

COMPLETE

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Time Spent: 20:49:41 First Name: Shelli Last Name: Brown

Email:

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Q1: What is your name please? Shelli Brown

Q2: Which Counsel district do you hope to represent?

District 11

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

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

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?

No.

Comment:

I believe that the most efficient way to get the legally available areas designated is to delegate the leadership of the effort to one department. All other affected departments could work on the designation process and report to the leading department. This way there is more structure to the overall effort. Other affected departments should make designation a priority as it will lead to an increase in the quality of life for the citizens of Denver.

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'm in support of maintaining a balanced amount of open space within Denver. As with all policy changes, it would need to reflect the will of the constituents in the affected neighborhoods.

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:

If it made sense to that particular neighborhood and it isn't displacing residents. District 11 is considered the periphery of Denver, and those areas deserve parkland as well.

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:

While I don't oppose the development of a Festival Site, it would need to be something the surrounding community wants.

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

Yes,

Comment:

I would support access to playing fields for Denver citizens, but I'm not clear where within city limits such a place could exist.

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:

When it comes to the health of our citizens, the public always has the right to know what is going on in their surroundings. However, hiring these outside experts would need to make sense for the city budget as well.

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

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?

No.

Comment:

I believe tax levies should be voted on by the citizens of Denver.

PAGE 11: Discretionary Projects

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

Yes,

Comment: If it made sense in the budget.

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?

No.

Comment:

While eliminating traffic deaths and serious injuries is a high priority, I need to better understand all of the available options to Denver while we work to make our city safer.

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

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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

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:

I need to spend some more time reviewing the zoning code before giving a definitive "yes" or "no" answer.

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

I am open to learning from all parties what the pros and cons of the 2010 zoning code have been for Denver residents and businesses.

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:

Adding folks from neighborhoods in a general sense is important so that communities have a voice in the direction of their city.

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:

Any city city planning and development documents should be living and breathing documents and revised as needed.

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.

Denver's growth should be balanced and inclusive of 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?

Yes.

Comment:

Downtown areas already have the infrastructure to support an entertainment district. As long as the businesses want to increase their hours. Public comment from the designated area should decide the time restrictions.

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 that the rights of a homeowner in any of Denver's neighborhoods must be balanced with the rights of the neighbors that live there, too. It is premature to make concrete suggestions around this issue when I do not know that actual numbers of private citizens who are taking advantage of this option, the number of tourists that impact otherwise quiet neighborhoods, and any safety considerations that need to be made. I think it is an issue that Denver residents should weigh in on. If ultimately it is decided that they are allowed, they should be subjected to regulations and taxation just like other lodging options.