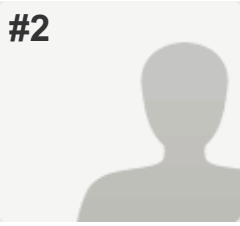


#2



**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** survey collector (Email)  
**Started:** Wednesday, March 04, 2015 6:14:24 AM  
**Last Modified:**  
**Time Spent:** Over a week  
**First Name:** Kendra Aleix Valis  
**Last Name:** Black  
**Email:** kendrablackdenver@gmail.com

**Custom Data:** City Council  
**IP Address:** 76.120.89.229

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<b>Q1: What is your name please?</b>	Kendra Black
<b>Q2: Which Counsel district do you hope to represent?</b>	District 4
<b>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.</b>	

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<b>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?</b>	Yes,  Comment: City Council members have many obligations, including seeking input from the community, listening to constituents and advocating for them while taking into consideration other relevant factors, issues and perspectives.
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**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:

I have always been a proponent of strong neighborhood schools in every community. Not only are they places for education, but they are also neighborhood playfields and playgrounds, places to gather for meetings and events, and assets adding value to our homes. I'm proud of my work I've done for the neighborhood schools in District 4. Some examples include: At Slavens School, I transformed a barren 2.5 acre field into a neighborhood park, playground and play field. I am a strong supporter of Thomas Jefferson High School (my alma mater), where I founded the TJ Spartan Alumni Association and Hall of Fame, among many other efforts. I helped Bradley International School in their efforts to get a GOCO grant, and am doing the same with Samuels Elementary School. I have been endorsed by the principals of these schools: Slavens, Bradley, Samuels, Hamilton, South and Thomas Jefferson. I'm the only candidate in this race with a decades-long record of providing meaningful and material support to the neighborhood schools in District 4.

**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:

Absolutely. Denver Parks & Rec is systematically designating every eligible parcel of open space. Once a park is designated it is protected. Only 9% of open space is not eligible for designation because of right-of-way, ownership and other issues.

**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:

I am interested in learning more about this, and in protecting our open space within our parks. I am also very interested in Historic Denver's exploration into designating City Park as a local landmark district.

**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:

Yes. Because there are so few opportunities of open space in central Denver, private property and funding sources would have to be identified.

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. Well-lighted playing fields with bathrooms and parking outside of city parks are also required. Would you support the development of a Festival Site?**

Yes,

Comment:

I am willing to take a leadership role in collecting the input from surrounding stakeholders (neighborhood associations, small businesses, schools and neighboring municipalities) to make the most informed decision possible about the location of a festival site.

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

Yes

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:

As a former Colorado Master Gardener, I appreciate the importance of water quality and the viability of our trees. In addition to evaluating water quality, I support reporting the findings once a solution has been identified.

**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

**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

**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:  
I do believe this to be a priority. If elected, I will weigh this priority among the many others that we have in Denver.

**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 am interested in discussing the viability of this proposal. A tax levy would have to be weighed against other funding priorities in Denver, for example, public safety, transportation and affordable housing.

**PAGE 11: Discretionary Projects**

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

Yes,

Comment:  
Multiple, competing funding priorities would have to be evaluated.

PAGE 12: Commitment 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:

I am a strong advocate for making our streets safer. I support WalkDenver's goals, and am a proponent of "complete streets," multi-modal streets and "road diets." I am supportive of the goals of Vision Zero. Safe, walkable and bike-able streets and sidewalks are a major issue in southeast Denver.

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:

Well-maintained sidewalks are essential to walkability. Making Denver a pedestrian-friendly city is a priority for me and in southeast Denver.

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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?**

Yes,

Comment:

I am in favor of studying the impacts of developments on neighborhoods and parking prior to approval.

**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.**

Yes,

Examples:

The 2010 Zoning Code generally has benefited the City of Denver and its neighborhoods by replacing an obsolete and unwieldy former zoning code with one that's easier to use, placing greater emphasis on building and parking placement on sites; and providing for more pedestrian oriented design concepts on commercial corridors and allows for more flexibility on uses, including mixed uses. In addition, the remapping of the City that took place concurrently with the zoning code has allowed for more uniform zoning of like areas. Despite these benefits, the effects of the 2010 Zoning Code and remapping have been greater on neighborhoods with significant demands for growth – for example, the Highlands and Sloan Lake neighborhoods. These neighborhoods have seen development of many high density multi family projects adjacent to traditional neighborhoods. Some of these projects would have been allowed under the old zoning code, but the remapping also zoned certain properties for these projects where they would not previously have been allowed. While these projects are providing much needed housing to our City residents, they also are resulting in increased traffic and more demands on scarce parking

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

The 2010 Zoning Code is a living document that should be adjusted on a regular basis to address identified issues or problems. While I am reluctant to suggest specific changes without the benefit of City and neighborhood input, I would generally support changes that would improve transitions from higher density projects to less dense surrounding neighborhoods, promote mixed use development and insure that new development is well designed, promotes walkability and is supported by transportation options.

**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:

Neighborhood input is important and their voices should be heard. I will encourage the appointment of neighborhood representatives to groups that consider zoning and planning and issues.

**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:

Blueprint Denver was adopted in 2002 and should be revised. Denver is changed and grown since then. Community members representing every part of Denver should be invited to participate in the discussion. I recommend a task force with smaller working groups to discuss specifics.

**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.**

Thoughtful development that preserves the integrity of stable neighbors.

**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?**

Yes,

Comment:

I am open to the concept of entertainment districts in certain areas if there are compelling reasons - like public safety - to establish them. I am open to learning about which parts of the city would be appropriate and what closing time works in other cities.

**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:

Short-term rentals are already happening illegally in Denver. I support legalizing them if they can be regulated and taxed. I support regulations that require the owner to reside on the property. Other regulations should protect neighborhoods and ensure safe conditions for the renters.