionary projects in neighborhoods.

PAGE 12: Committment to Vision Zero

Q17: Would you support Denver joining the ranks of cities that target elimination of traffic deaths and serious injuries as a moral priority by adopting a Vision Zero approach?

Yes,

Comment:

As a pedestrian safety advocate, Denver joining this list could not make me happier. This to me is a great first step, but we need to be willing to make sure that the street can be used by all modes of transportation, and crossing the street can be done safely by all, especially the most vulnerable.

PAGE 13: Best Practices regarding sidewalk installation and maintenance

Q18: Would you support Denver pursuing and implementing best practices from other cities regarding sidewalk installation and maintenance, with the goal of increasing walkability?

Yes.

Comment:

Walkability is one of the desirable features in a neighborhood. We need to make sure that this can be brought about in all of Denver neighborhoods. This will increase the attractiveness of neighborhoods, make them safer to walk along, and make it easier to shovel in the winter.

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Q19: . Would you support the City of Denver engaging consultants to study the effects of parking on neighborhoods in areas where high rise development is contemplated prior to approval of the development. If so, what parking study process would you suggest?

No.

Comment:

These high rises have parking built within the buildings. I believe that we would be better off spending money on finding transportation alternatives to help these new residents get to and from these new developments.

Q20: Do you believe the 2010 Zoning Code adopted by City Council in 2010 has benefited all neighborhoods in Denver or some neighborhoods? Please cite examples.

No.

Examples:

As a resident of Athmar Park, I can tell you that it has not benefited us much, if at all.

Q21: What changes do you believe need to be made to the 2010 Zoning Code, If any, and why.

Alternative transportation needs to be fully incorporated. It will also be key to make sure that we are creating a vision for the future, not the way that things are today.

Q22: Will you urge the Mayor and city officials to appoint representatives of residential neighborhood organizations to all city boards, commission, advisory committees, collaborative groups and task forces which consider planning and zoning issues. If so, describe the efforts you would take to ensure such appointments are made.

Yes,

Comment:

This plan should impact all neighborhoods, it is key that they have a voice in the process.

Q23: INC has been advised that the Director of Community Planning and Development is recommending Blueprint Denver be revised and updated. Do you support such a recommendation and describe what process you would support to ensure neighborhood participation.

Yes,

Comment:

I believe there are couple key things that can be done to ensure neighborhood participation. One would be utilizing the office of city council to convene neighborhood groups in the formation of ideas concerning their respective neighborhoods. Second would be the utilization of surveys (both online and in person) to help inform where area of need exist, and what each community would like to see change or be improved around them.

Q24: Please describe your vision of "smart growth" for the City of Denver in ten words or less. The vision should capture stakeholder expectations of your anticipated leadership on City Council.

Plan for the most vulnerable, then we plan for all.

Q25: . Entertainment districts which extend the hours for alcohol to be served, often until 4:00 a.m., have been adopted in a few cities throughout Colorado. Would you support an entertainment district in certain areas in Denver? If so, where and until what time?

Comment:

Yes.

I don't have one in mind. If a community decided that this was the right decision for them, then I would support them in it.

Q26: Short term rentals, that is rentals for less than 30 days are now illegal in Denver residential neighborhoods. Do you support the adoption of an ordinance which would permit short term rentals in Denver residential neighborhoods. If not, why not. If you would support an ordinance to allow short term rentals in residential neighborhoods, please describe the process you would support, including the process for funding.

Yes.

Comment:

I believe short-term rentals fill a void that hotels cannot: a truly local experience which can also house more people. I believe the city should be able to issue short term rental licenses and collect hotel occupancy taxes. Renters should also abide by the terms in their leases, condo boards or coop rules, HOA rules, or other rules established by tenant organizations. Short term rentals are already happening all over the city, this is causing issues within neighborhoods, safety concerns, and even tax evasion. We need to make sure that this is regulated, and have the proper safeguards put into place. In terms of funding, I believe that the licenses and taxes generated would be more than enough to create or supplement a city department to properly regulate and enforce the ordinance.