

2019 Denver Municipal Candidate Tourism and Hospitality Questionnaire



CHLA
COLORADO HOTEL AND
LODGING ASSOCIATION


**COLORADO
RESTAURANT
ASSOCIATION**


VISIT DENVER
The Convention & Visitors Bureau

TABLE of CONTENTS

* indicates incumbent, candidates listed in alphabetical order

[Click on candidate name to view answers](#)

• Mayor	
➤ Lisa Calderón	Page 4
➤ Michael B. Hancock*	Page 9
➤ Penfield Tate	Page 15
• Auditor	
➤ Timothy M. O'Brien*	Page 20
• Clerk & Recorder	
➤ Paul Lopez	Page 25
• Council At-Large	
➤ Robin Kniech*	Page 29
➤ Debbie Ortega*	Page 33
• Council District 1 map	Page 37
➤ Sabrina D'Agosta	Page 38
➤ Scott Durrah	Page 44
➤ Praj Kulkarni	Page 48
➤ David Sabados	Page 52
➤ Amanda Sandoval	Page 56
➤ Mike Somma	Page 60
• Council District 2 map	Page 65
➤ Kevin Flynn*	Page 66
• Council District 3 map	Page 70
➤ Veronica Barela	Page 71
➤ Raymond Montoya	Page 75
➤ Jamie Torres	Page 79
• Council District 4 map	Page 83
➤ Kendra Black*	Page 84
➤ Colleen Zahradnicek	Page 88
• Council District 5 map	Page 92
➤ Michele Fry	Page 93
➤ Stephen Replin	Page 97

➤ Amanda Sawyer	Page 101
➤ Mary Beth Susman*	Page 106
• Council District 6 map	Page 110
➤ Paul Kashmann*	Page 111
• Council District 7	
➤ No responses submitted	
• Council District 8 map	Page 115
➤ Chris Herndon*	Page 116
➤ Erik Penn	Page 119
➤ Blair Taylor	Page 123
➤ Patrick F. Thibault	Page 127
• Council District 9 map	Page 131
➤ Albus Brooks*	Page 132
➤ Jonathan Patrick Woodley	Page 136
• Council District 10 map	Page 140
➤ Chris Hinds	Page 141
➤ Wayne New*	Page 146
➤ Tony Smith	Page 150
• Council District 11 map	Page 154
➤ Stacie Gilmore*	Page 155

Lisa Calderón

Page 1

Q1 Lisa Calderón

Q2 Denver Mayor

Q3 lisa@lisa4denvermayor.org

Q4 Candidate phone number

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver’s friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

My approach to public safety will prioritize addressing the underlying causes of crime (e.g., affordable housing, reducing barriers to employment) and shifting resources from punishment for nonviolent offenses to treatment and services will reduce recidivism and incarceration costs. I will appoint an experienced, diverse leadership team committed to a fair, just, and progressive Denver, and that is invested in the co-production of public safety, where community members partner with law enforcement to develop holistic approaches for improved safety outcomes. Regarding the perception of public safety, particularly around homelessness, I believe we must begin from a recognition of the humanity and dignity of people who are experiencing homelessness. I do not support the criminalization of homelessness in Denver via “move on” orders. These policies have overwhelming collateral consequences on homeless populations by pushing unhoused people to dangerous areas, pushing them farther away from vital resources, and causing adverse health effects. As homeless people are forced into the shadows, extremely harmful consequences usually follow; this is a public safety and public health issue for those who are experiencing homelessness. I will prioritize a housing-first model, where people experiencing chronic homelessness are placed in housing without preconditions, such as sobriety or treatment. Meeting people where they are at, stabilizing them through rapid housing, and then incorporating wrap-around services is a better use of taxpayer dollars than the more expensive criminalization approach to public safety as it relates to homelessness. We must also equip those who are not homeless with alternatives to involving law enforcement in situations better handled by other supportive organizations. As mayor, I will bring together business owners, city agencies, service providers, and community members (housed and unhoused) to come to fair and equitable solutions. This would include education and outreach to the downtown business community, providing business owners with the resources and best practices in how to engage with and support those experiencing homelessness without involving law enforcement.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

While I am not an endorser, I support the goal of the Right to Survive initiative which is to decriminalize homelessness. A great city isn't just measured by its wealth, but how it cares for those in need. Criminalizing our unhoused neighbors is not an evidence-based practice, and has not been proven effective at reducing homelessness. If anything, punitive policies make the problem worse by funneling people into the criminal justice system, a much more expensive avenue than investing in services at the front end. We also must take a regional approach to addressing the homelessness crisis since these populations are fluid across city boundaries, and no single municipality can end homelessness alone. My 20 years of executive nonprofit management experience, including 8 years of working in Denver's jails, has prepared me to move our city in a more humane direction to address risk factors for homelessness including poverty, mental illness and addiction. My academic background, including a law degree and doctorate in education, will guide me in developing solutions that are grounded in evidence, not the politics of fear. I will appoint administrators to a cabinet-level Housing Department who have deep expertise and experience with our complex housing issues so that we can implement a coherent, comprehensive, and consistent strategy that leverages public and private resources to provide multiple pathways to proper shelter, temporary housing, permanent supportive housing, treatment services, and long-term affordable housing in mixed-income communities for those experiencing homelessness. As I mentioned above, it must also include increased coordinated outreach efforts to permanently house residents through a housing-first model where people experiencing chronic homelessness are placed in housing without preconditions, such as sobriety or treatment. Meeting people where they are at, stabilizing them through rapid housing, and then incorporating wrap-around services is a better use of taxpayer dollars than the more expensive criminalization approach involving law enforcement in situations that are better handled by other supportive organizations. By working together, Denver can be a model for how residents, service providers, business owners and city leaders can create housing for all and improve community well-being. A great city isn't measured just by its wealth, but also by the way it cares for those in need.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

It is important to bring our cultural communities into the prosperity of Denver. I am a lifelong resident in Denver, and many of the urban events and outdoor activities I attended growing up in Denver taught me about the city's rich cultural history, while also providing entertainment and social interaction with people from different backgrounds. In order to have truly integrated neighborhoods, we also need to have accessible and integrated events. Therefore, I would look at both indoor and outdoor events through an equity lens, to bring in local small business owners serving culturally diverse communities. Accessibility includes making sure booth fees and permits are not cost-prohibitive for any Denver resident, since the interaction between locals and tourists is a value-add for visitors. For smaller events, I would invest in providing a fund to defray costs for public amenities and security officers. By providing interaction and access in this way, residents who have the opportunity to attend public events geared for tourists are not left on the sidelines as bystanders, but become ambassadors for helping to showcase Denver.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, I support a dedicated park/venue for events and festivals in Denver--this would add to the city's open space portfolio. I believe it's important to protect and preserve open space that is integrated into the local community, and that the local community, not just visitors, would have access to this park or venue.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, I would support park and public spaces citywide could benefit from cafes that offer food and beverages, public art, and seating. I believe that offering such amenities can make our parks focal points for the community throughout our neighborhoods. I would approach the planning and implementation of this program through an equity lens, ensuring that the amenities offered come from the existing community and reflect the cultural context of the park and neighborhood. I would also prioritize local, independent vendors and contractors to provide these amenities.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

I am committed to supporting Denver's small local business owners who bring so much vibrancy and community connection to the neighborhoods throughout our city. I will expand MBE/WBE programs, with monitoring to ensure compliance. I will also implement programs to incentivize socially responsible business practices, especially in our neighborhoods most vulnerable to gentrification and displacement. For example, I support the creation good neighbor funds to invest in local initiatives in order to develop better and more integrated ways of doing business with impacted residents. I would also work with industry organizations to support and expand job training programs, like Colorado ProStart, and apprenticeship initiatives like those at Prodigy Coffeehouse and the Spring Cafe.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Denver must make transportation more accessible to more people. Making public transit more affordable and accessible will be a priority, as we are the hub of the metro area's business industry. I will work across municipalities and at the state level to support funding for transportation, as well as the Regional Transportation Board. I will be a convener of stakeholders to hold RTD accountable to be more affordable and inclusive of all communities, particularly those that are public transit-reliant. If we want to be a state that prospers, we must work with our regional partners to make transit work for all people and communities. As part of my SMART (Smart Growth, Mobility, Assess, Revitalization, Trees and open space) vision for planning, I will implement initiatives to shift the culture from being car-dependent to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse-gas emissions. Unfortunately, Denver currently lacks a truly comprehensive, multi-modal approach to transportation. As mayor, I will call for the development of a single integrated transportation plan that brings together planning for streets, boulevards, parkways, bikeways, sidewalks, transit and paratransit. I will also use data to inform decision-making and will measure benchmarks to reach the goal of zero traffic fatalities as envisioned by Denver Streets Partnership Vision Zero five-year plan. I will increase funding to create equity across neighborhoods where the majority of deaths occur in "high-injury networks" or "communities of concern," which disproportionately consist of working-class people. And I will build infrastructure for alternative forms of transportation to make walking and cycling safer.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

The pillars of my campaign are equity, fairness, and justice. A top priority for me is equity for workers and being able to afford to live in the city where they work. The \$15/hour minimum wage for city workers that was recently approved--after years of advocacy by unions--is only a starting point in making our city more affordable and livable for workers and their families. However, having it go into effect in 2021 is too little too late for many Denverites who are struggling with the rising cost of living in the city. I support a livable wage, not just a minimum wage, in order to ensure self-sufficiency and to support the basic needs of working families, with a commitment to regular increases to keep pace with the rising cost of living in Denver. Based on the current cost of living in Denver, a livable wage for one adult and one child would be closer to \$24/hour.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

I do not support restaurants adjusting hourly wages below the minimum wage for tipped employees. This is an issue of fairness and equity for workers; all workers deserve stable wages. Unpredictable paychecks are a barrier to self-sufficiency for tipped workers--who are often people of color and women--and impede their ability to plan for the future and build wealth. Research by the Economic Policy Institute has shown that one-fair-wage policies, in which tipped workers are paid the same wage regardless of tips, do not harm the restaurant industry in the cities and states where they have been enacted, and they reduce pay disparities for tipped workers of color, protect workers from wage theft, and lower the poverty rate for tipped workers, among many other benefits. Additionally, taking care of tipped workers is the right thing to do and good for the bottom line. Better-paid employees work harder, stay longer and make customers happier.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Yes, I support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly. Like other Denver voters, I believe we must have responsible spaces for social consumption. Unfortunately, the Social Use ordinance has fallen short of the original vision: Current licensing regulations do not allow social consumption venues to be sustainable businesses for cannabis entrepreneurs. These businesses are not allowed to sell cannabis or food that isn't already prepackaged, and they have been zoned for areas that are unlikely to attract tourists. As mayor, I would welcome and support the cannabis industry, not just tolerate it. I would work with stakeholders to remove the licensing and zoning barriers that are impeding this aspect of economic development in our city.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, I support dual consumption venues. Whether or not there are venues serving alcohol and cannabis together, people already engage in dual consumption. There is no evidence that people would abuse cannabis or alcohol more if given the choice to purchase both.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

I believe that the most important duty for a mayor is to provide for the prosperity of all residents in Denver in an equitable, fair and just manner. The mayor should promote policies that incentivize businesses to support the health, safety, well-being of workers and residents. I believe that local government should provide more substantive fiduciary sponsorship for first-time restaurant owners, based on fair and objective criteria standards, to help them achieve an increase their profit margins within the first two years, which is when the highest percentage of restaurants fail. Also, the local government can continue to implement the balancing of fair regulations for employees by facilitating mandatory bimonthly regulatory audits of fair employee regulation practices, which would be a requirement to receive local fiduciary sponsorship.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I am a longtime community organizer, a nonprofit director and currently an educator. I grew up in Denver and graduated from North High School, and raised my two children in Denver while obtaining my undergraduate degree at Metro State University, Master's degree at the University of Denver and then my law degree at the University of Colorado. I am co-chair of the Colorado Latino Forum, an organization that seeks to transform Colorado by increasing Latino participation in the electoral process, and in educating and mobilizing the Latino community around issues of importance to the community. I also have over twenty years of experience in the Colorado nonprofit sector, first as legal director for Safehouse Boulder, serving and helping people seeking to escape domestic violence, and then as the executive director of the Community Reentry Project, an organization that helped formerly incarcerated individuals as they reenter the community. Most recently, I finished my doctorate in education at CU Denver, focusing on improving educational outcomes for incarcerated adults. I am currently a full-time faculty member at Regis University, where I teach sociology and criminal justice. Additionally, I am the only woman of color among the leading candidates, and if elected, I would become the first woman — and woman of color — to hold the office of Mayor in Denver. I am also the only top contender who is not backed by large corporate investors and developers. Instead, my base is made up of small individual donors largely comprised of progressive voters. I am running for mayor because I love my city and because I believe Denver can be a city that is more fair, more just and more equitable for all of its residents. I believe that by working together, we can build a city based on shared power and accountability — one where residents and workers are included in the policy decisions that most affect them.

Michael B. Hancock

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Michael B. Hancock

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Mayor

Q3 Candidate email

info@hancockfordenver.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

303-526-8551

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

The perception of safety and actual safety of employees, visitors and others along 16th Street Mall and in the downtown area is a complex challenge. As Mayor, my administration has worked side-by-side with numerous stakeholders to change this dynamic and improve the experience downtown for all audiences. We have worked to increase dedicated security through more Denver Police and private security support. We have also activated the space with positive activities and events attracting new audiences to experience downtown. We have improved lighting and other infrastructure to make the area more welcoming. And we have increased services and housing to help those in the downtown area who are experiencing homelessness stabilize their lives. We must place increased focus on helping those most vulnerable in our community. Today, the city invests more than \$50 million in homeless services every year, an amount that increases annually. While the city plays a critical role in stemming homelessness, we cannot solve this challenge alone. This is a complex issue that can only be addressed with a multifaceted approach by numerous organizations and resources. This includes creating shelters, expanding access to mental health care services and drug addiction treatment, addressing wage stagnation, identifying creative housing solutions and better connecting people to resources. The strategies that we have crafted to improve the feeling of safety in our downtown core were created through a collaborative approach. As your Mayor, I commit to continuing this dedicated work to explore new solutions to improving the experience downtown.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

I grew up in Denver as one of ten kids, raised by a single mom in public housing. I know firsthand the pain of poverty and homelessness. There were many times when we didn't know where we were going to sleep or if we would have enough to eat. I am committed to fighting for Denver's most vulnerable people so that everyone has access to a home, a job and a future. Currently, Denver invests nearly \$50 million annually toward direct and indirect services to those experiencing homelessness. These include affordable housing, supportive housing services, street outreach workers, and transportation to and from our shelters. I recognize and value the DDP's committed work and strong advocacy for increased services and funding to support the most vulnerable in our city. This is important and impactful work, but we know we can and must do better. This is particularly true when it comes to preventing homelessness, to serving those who utilize our shelters, and to aiding those who remain unsheltered on our streets. However, Initiative 300 is not the answer. We need to continue fighting the opioid crisis with fervor and compassion. We need to continue investing in shelters, meal programs, services that connect individuals to critical resources, and programs that allow people to thrive. I'm opposed to Initiative 300 because I will never be convinced that it's dignified for people to sleep on the street. I will never accept the risks of needles in our parks or trash accumulating in our streets.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

Denver has become a destination for outdoor festivals, events and more. Over the past eight years, together, we have grown our entertainment, film, convention and trade show business by promoting Denver. We attracted key tradeshow and conventions, including IPW and the Outdoor Retailer Show. It is not just visitors who love our events – it is our residents who are clamoring for such activities, including my family! I am so proud of our phenomenal progress to help our city reach new tourism, convention and event heights. This work has not come without lessons learned but I truly believe in a strong working relationship between the city and your organizations for the continued vibrancy of Denver. Recognizing the increasing volume of events, in 2014, my administration created the Office of Special Events to coordinate public events and film productions often in partnership with the Visitors Bureau. Through this office, we have eased the burdens on event and film producers by coordinating multiple city departments and agencies and reduced or eliminated some permit and application fees. From permitting to planning, I think we have really graduated this work. But it is far from over, and I commit to our continued partnership.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

I could not be more excited about the numerous new venues and sites planned to enhance Denver's venues. Our progress includes significant investments in the tourism, convention and tradeshow sectors. In 2015, my administration led efforts to secure voter approval for \$100 million to help pay for the Colorado Convention Center expansion. In 2017, my office also partnered with Visit Denver, and CHLA to create Colorado's first ever Denver Tourism Improvement District, which generates about \$9 million a year. Proceeds are used for marketing, convention center renovations and other capital improvements. I have also been a strong advocate and supporter of the entertainment industry, providing financial, administrative and other types of support for new events such as the Grandoozy music festival and long-standing events and organizations such as the Denver Performing Arts Complex, Five Points Jazz Festival and many others. I support the continued creation of such unique venues and use of our public spaces to only increase our convention, tourism and event success from here. Beyond those efforts, my administration has also been a strong partner in exploring innovative concepts to further the idea of dedicated space for events, festivals and activation. Last summer we piloted the Square on 21st - a pop up park that was activated with a performance stage, food trucks, games and other activities. We're looking at incorporating a Festival Street in RiNo to complement the National Western Center and this year plan to advance consideration of Entertainment Districts legislation to City Council. All of these unique concepts can help us have additional space available for events that drives activation to appropriate areas and potentially relieves pressure on Denver's other great regional and neighborhood parks.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Our downtown is more than just a series of buildings, streets and lights – it's where we come together to enjoy culture, have fun, gather as a community, express ourselves as a city and create memories. Because these downtown spaces are the most heavily used in the city – by residents, tourists and the workforce -- they deserve a corresponding level of service. That's why my administration has increased funding for park maintenance, upkeep and security in our downtown parks. It's also why we are placing a renewed focus on downtown's parks and public spaces through the Outdoor Downtown Plan, to elevate these experiences for the tens of thousands of residents, employees and tourists in our downtown every day. The Outdoor Downtown Plan identifies thoughtful proposals to increase not just green space but public spaces for residents, employees and tourists. We need to strengthen existing and develop new public-private partnerships as development continues downtown to leverage the opportunity for additional green space. Denver voters took a major step in supporting our parks when they overwhelmingly passed the Parks, Trails and Open Space Tax this past November. This increased investment will positively impact the implementation of the Outdoor Downtown Plan along with the city's overall work to improve Denver's parks, trails and open space. To realize this ambitious plan, we will need strong collaboration, new partnerships, more staff and increased investment. We will need to explore other funding options identified in the Outdoor Downtown Plan including development partnerships, sponsorships, grants, and other financing tools. I believe the establishment of a team to lead this exploration is a solid next step.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

Denver was able to jumpstart this economy due to the partnerships of established organization/partners like the Visitors Bureau. We have a lot to be proud of in this city. We have taken Denver from the depths of recession to one of the strongest economies in the nation. Over the past 8 years, we have created 100,000 new jobs and 8,100 new businesses and reduced unemployment from double digits to record lows. Tourism is a major industry and key player in Denver's economy. I have been proud to be named by national publications as the best place to live for two straight years, best city to visit, best place to start a career, best place of raise children, best place for millennials, best place for entrepreneurs, and best place to retire. While we have great successes, we must keep propelling Denver's economy into the future. My administration has a plan to create a more inclusive and innovative economy for all Denver residents and neighborhoods. • We must create consistency and stability amidst ever-changing economic tides. Through our workforce support programs, housing initiatives, and neighborhood stabilization efforts, we will help create economic resiliency for Denver. • We must catalyze an innovation ecosystem for people, business, and the Denver community. By promoting innovation, investing in opportunity areas, and support small business development to help catalyze responsible growth in Denver. • We must connect our partners and customers with opportunities— now and in the future. Our efforts attract global interest, expand city partnerships, and improve small business competitiveness to help connect businesses and residents with opportunities, both global and local. • We must cultivate and promote equity. By adding affordable housing, reducing involuntary displacement, and improving job access, we cultivate responsible, equitable growth that preserves the character and vitality of Denver's neighborhoods.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

To keep Denver accessible, affordable and equitable, residents must be able to get around the city easier with more transportation options. I launched a Mobility Action Plan that will invest \$2 billion to address Denver's congestion and accelerate projects, policies and programs to move more people, more efficiently and more safely. This includes ensuring our streets learn to share giving more people safe, reliable options such as mass transit, bikes, scooters and pedestrian paths. My Mobility Action Plan addresses the ways in which we can embrace these types of transit and make them easier to access from all parts of the city. To help encourage this behavior, we are working with RTD to increase priority routes on main corridors – including a new Colfax Rapid Transit express route. We have added miles of protected bike lanes and paths. Improved signs, signals, striping and paving throughout the city to make it easier for pedestrians and wheelchairs to get around. We have joined the Vision Zero program with the goal of eliminating traffic fatalities by 2030. In addition to changing the way people move about the city, we also need to consider the environmental impact that vehicles are having. That's why I am investing in technology and infrastructure to make electric vehicles a more appealing form of transportation. We are deploying a fully electric fleet of street sweepers this year, as well as adding 200 electric vehicles for other city services by the end of 2020.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

I'm committed to ensuring that everyone in Denver has the opportunity to benefit from the unprecedented prosperity our city is enjoying today so that no one is left behind. I encourage the state legislature to allow local governments to create higher minimum wages at the city and county level. I am proud to have recently taken the first step in this direction for Denver by increasing the minimum wage to \$15 for city employees, and contractors providing services to the city or in city facilities. I am grateful to the Visitors Bureau, CRA, and CHLA for their engagement with the city on this proposal, which was recently unanimously supported by Denver City Council. I do believe Denver must increase its minimum wage for its workforce and as an example for the entire state. While I do not have proposed specifics, I would go about this effort with the same thoughtfulness as we approached the city wage increase.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

I am supportive of a reasonable tip credit being allowed in minimum wage legislation, which is why we included a tip credit in our proposal and included provisions for that tip credit to grow over time – taking a step beyond current state provisions. If the legislature should act to allow local governments to enact a jurisdiction wide minimum wage and Denver chooses to take that step, I would advocate for including a tip credit in that legislation as well.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

I support providing Denverites with the ability to legally and safely consume marijuana in a shared space. Denver voters overwhelmingly supported the creation of these venues and the city is working hard with the industry and neighborhoods to responsibly and thoughtfully implement, as we have with previous marijuana initiatives. While the business model has proven to be challenging, we have worked with applicants to meet requirements and consider unique models. This landscape is certain to evolve. Proposed state legislation to allow other models for consumption is now making its way through the process and includes a local option to develop these models and should that bill pass, Denver will thoughtfully engage as we always have to determine next steps. While Denver has become a national model for legalizing marijuana, we are now amongst numerous cities that have lessons learned. We are actively monitoring their programs to find new solutions. As we work on creating a successful regulatory framework, we will continue to work with the industry and neighborhoods to ensure that the solutions are right for Denver.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

While I support providing Denverites with the ability to legally and safely consume marijuana in a shared space, I do continue to carry concerns regarding dual consumption and current state regulations prohibit dual consumption. Denver is on the frontlines of the legalization of marijuana. While we have forged into this new frontier boldly becoming a national model, we have done so thoughtfully, working to balance the voters' will with the health and safety of our people. This is the approach we will continue to take.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

I do believe the city can play a strong role as a partner with our restaurant industry to ensure it thrives. Over the past eight years, we have seen our culinary experience in Denver really take off and I am proud that we have such an excellent food scene. I know the city can help support this industry by addressing affordability, mobility and workforce. Keeping Denver an accessible city for our workforce is top priority for my administration and we will continue to address this challenge with fervor.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I have been working on plans and building teams of experts to achieve our growth, mobility, sustainability and equity goals for a long time. No other candidate in this race has my experience, track record, budget plan or understanding of the ways in which city departments work together successfully. I am proud of everything we have accomplished in these last eight years, and I am truly excited about the opportunities we have to deliver a more welcoming, modern and progressive city. No one idea can solve a city's most pressing issues, but my team and I have been able to look at the research, identify challenges neighborhood-by-neighborhood and address those in a multifaceted way that preserves the best of Denver. We aren't finished yet. And we have already built the framework needed in the Denveright proposal, the 80x50 Climate Action Plan, Sustainable Neighborhoods Program, Mobility Action Plan, and the variety of other initiatives we have undertaken to protect our city. We have timing and budget already allocated to each, and can continue to implement these changes without any delay in timing or execution.

Penfield Tate

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Penfield Tate

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Mayor

Q3 Candidate email

info@tatefordenver.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

7204196148

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

These are all legitimate concerns, and more importantly, they are the perception of our city that drives and shapes a visitor's experience. If we want to continue to be a preferred destination for visitors, these issues must be addressed. All of them appear to be related more directly to perceptions of Downtown as opposed to venues and other parts of the city. To address the issues of safety and the perception of safety, we must increase the presence of police officers and/or some security presence on foot on the 16th Street Mall and possibly 17th and 15th streets as well. Better maintenance of the 16th Street Mall with respect to trash removal, and maintaining a visually attractive space must continue. The existing food carts and some small retail kiosks are a positive development and those efforts should be expanded. On a longer term basis, I will accelerate the development and revitalization of retail on our Downtown streets, including the 16th Street Mall. Homelessness and aggressive panhandling can and will be addressed by a plan that transitions the homeless to other locations and circumstances. Contrary to the approach of the current administration with sweeps and camping bans of questionable legality, and the resulting class-action lawsuit and settlement of the same, I will implement an aggressive policy in my first 100 days to address homelessness. Working with existing providers and service agencies, we will accelerate the approval of temporary shelter space, and identify additional shelter options for the homeless. Working with these same providers, we will accelerate the permitting of affordable housing options like tiny homes to assist the transition of employed homeless persons (currently estimated to be 15-60% of the homeless population) into affordable housing. Finally, working with these same agencies and providers, and neighborhoods, we will establish smaller outdoor homeless encampments supported by bathroom, shower, and laundry facilities, as well as mental and physical health related services.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

My plan for addressing our homeless situation is identified above. It is the first step in a longer term strategy that must include the aggressive development of affordable housing to buy and rent developed across our city. In the wake of the city's settlement of the class-action lawsuit around the ill-conceived homeless sweeps and campaign bans, Initiative 300 has been proposed as the legislative solution. Both points of view avoid the true issue. While I agree with the desire of Initiative 300 to stop the homeless sweeps and end the camping ban, the real solution to our homelessness issue is the plan I have outlined in my responses.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

The diversity in Denver's community gives rise to a number of vibrant and enjoyable festivals and events available for residents and visitors alike. The Taste of Colorado, The People's Fair, Cinco De Mayo, and Juneteenth are examples of the different flavors of Denver. Personally, I prefer the time when many of these events occurred in the neighborhoods which birthed them, rather than being moved to Civic Center Park. I feel that some element of the uniqueness was lost when they all occurred in the same venue Downtown. I would support and encourage relocating events to their neighborhoods of origin, but will not insist upon it and will do everything possible to continue their growth, development, and contribution to Denver's vibrant city. Furthermore, I would encourage the development of additional activities and look forward to managing the balance between neighborhood interest and these new culturally enriching opportunities. I continue to support the operation of Denver's professional sports franchises in their existing venues.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, I financed the Levitt Pavilion project that is a good example of such a dedicated venue. In supporting the same I will insist upon a thorough and comprehensive evaluation of a number of issues, including cost, location, impact on communities, availability of transit to access the park or venue, impact of traffic and parking requirements, types of activities to be accommodated, management and operational responsibility, and availability to neighborhood and community based organizations. I would also support evaluating the potential conversion or expansion of any existing park or venue to support this effort with the same considerations noted above. We must make sure that these venues have additional uses as well so that they do not sit vacant too frequently.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, and as noted above, I will incorporate the considerations for establishing a new venue as part of the process of determining whether and how to activate existing spaces.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

Any new or expanded program or policy will only be as successful as understanding the nature of the issue. I will begin by meeting with representatives of the tourism and hospitality industry to understand their specific needs related to workforce development and retention. This process will also include understanding what efforts currently exist in the private sector that can be supported by city government to provide a more effective result. The tourism and hospitality industry has often been a wonderful opportunity for high school and college students to enter the workforce. As mayor, I will facilitate conversation with the industry and our public schools, community colleges, and universities to determine opportunities to recruit and train these young people. I worked on the financing for Metro State's hotel and their hospitality program is an example of an existing effort that could be expanded with city and industry support. Recruitment fairs in communities with higher unemployment rates must also be explored. Connecting employers with higher education institutions to accommodate workers updating their skills and education experiences will also be incorporated. Programs like those provided by CSU Global University, one of the first public online universities in the country, are uniquely situated to support a partnership with the city and industry to develop curricula and/or training programs to update and supplement skills, enabling existing employees to remain in their jobs with a path for upward mobility.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Our mobility infrastructure has been significantly and adversely impacted by the way we have developed and built over the last many years. The impact on our street and road system was completely overlooked and ignored as we have rushed to over-develop the city. That will change in my administration. In many respects, the light/commuter rail system does not enhance mobility in and around the city of Denver. Additional efforts are required, beginning with my intention of establishing a Department of Transportation within Denver city government. In addition to focusing on technology based solutions and applications to move commuters in and around the city more effectively, we will explore shuttle systems within neighborhoods, shuttle systems between neighborhoods, expanding the bike lane and trail network, establishing a better integration of bike lanes and trails with existing and necessary automobile movement, and exploring other ride-sharing options. The new department will also evaluate re-timing traffic lights, lifting some of the current restrictions on bus-only lanes, and evaluate the use of flex lanes to move traffic more efficiently into and out of the city during peak traffic hours. Finally, we will evaluate converting existing two-way streets to one-way streets in an effort to facilitate access and mobility. All of this will be done in an inclusive and collaborative fashion, taking into consideration the needs of all of Denver's neighborhoods and residents.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

I do support the legislation currently being considered by the General Assembly. Local governments need the flexibility and ability to establish their own minimum wage. My initial inclination would be to match the efforts recently taken by the Denver City Council and establish a city minimum wage of \$15 per hour. I believe that in establishing this new standard, exceptions and exemptions must be put in place to accommodate small business and other unique business needs.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

In looking at the website of the Colorado Restaurant Association, I appreciate that 285,000 workers are employed in this industry statewide, and that over 75% of restaurants are independently owned and operated — they are the quintessential small businesses in Colorado. I am receptive to, and welcome this conversation. I believe this issue relates to fairness and equity for both restaurant owners and their employees. I would appreciate being educated on how tips work, and are computed and considered in establishing a different minimum wage for tipped employees.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

I support the idea behind Denver's Social Consumption ordinance and its accompanying rules. I support the establishment of Cannabis Consumption Business Permits for establishments that meet the existing rules. I will look closely at any efforts to expand the issuance of Cannabis Consumption Special Event Permits. I believe that special event permits, particularly if they are outdoors, must be evaluated more rigorously and thoroughly than the indoor consumption permits.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

I am open to having this conversation if the restaurant and bar industry are interested in considering a dual consumption regulatory structure.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

I see the role of city government in regulating this industry as essentially no different from regulating any other industry. The city should be involved in enforcing standards that secure the health, safety, and welfare of restaurant customers. Similarly, working with other levels of government, city government should also provide adequate support and protection for workers, employers and business owners from arbitrary actions. Ideally, outside of these parameters, the city should not intrude in the operations of restaurants.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

The restaurant and hospitality industry are vital to the economy of the City of Denver. As mayor, I intend to be an active and constructive partner in supporting and encouraging your expansion and success. I personally enjoy the variety of restaurants in our city, the quality of the food and ambiance, and more often than not, the wonderful service afforded by the staff. This industry is a primary reason why tourism flourishes and so ably supports our economy.

Timothy O'Brien

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Timothy M. O'Brien

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Auditor

Q3 Candidate email

tmobrien@sprintmail.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

303-759-2292

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

As Denver Auditor, I am required by the city charter to adhere to Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. These standards mandate that as Auditor I remain independent and objective in discharging my professional responsibilities. If I take a position (for or against) policies or proposed policies I could impair my independence and objectivity when conducting an audit of the same policies. Thus, I respectfully decline to answer your questions. I hope that you receive my position in the constructive manner that I intend. Independence and objectivity are the cornerstones of the auditing profession. They cannot be compromised.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

As Denver Auditor, I am required by the city charter to adhere to Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. These standards mandate that as Auditor I remain independent and objective in discharging my professional responsibilities. If I take a position (for or against) policies or proposed policies I could impair my independence and objectivity when conducting an audit of the same policies. Thus, I respectfully decline to answer your questions. I hope that you receive my position in the constructive manner that I intend. Independence and objectivity are the cornerstones of the auditing profession. They cannot be compromised.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

As Denver Auditor, I am required by the city charter to adhere to Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. These standards mandate that as Auditor I remain independent and objective in discharging my professional responsibilities. If I take a position (for or against) policies or proposed policies I could impair my independence and objectivity when conducting an audit of the same policies. Thus, I respectfully decline to answer your questions. I hope that you receive my position in the constructive manner that I intend. Independence and objectivity are the cornerstones of the auditing profession. They cannot be compromised.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

As Denver Auditor, I am required by the city charter to adhere to Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. These standards mandate that as Auditor I remain independent and objective in discharging my professional responsibilities. If I take a position (for or against) policies or proposed policies I could impair my independence and objectivity when conducting an audit of the same policies. Thus, I respectfully decline to answer your questions. I hope that you receive my position in the constructive manner that I intend. Independence and objectivity are the cornerstones of the auditing profession. They cannot be compromised.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

As Denver Auditor, I am required by the city charter to adhere to Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. These standards mandate that as Auditor I remain independent and objective in discharging my professional responsibilities. If I take a position (for or against) policies or proposed policies I could impair my independence and objectivity when conducting an audit of the same policies. Thus, I respectfully decline to answer your questions. I hope that you receive my position in the constructive manner that I intend. Independence and objectivity are the cornerstones of the auditing profession. They cannot be compromised.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

As Denver Auditor, I am required by the city charter to adhere to Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. These standards mandate that as Auditor I remain independent and objective in discharging my professional responsibilities. If I take a position (for or against) policies or proposed policies I could impair my independence and objectivity when conducting an audit of the same policies. Thus, I respectfully decline to answer your questions. I hope that you receive my position in the constructive manner that I intend. Independence and objectivity are the cornerstones of the auditing profession. They cannot be compromised.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

As Denver Auditor, I am required by the city charter to adhere to Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. These standards mandate that as Auditor I remain independent and objective in discharging my professional responsibilities. If I take a position (for or against) policies or proposed policies I could impair my independence and objectivity when conducting an audit of the same policies. Thus, I respectfully decline to answer your questions. I hope that you receive my position in the constructive manner that I intend. Independence and objectivity are the cornerstones of the auditing profession. They cannot be compromised.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

As Denver Auditor, I am required by the city charter to adhere to Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. These standards mandate that as Auditor I remain independent and objective in discharging my professional responsibilities. If I take a position (for or against) policies or proposed policies I could impair my independence and objectivity when conducting an audit of the same policies. Thus, I respectfully decline to answer your questions. I hope that you receive my position in the constructive manner that I intend. Independence and objectivity are the cornerstones of the auditing profession. They cannot be compromised.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

As Denver Auditor, I am required by the city charter to adhere to Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. These standards mandate that as Auditor I remain independent and objective in discharging my professional responsibilities. If I take a position (for or against) policies or proposed policies I could impair my independence and objectivity when conducting an audit of the same policies. Thus, I respectfully decline to answer your questions. I hope that you receive my position in the constructive manner that I intend. Independence and objectivity are the cornerstones of the auditing profession. They cannot be compromised.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

As Denver Auditor, I am required by the city charter to adhere to Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. These standards mandate that as Auditor I remain independent and objective in discharging my professional responsibilities. If I take a position (for or against) policies or proposed policies I could impair my independence and objectivity when conducting an audit of the same policies. Thus, I respectfully decline to answer your questions. I hope that you receive my position in the constructive manner that I intend. Independence and objectivity are the cornerstones of the auditing profession. They cannot be compromised.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

As Denver Auditor, I am required by the city charter to adhere to Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. These standards mandate that as Auditor I remain independent and objective in discharging my professional responsibilities. If I take a position (for or against) policies or proposed policies I could impair my independence and objectivity when conducting an audit of the same policies. Thus, I respectfully decline to answer your questions. I hope that you receive my position in the constructive manner that I intend. Independence and objectivity are the cornerstones of the auditing profession. They cannot be compromised.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

As Denver Auditor, I am required by the city charter to adhere to Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. These standards mandate that as Auditor I remain independent and objective in discharging my professional responsibilities. If I take a position (for or against) policies or proposed policies I could impair my independence and objectivity when conducting an audit of the same policies. Thus, I respectfully decline to answer your questions. I hope that you receive my position in the constructive manner that I intend. Independence and objectivity are the cornerstones of the auditing profession. They cannot be compromised.

Page 11

Tourism and hospitality questionnaire - Denver candidates 2019

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

As Denver Auditor, I am required by the city charter to adhere to Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. These standards mandate that as Auditor I remain independent and objective in discharging my professional responsibilities. If I take a position (for or against) policies or proposed policies I could impair my independence and objectivity when conducting an audit of the same policies. Thus, I respectfully decline to answer your questions. I hope that you receive my position in the constructive manner that I intend. Independence and objectivity are the cornerstones of the auditing profession. They cannot be compromised.

Paul Lopez

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Paul Lopez

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver Clerk and Recorder

Q3 Candidate email

Paul@lopezfordenver.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

7204353633

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

As a City Councilman, I've worked to provide permanent and transitional housing for the homeless. We've taken bold steps to get folks off the streets, help the vulnerable folks in our community, and create a welcoming environment. There's a long way to go, especially when folks are being priced out of places to live, but I'm proud of the work I've done and the balance I've struck on these issues.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

That's an issue for the next City Council and the voters of Denver. Im campaigning for a nonpartisan position and don't want to taint future discussions on the issue if I'm able to take this role.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

The city is growing so fast and I greatly admire the work done by the city, businesses, and non-profits to take Denver to the next level. That said, I think there's a ways to go in highlighting EVERY part of Denver and the enormous diversity that the city contains, as opposed to just a few wealthy, young communities.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Maybe. There would have to be definite details in order for me to provide a response. Funding, placement, and public involvement usually alter plans of this sort.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

I do. As I said in my previous answer, and through my experience as a City Councilman, public and private input is key to providing publicly activated spaces that support community activity.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

As a former employment counselor for Urban Peak, I believe that we need much more assistance for unemployed and underemployed folks in Denver. We are at full employment, but the next downturn isn't far off. We need to fill the gaps we encountered the last recession for those who lost their retirement funds, young folks struggling during their education, and those who have been laid off and need new career placement.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

We've worked on the City Council to create new transit corridors, open Union Station, and connect new light rail lines to fast transit options. These were transformative events in Denver's history. We still have a long ways to go to connect communities that still aren't connected to central hubs and ensure lower income communities are connected with our overall transit system. In addition, we have more suburban and lower income communities that have been ignored or lack transit options altogether. These are the places where we need to improve.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Absolutely. And I'm proud of the work we did to raise wages for our Denver employees and contractors. If our employees can't afford to live in the city they serve, then we are failing them.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

My Campaign Manager and I have both worked as servers, expo, bar back, and busser. If the problem is that your manager is making less than your server and is not happy about it, the solution isn't to cut pay for the server, it's to pay your manager more. We are at full employment and the industry is going to have trouble retaining employees. Cutting your server's pay isn't going to improve retainment outcomes

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Though the city has approved the one or two places in regard to this issue, the gate of this lies in the hands of new council members.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

Again, this for the new council to decide.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

This is a delicate balance and I've tried throughout my term in the council to balance worker's rights and our imperative to support local businesses.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I love this city, the one I've grown up in and served for over a decade. I'm proud to have played a small role in helping Denver become what it is today. I humbly ask for your support in my election for Denver City Clerk.

Robin Kniech

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Robin Kniech

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

City Council At-large

Q3 Candidate email

robin@kniechforcouncil.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

720-203-9565

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

Safety is critical, and we must both promote actual safety through consistent police presence, additional security like halo cameras, and promoting safety through design (lighting, landscaping etc). Perception is much harder to influence, but education and visibility of the prior methods are good places to start. As you know, we cannot legally pursue the former approach to prohibiting panhandling, but I'd support continuing education campaigns like "better way to give" that help reduce the giving that encourages panhandling.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

I will remain neutral and do my best to educate my constituents on the following points when asked: I did not and still do not support the camping ban. It did not work and has left people more vulnerable to freezing on the streets, now more dispersed and harder to do outreach for services and more vulnerable to attacks, and clearly did not reduce street homelessness. The RtS initiative goes further than that, however, and I am not supportive of components that would prohibit us from ensuring parks remain subject to curfews and permitting etc. The component on allowing folks to sleep in their cars is unnecessary as that is not prohibited currently. And there are numerous legally confusing components that will likely result in litigation if it passes.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I believe events are part of the vibrancy of the city, and are positive for activating public spaces, economic impacts, and brining residents together. We should do more to limit road closures and communicate better with neighborhoods on how to reduce impacts, and we should require zero waste events with recycling and composting, but I don't propose any new/different limits on events than already exist (such as the parks policy to spread events over more parks/limit overuse of some of the most popular parks).

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

NWC already has a riverfront park that could be used for this purpose in its plans, and I'm open to the thinking about alternatives at the DPAC for festival space, but until those two venues are determined and finalized and implemented, we shouldn't also pursue additional ideas.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Some parks can and should be activated, but not all, it is critical that residents have access to passive, quiet open space in all areas, including downtown. So we need a mix.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

I believe keeping wages competitive is key to attracting tourism workers in a competitive market in a high cost city. I would like to learn more about what workforce initiatives the industry believes would be beneficial, I'm familiar with the community college hotel program, Mi Casa's work in this area, and have discussed the benefits of working with Denver Day Works to help those exiting homelessness land in tourism, and I'd be supportive of expanding those approaches if there were industry interest.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

As Denver grows and our quality of life attracts more businesses, we need to invest in transportation choices to move people more efficiently and safely on our existing street network. More transportation choices will help maintain our city's quality of life. This has been a top priority my entire career, and I'll continue to be a leading advocate for improving our city's infrastructure. In addition to serving on the Board that built our newest transit hub at Denver Union Station, I served for seven years on the Denver Regional Council of Governments that sets the vision and prioritizes the spending of federal dollars for how we move around in the region. Denver and the region share many goals, including expanding the choices commuters have, improving safety of roadways for both drivers and pedestrians, and reducing congestion. We are making progress in putting more resources into meeting our transportation needs, including almost a half billion dollars for transit, paving, and other transportation improvements approved by voters in the 2017 Denver bond. But more improvements are needed to ensure transit is more accessible, affordable and faster in Denver. I have supported Council-led priorities, processes and amendments to expand funding for sidewalks, and will continue to fight to ensure we have the safe infrastructure we need to walk to transit stops or destinations like schools or work.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Yes. Stakeholder discussion needed, but probably similar to the measure just passed for contracted employees. Certainly no less than \$15 by 2021.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

I support the approach in the current bill for contractors, a modest credit, I would not support raising it above state law's credit.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Yes, I support relaxing distance requirements and standards to provide a more equitable distribution of possible social use locations.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

State legislative issue, not local. I will point out that dual consumption is already happening whether sanctioned or not, as people consume before arriving at bars/restaurants or secretively with edibles. I believe in data-informed and practical approaches to real human behavior, not emotional responses to the way we wish the world to operate.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

I don't believe government has a special obligation to support any particular industry, it is our job to always take feedback on our inspection/regulation processes and improve them where we can do so without endangering public health, that support for small business start ups are and should continue to be available for a broad array of businesses, especially women and minority-owned companies.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Thank you for what you do to promote Denver and support our visitors and economy.

Debbie Ortega

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Debbie Ortega

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver City Council, At-Large

Q3 Candidate email

debbie@ortegaatlarge.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

303-587-6620

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

I think the concerns are real -- we've been to numerous meetings where this has been the topic of conversation. We need housing (different price points and shelters) with support services, we need to continue to have street outreach workers connect people to resources, and we need developers to participate in solving the problem - including affordable housing in their developments.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

No, I don't support Initiative 300. It is written too broadly. When I was the Director of the homeless commission, we made a pledge that we could do better than having people sleep outside -- we need to build more units faster.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I think they are great. I don't know that I would do anything different - I think notification to residents is important, especially when they're closing off streets etc.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Technically we already have two -- Skyline Park and Civic Center Park. As we become more populated, we do need more park land so I would support more.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, but it requires working with the adjacent neighborhoods.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

There is currently a program in place that Bayaud Enterprise does with the downtown hotels that helps train people who have been formerly homeless. It's been a very successful program. That's a program that should be expanded.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

We provided funding for the "city loop" - a bike connection through downtown, bus rapid transit, ensuring that first and last mile connections are intact - closing that gap is important.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Yes. We just did that for city employees and for city contracts.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

I don't have a problem with it. I don't know what kind of tracking system would be in place and I would be happy to have a more in-depth discussion about this issue specifically.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

We've created legislation that allows for public consumption; the industry feels that the rules are so rigid that it doesn't give them enough options. I believe that the spacing criteria needs to remain intact.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

No.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Where the city can help is around them getting their building permits and their certificate of occupancy so they can open their doors.

Page 11

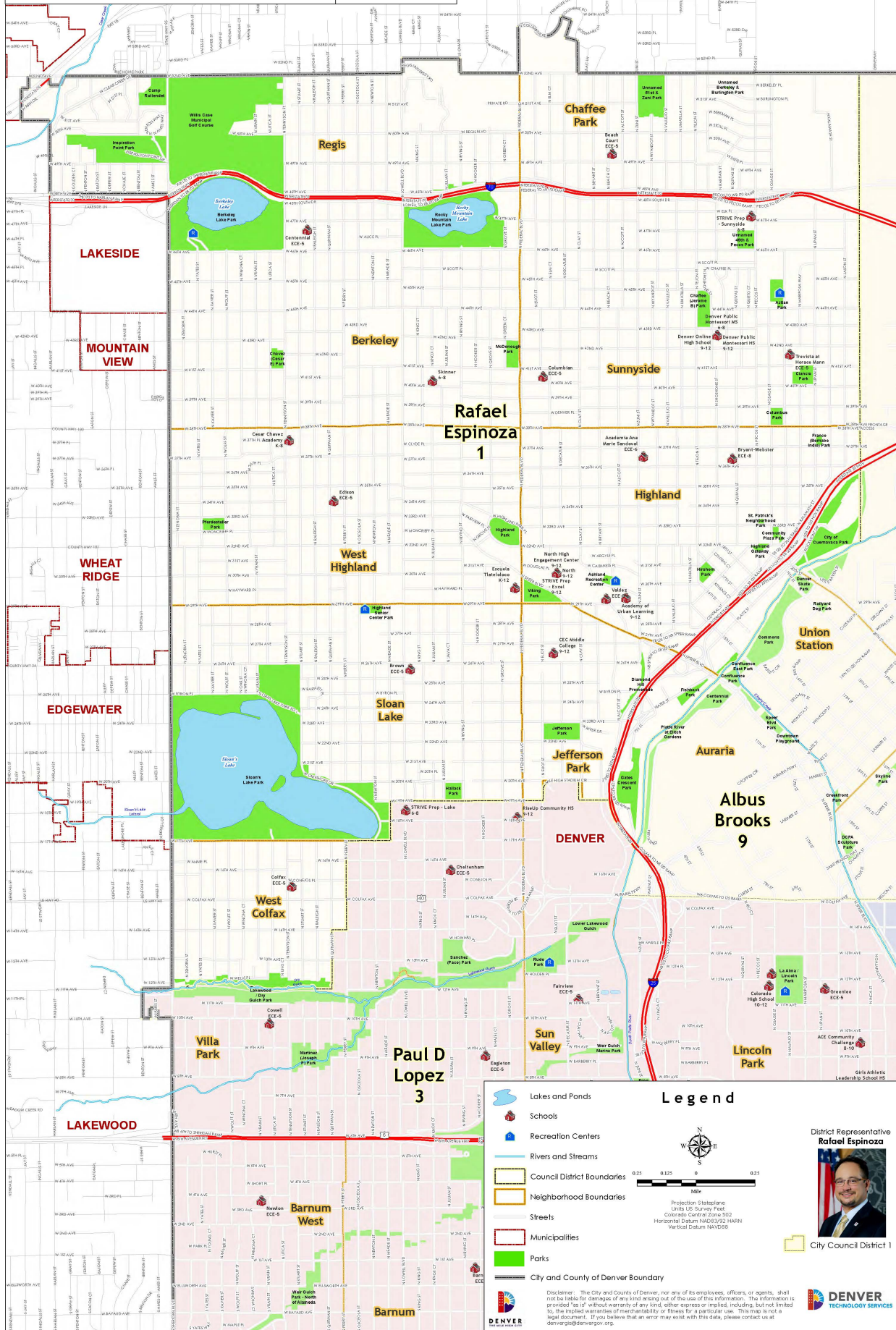
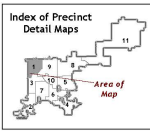
Tourism and hospitality questionnaire - Denver candidates 2019

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I have worked on big and small projects from the Central Platte Valley to the Convention Center and DIA. I've worked with our business community on some of those big projects. I think collaboration and inclusivity is important to getting anything done in our city, whether it's big projects or community-wide issues. I have always had an open-door policy and I will continue to do so when I am re-elected.

City and County of Denver Council District No. 1 Boundary Map

Map Produced: September 2nd, 2015
By Technology Services - Enterprise Data Management GIS



Legend

- Lakes and Ponds
- Schools
- Recreation Centers
- Rivers and Streams
- Council District Boundaries
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Streets
- Municipalities
- Parks
- City and County of Denver Boundary

0.25 0.125 0 0.125 0.25
Mile

Projection: NAD83
Units: US Survey Feet
Colorado Central Zone 502
Horizontal Datum: NAD83/USGS HARN
Vertical Datum: NAVD83

District Representative
Rafael Espinoza

City Council District 1

Disclaimer: The City and County of Denver, nor any of its employees, officers, or agents, shall not be liable for damages of any kind arising out of the use of this information. The information is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use. This map is not a legal document. If you believe that an error may exist with this data, please contact us at denvergis@denvergov.org.

DENVER
TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Sabrina D'Agosta

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Sabrina D'Agosta

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver City Council District 1

Q3 Candidate email

sabrina@sabrinaforwdenver.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

303-437-6671

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

Denver has a very real and significant problem with homelessness. The most recent Point In Time survey in 2018 shows that we have nearly 3,500 people experiencing homelessness, and nearly 1,000 of those are chronically homeless. I believe housing is a basic human right, and that our government has a responsibility to help prevent and resolve homelessness. I also believe our government has a responsibility to ensure a strong economy, in part, so we can help aid our most vulnerable populations -- and tourism contributes extensively to our City's ability to do so. Regardless of your motivation in reducing homelessness, it's clear that it needs to be a priority in Denver. I was intermittently homeless as a teenager, and I have volunteered throughout my life serving people experiencing homelessness. Solving homelessness is complex, but other cities have shown that a housing-first model is most successful. If we work to first get people off of the streets and into housing, then we can connect them with the rehabilitative services they need, like mental and behavioral health services, health care, hygiene, addiction treatment and workforce training. I think Denver City Council has made progress toward creating more transitional housing for the homeless, but we can do much more. The new executive director for Denver's Road Home has identified some promising strategies, including working to transform our shelter system to be a first point of entry into transitional housing and wraparound services. Too many people experiencing homelessness are either afraid of our shelter system or won't go because it breaks up their families. We must reform that system so it isn't just a place to sleep overnight, but a place people can get the services they need. I believe Urban Peak's wraparound services for youth experiencing homelessness is a good model. And I think the City can and should do more to hold our nonprofit partners accountable for the grants they receive to ensure the services they provide are actually working. I think it's imperative that we overturn the camping ban. I believe it is inhumane to tell someone they can't cover themselves with a blanket or sleep without fear of being incarcerated -- and doing so only turns our jails into shelters and erodes trust with a community of people who we need to trust the government if we can ever hope they will seek the services they need to get back into housing and productive lives. Rather than just moving people along from location to location or jailing them, I'd like to see the City re-engage street teams that work to get people sleeping on our streets into services. I do think it's appropriate to prohibit panhandling, particularly in tourist areas, but again, I think we can do this using outreach teams rather than police. I don't think it benefits anyone to treat homelessness as a crime. We need real solutions to homelessness that put prevention first (by having better safety net services, renters' protections and living wages), help house families (which make up a considerable part of those experiencing homelessness), transform our shelter facilities into the first stop in treatment programs, and create additional supportive, transitional housing options with access to services. We need City Council to be bold in proposing these solutions instead of more well-intentioned efforts that only make things worse for those experiencing housing instability.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

No, I do not support Initiative 300. As someone who has been homeless and considers myself a friend and advocate of those experiencing homelessness, it's difficult for me to take this position. I am opposed to the camping ban. I think it is inhumane, has been ineffective and only moves people around or puts them in our jails rather than resolving the problem. If elected, I would work to overturn the camping ban in favor of street outreach teams that get people into transitional housing and services, and efforts to prevent homelessness. However, I think 300 goes beyond simply overturning the Urban Camping Ban, it provides no additional resources or supports to help prevent or resolve homelessness, and I fear it actually puts people experiencing homelessness in more dangerous conditions than they are already in. I believe it will effectively eliminate the curfew in parks and public rights of way, and allow people to live in RV homes anywhere in the city -- which is not safe for the people living in those conditions, nor is it good for residents, businesses, tourism or community events.

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

When I worked for the City of Golden, I was in charge of our events permitting process. Events are such a critically important part of our community life, culture, connection with each other and our visitor experience. I love the amount and variety of the events we have in Denver. I think there is more we could do to effectively coordinate among city agencies and partners to mitigate some of the impacts of particularly large events on residents and businesses, by providing more advance notice, mitigating road closures and obstructing business access during business hours, managing noise and parking. We have examples throughout the City of events where this has been done particularly well and others we can learn from. I think it would be great to ensure we have a team in the City that is responsible for event permitting and coordination, and that they also gather feedback and lessons learned and incorporate those into a continuous improvement process. I also think it would be great to host a training for event holders a couple of times a year to share this information.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

My initial thinking is, no, I would not support this idea, but I am open to hearing more about the potential benefits of this proposal. I think that having events and festivals throughout the City better allows for residents to attend and participate regardless of where they live, and it also helps ensure that no one neighborhood or area alone is subject to the more inconvenient impacts of all the events and festivals. In addition, various neighborhoods throughout our City have events and festivals that are particular to their own communities, histories, cultures and traditions, and I am in favor of protecting and preserving those traditions in our neighborhoods, especially as Denver neighborhoods struggle to maintain and preserve their unique character as the City grows.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, please! We have so many underutilized parks and I believe there is so much more we can do as a city to activate our parks. I'm hugely in favor of these efforts and would encourage community visioning processes to inform those plans, which helps to ensure neighborhood buy-in on the front end.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

I think that Denver's Office of Economic Development and Opportunity has some good offerings, but I think much more can be done to ensure we are growing a talented and skilled workforce at home, retraining people in industries as they change, and connecting people with opportunities. As a former employee of Denver Public Schools, I think OEDO could expand its partnerships with DPS considerably to ensure our graduates are college and career ready and that they have 21st Century skills. I think we could be working more closely with area chambers of commerce and associations like yours to ensure we are training people for the right jobs and with the right skills. I think we could be working more closely with our colleges, trade schools and union apprenticeship programs to get both young people and adults who need new or different skills the training they need. We can proactively be working with industries (like energy) to retrain skilled workers in the fields of the future. We can do more to help older workers connect with new skill sets. Finally, I think OEDO can also be doing more to help employers shift to more modern practices that help retain our workforce, by considering things like providing paid time off, flexible schedules and work from home opportunities, and continuing education benefits.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

I am a strong proponent for the work of the Denver Streets Partnership, which includes a coalition of mobility advocacy organizations focused on people-friendly streets. It's critical to both our economy and the well-being of our residents that we ensure access to a connected and complete transit and mobility network. Whether you walk, bike, drive or take transit, our sidewalks, streets and rail lines connect us to jobs, schools, services and each other. One-third of our population doesn't drive, and visitors often don't have their cars with them, so we need to ensure diversity in our transit systems. I think the single most important way City Council can enhance our mobility system is to adequately fund it. We need dedicated, sustainable funding to implement the Blueprint Denver and the Denver Moves plans within 20 years. As Denver's population continues to grow, we will have to make some tough decisions about how to prioritize transit and mobility. I support DSP's recommendation to establish clear priorities for public rights-of-way that put people first, separate travel by speed, and encourage marketplace innovation while capturing value created by public spaces. We should continue our commitment to Vision Zero and Mayor Hancock's Mobility Action Plan, which are worthy, ambitious goals. We need safety improvements on the High Injury Network and in Communities of Concern. We need to update our street design standards to reinforce safe speeds, to encourage walking, biking and the use of transit, and to provide accessibility to all. And finally, we need to ensure we are coordinating development and transportation policies and investments to maximize the number of people who can use transportation options, particularly along transit corridors identified in the Denver Moves Transit Plan.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

I am in favor of local control of the minimum wage, and would support a higher minimum wage in Denver. We can't solve Denver's housing crisis without addressing wages. Our city will never be affordable if wages don't catch up with the cost of living. Our teachers, police and firefighters, nurses, laborers and service workers should be able to live where they work. We know it costs more to live in Denver than neighboring rural communities, and our city's minimum wage should reflect that. I support local control of the minimum wage, and am glad to see the City & County of Denver modeling the way by increasing the minimum wage for city workers. It is not clear how the City arrived at \$15 an hour for city workers by 2021, and want to understand that analysis better before committing to an amount or timeframe. The state minimum wage was already set to increase to \$12 an hour in January 2020. The "living wage" for a single adult in Denver is about \$14 an hour, according to MIT's Living Wage Calculator. For an adult with a child — and a partner who works part time — it's about \$31 an hour. I think we need to have a broader discussion with our business community and associations like yours to better understand the cost implications on various industries, the number of employees the change would affect, and how we would adjust the offset tipped minimum wage, as well. Finally, we shouldn't increase wages without simultaneously addressing misclassification of employees, wage theft and tax fraud that create unfair competition and hurt businesses that are following the law.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, but based on the fact that Colorado's tipped minimum wage is still considerably higher than the national minimum wage for tipped employees. We only adjust and offset the minimum wage in Colorado by \$3.02 an hour for tipped employees (or currently \$8.08 an hour). Nationally, in states like Colorado that have an offset minimum wage for tipped employees, tips make up about 70-80% of tipped employees' wages. That suggests that our tipped employees are making significantly above minimum wage. I would like to see further analysis of this specific to Denver, however. I think it is important to remember that tips are inconsistent, and that puts employees at risk. I also think it would be worthwhile to analyze how Washington D.C.'s switch to one minimum wage has affected cost of living for its previously tipped employees.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

No. In 2016, Denver voters approved the ability for businesses to apply for a license to allow public consumption in designated areas. Denver Excise and Licenses has conducted public hearings and set rules to govern these uses. Since that time, the City has received only five applications and approved only two of these businesses, one of which has since closed. Existing state law restricts indoor smoking, alcohol consumption or pot sales in facilities that are licensed for public consumption of marijuana, which is suggested to be the main reason so few license applications have come forward. If the state law is changed, I would want to see how many more applications come forward, how those businesses do and what changes might need to be made before we further expand public consumption.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. Again, this is currently prohibited by state law. However, if the state law is changed, I would support allowing this use only in the licensed facilities as set forth by the voters in 2016, based in part on how we allow the use of alcohol and tobacco use in licensed cigar bars. I think it is important the we be consistent in that regard.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

I would very much like to see Denver look for ways to help support our restaurants (and other small, local businesses) by looking for ways we can reduce their taxes. Our restaurant owners pay taxes on the furniture they buy every year, as just one example. I believe the city can recuperate/offset the loss of that tax revenue by cracking down on employers who are avoiding paying city taxes (and wages, insurance and benefits) by misclassifying employees, and other wage theft and tax fraud happening largely in the construction industry. I also would like to see restaurant owners more involved in city planning efforts, including neighborhood planning processes. And I am very interested in hearing from you about what other changes the city government can make to help support your industry. I believe our restaurants and local businesses are the heart of our communities, you are serving our residents and you deserve a seat at the table.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I deeply appreciate your efforts to reach out to municipal candidates, learn about our positions and inform your stakeholders. I am a collaborative leader who looks to bring all stakeholders to the table, engage in meaningful discussion, find common interests we can build on to solve complex problems, and move our city forward. I believe that when we work together, we build a brighter future for all of us.

Scott Durrah

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Scott Durrah

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver City Council, District 1

Q3 Candidate email

Scott@Scott4Denver.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

(720)-205-1619

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver’s friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

As a restaurateur I understand the balance for an urban business owner between the public streets and a private enclave for shoppers and diners. In my 4 Year Plan for Denver I advocate for the establishment of coalitions of Business Improvement Districts to unite and present community-sourced local solutions to the handling of public safety.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

I do not support Denver’s ballot Initiative 300, the “Right to Survive.” I believe the phrasing is too loose, overtly vague and has the potential to create a ripple effect of issues that were never intended. Those experiencing homelessness in Denver deserve real solutions and not temporary stop gaps.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

Denver's City in a Park has many opportunities to draw even our densest urban residents to green spaces. Public events like the Dragon Boat Festival on Sloan's Lake, Taste of Colorado in Civic Center Park and Jazz in the Park in City Park bring thousands of visitors and residents together to enjoy our beautiful parks and outdoor spaces. I propose expanding programming in our parks, advocating for more events and mobile markets and give increased access to these parks and green spaces with sensible transit options.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Northwest Denver and our established mixed-use district culture would be the perfect home to a dedicated amphitheater or bandshell. Regis University and our Public Libraries could host summer programming for youth and young adults, touring acts could bring the early nightlife outside and cement the community culture on a hub as well as bringing additional revenue to our communities and small local businesses where parks are located.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

In my 4 Year Plan for Northwest Denver I advocate for and increase in economic opportunities in our parks. Whether it is establishing kiosks that would be low-rent incubator options for new Small, Local Businesses to build in the park to more mobile markets in Rocky Mountain State Park, bringing food trucks, bookmobiles, mobile stores together and giving our hungry-for-the-outdoors population a new reason to visit their local park while attracting visitors to a new corner of the city.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

I believe that we need to expand our public-private partnership options, not only activating enterprise in our parks and outdoor spaces, but partnering with DPS to expand vocational and technical training options with easy entry in to Denver's evolving and robust work force. We should also consider partnerships with established businesses, incubating and creating more entrepreneurs and small business owners.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

In my 4 Year Plan for NW Denver I call for a new thought on alternative transportation as "Flex Transit." Searching for a solution on an urban dependency on single occupancy vehicles, we add traffic lanes opening them up to single or dual-passenger mobility vehicles under a certain gross weight and speed limit (aiming towards light-vehicle, scooter, motorbike traffic) shared with self-propelled vehicles like bicycles in their protected lanes. An infrastructure thought pull that will help Denver remain mobile in density for decades to come. The city should consider expanding the current bike and walking paths along our natural waterways and former rail tracks, such as on the Platte River, to include Flex Transit options.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

The City and County of Denver's recent approval of \$15/hour for city workers and certain contractors has advanced this conversation to a new realm, beyond the voter approved Colorado minimum wage \$12 by 2020. I believe we need to give the current increases in the State's minimum wage voted in to our Constitution as Amendment 70, time to reach its final \$12/hour and study their impact before we legislate and increases in Denver. The higher wage minimum needs to be evaluated for impact on each industry.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. As Chef-Owner of several restaurants I know well the razor-thin margins this highly-regulated industry operates under. Without the tipping model and standard, I know my servers and bartenders would not have had the take-home salaries they reported, often the highest paid positions in my restaurants. Tipping out of minimum wage hosting, dishwashers and food running positions from servers also increases the take-home pay of everyone in the front and back of the house for many employees.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

As the first African American licensed cannabis business owner I advocate for responsible drug policy. I believe it makes no sense to attract cannabis tourists to our city and give them no legal place to consume. Just as we allow public alcohol consumption through regulated liquor licenses I support the licensed public cannabis consumption industry. Colorado has generated \$6 billion dollars in sales from cannabis since legalization. Tourists are coming to our beautiful state to purchase and consume cannabis. It should be our obligation to provide social consumption to protect tourists and residents from misdemeanor charges or the temptation for cannabis to leave our state. It will reduce the services that law enforcement commits to arrest and prosecute those who consume publicly.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

I believe that the decision should be made by the voters and I support responsible adults and business owners making their own well-informed decisions. With careful regulations and oversight I believe that the great experiment started in Denver should be allowed to continue as the will of the people voted for it to.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

I believe the municipal government should be the bridge between Small Local Businesses, who truly drive our city's economy, and their patrons and those who they employ. Business owners need the support of their City to ensure that they can navigate those tight margins and continue to employ our citizens and ensure Denver's restaurant industry can continue to thrive.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I have been a Small and Local Business Owner in several cities and states but I moved to Denver 15 years ago and knew this was where I was someday going to retire. My Home. Since, I have been the proud owner and executive chef of 5 successful restaurants in downtown Denver, Boulder County and the neighborhoods of Northwest Denver. I believe it is time for someone with actual experience to represent our industry on City Council and finally bring a strong voice for Hospitality to City Hall.

Praj Kulkarni

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Praj Kulkarni

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

City Council District 1

Q3 Candidate email

prajfordistrict1@gmail.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

720.314.8568

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

Denver needs a holistic solution to the homeless problem. We must deploy bathrooms and showers in, e.g., large parking lots, work with non-profits to find them employment options, and provide more shelters and services in general.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

I care about the homeless population. I have worked with them through my church and the Severe Shelter network. I have also gained some insight into homelessness as a foster parent. These experiences have helped me see how vulnerable this population is. It is important for us to treat them with compassion and dignity. Precisely because the homeless are so vulnerable, we must pursue policies that will truly help them. I do not believe Initiative 300 will do so, and thus I do not support it.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I love these events and have attended many myself. I would not propose any drastic changes to how these events are hosted. I would advertise more to local residents so they are aware of when they are occurring and can plan accordingly.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

I would need to see more details before a conclusive yes or no. My general take is that we should use existing infrastructure since we already seem to handle these events well.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. Such spaces add character and life to a city. They also allow citizens to congregate and interact. I would thus support such amenities.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

From speaking to local businesses, I believe finding good workers is one of their core concerns. We should thus strengthen relationships between local employers and vocational / technical schools. We should also strengthen those types of educational programs in general.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

We have a long way to go with regards to bike lanes, and so we should continue to work on that front. In general, organizations like the Denver Streets Partnership has many wonderful ideas. We should work with such groups to deploy them.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

This is something that should be done carefully since a drastically higher minimum wage can hurt many low-wage workers. I could support a modest increase in the minimum wage. However, I think a citywide wage subsidy is a much better policy.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes they should. Not giving restaurant managers this flexibility will mean they hire fewer workers. Low-wage and low-skill workers like busboys would suffer the most. I find the evidence from New York City and Seattle persuasive in this regard.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

No. I would not.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

No I would not support that ability. The costs of this policy are potentially very high, with more people acting violently in public.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Local government should ensure there are no egregious violations of workers' safety. By considering policies like a wage subsidy, local government can also help defray some of the cost of these employees. Such a policy would ultimately help workers as restaurants would be able to hire more of them.

Page 11

Tourism and hospitality questionnaire - Denver candidates 2019

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I care deeply about my adopted city and want to represent all the citizens of Northwest Denver. I have experience in federal policy, and I am a member of my local RNO. As a foster parent, I also have experience working closely with a local city agency (Denver Department of Human Services). My diverse skill-set makes me well qualified to serve on the City Council.

David Sabados

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

David Sabados

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver City Council, District 1

Q3 Candidate email

David@SabadosForDenver.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

3035886922

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

Ultimately the solution to addressing Denver's homelessness challenges lies in long term housing with wrap-around services, including mental health, hygienic facilities, and help people get back on their feet with job training and placement. If we want to create a city where people don't have to panhandle to survive, we need to expand the Denver Day Works and similar efforts that help people find long term employment. Addressing our city's homelessness challenges also frees up law enforcement to spend more time actually dealing with criminal activities.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

No. Over 200 people died on the streets of the Denver metro area last year according to the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, including some from hypothermia. 300 would do little except say they are not breaking the law when they die. This should be a sobering number – ultimately we need long-term housing and services as discussed in the question above.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

Events big and small are an important part of Denver's culture, from our concert venues and theaters to annual outdoor events. Denver's embrace of these events is one of the appeals for both visiting and living in our city. One critique I do hear from residents is the need for more notification on street closures. While residents understand the need for closures, the city can do a better job of notifying people across the city of areas that will be difficult to travel in during a major event.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

I appreciate the benefits of such a park. However, in light of dwindling open space for a growing population, I would be interested in exploring multiple uses for such a venue. I would also like to know more about the experience of the Levitt Pavilion.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Denver's Outdoor Downtown Plan's vision of open space that serves as Denver's "front yard" is on the mark. I understand these spaces can also attract drug trafficking and other illegal activity that threatens public safety and discourages visitors. I applaud the Outdoor Plan's vision for promoting different programming such as free concerts and other activities. That said, activation of parks city-wide must take into account the neighborhood context. The first step should be to survey residents to identify needs and opportunities.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

Apprenticeship programs are key to helping young people or those changing jobs who don't want to pursue a 4 year degree find not just a job, but a career in an array of industries, including hospitality. There have been a number of state grant funded programs for apprenticeships I would strongly advocate for as a city councilmember.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Denver should explore a buy-up program like Boulder did to expand the offerings of RTD and work to reduce costs. The 16th St mall is the most used RTD line in the state, both for workers and tourists. It's also free. We should also raise the caps on scooters, jump-bikes, and similar options that many residents and tourists use for short term travel. These options have been popular, reduce traffic, and should be encouraged. The city can better encourage non vehicle traffic by building more protected bike lanes and safe bike routes, completing our sidewalk system, and ensuring connectivity between rail/bus/bike/walk options.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Yes. While the average rent in Grand Junction is around \$800/month, a similar home in Denver is closer to \$1800/month. I support a \$15/hour wage, phased in over the next few years similar to how we have phased in a \$12/hour minimum across the state.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. If restaurants choose to have a tip system, their tips plus base wage should still meet or exceed the \$15/hour minimum I am proposing for Denver with the safety net of the business ensuring they make at least \$15 as you state.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Yes. I support enacting the intent of the ballot measure that Denver voters passed, allowing for cannabis consumption at specific businesses. This is both approved by voters and in the best interest of residents and tourists who want to take advantage of Denver's legal marijuana while visiting. Currently visitors have few to no places they can legally consume marijuana.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

No. When Colorado voters approved recreational marijuana, the message was “regulate like alcohol.” I support marijuana bars just as I support bars that sell alcohol, but I don’t believe it would be prudent at this juncture to have businesses that sell both at once. Colorado is still adjusting to legal recreational marijuana and we should phase in marijuana bars as marijuana only.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

The role of government is to create a regulatory framework that is fair to everyone. We need to bring workers, business owners, and professional organizations to the table when creating new regulations. Too often, we have become antagonistic pitting groups against each other.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Northwest Denver needs a councilmember who can work collaboratively with others. One of the reasons I initially entered this race was the incumbent’s office pitting groups against each other. I’m proud to have brokered negotiations between council and community groups and worked toward solutions that benefit all parties instead of engaging in divisive politics.

Amanda Sandoval

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Amanda Sandoval

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

City Council District 1

Q3 Candidate email

Amanda@amandasandoval.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

3038084366

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

Additional funding for the 16th street mall Police. Denver is a welcoming city and with that it can lead to issues such as the ones we are experiencing. I want to work on an Ordinance to prohibit panhandling, Colorado Springs passed an ordinance.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

No. The initiative has the potential to have unintended consequences.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I love all of the events and festivals in Denver. The Office of Special Events does a great job so I wouldn't change anything.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, the city is working on this concept in RINO.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

Respondent skipped this question

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Respondent skipped this question

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Respondent skipped this question

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 11

Tourism and hospitality questionnaire - Denver candidates 2019

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Respondent skipped this question

Mike Somma

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Mike Somma

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

City Council District 1

Q3 Candidate email

m.somma58@gmail.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

7208373438

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

As a firefighter, public safety has been a big part of my life--and it's an important part of why I'm running. The major issue that I see at the root of our problems with both safety and the perception of safety is that Denver's population has increased massively but our Police and Fire staffing has not kept pace. Our staffing needs in the two most important public safety departments have grown, and we need to prioritize--in terms of both timing and budgeting--getting the Police and Fire Departments the folks they need. Homelessness is a much more complicated issue and I will discuss it below.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

Only housing solves homelessness, and Initiative 300 does not go far enough. We need to take swift and comprehensive action to increase the number of shelter beds in the city; to zone, permit, and build tiny home villages; and to convert existing, under-used city properties into subsidized housing. I believe that we should follow the lead of San Antonio, a city that has virtually eliminated homelessness. Through public-private partnerships, San Antonio created Haven for Hope--a series of programs providing food, child care, pet care, job training, addiction counseling and more, located on a 22-acre campus that houses offices of more than 30 agencies. So far, San Antonio has moved more than 3,000 individuals into permanent housing, and has more than 5,000 folks in temporary housing. We cannot leave our neighbors sleeping on the sidewalk through a cold Denver winter. I do, however, believe that we need to work on transitional measures to curb the cycle of arresting and re-arresting homeless Denverites while we undertake swift city action to house them.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

Overall, I think Denver's events are great. The rapid spread of them over the last few years, however, has led to some mistakes--trash left over after events, traffic jams caused by music festivals, and the like. I believe that Denver should keep hosting and encouraging events, but we need to have high standards. If outside contractors are coming in to host and promote events, the City needs to have proper oversight to avoid fiascos like the first year of the Velorama festival--which caused massive traffic disruptions and left thousands of attendees without proper access to water or restroom facilities, in the heat of the summer. Overall, it comes down to high standards--we need to set them, enforce them, and consider revoking permits from violators.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

No. A lot of the character of Denver's events comes from the fact that they are spread throughout the city. Jazz in City Park, live music at the Botanical Gardens, and the Dragon Boat Festival at Sloan's Lake all have unique characteristics, and help show people all that Denver has to offer. As long as these events and venues respect zoning and noise ordinances, I prefer to see them distributed throughout the city.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, I support that--though I am hesitant about putting for-profit businesses into our parks. I think that public-private partnerships are great for bringing amenities to our shared spaces, but I think we should keep our parks as non-commercial areas. That being said, the rest sounds great!

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

One of Denver's major problems with workforce retention comes from the high price and low availability of housing in the City. Everyone knows that Denver has a housing crisis, but few are willing to talk about bold action to solve it. In Denver, I believe this should be our top priority, at least until we come out the other side of the rapid growth we've seen in the last decade. I believe we can reorient the city's budget to place a much greater emphasis on housing subsidies, incentivize developers to build low-income housing, and spur the development of rental units in the \$800-\$1000 range--all of which would go a long way towards making sure Denver workers can afford to remain in Denver.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Northwest Denver has major gaps in public transit, and we don't have time to wait for years-long, traffic-disrupting projects to be completed. I am open to many ideas on this front, but there's one particular idea that I believe we could implement quickly and effectively: I believe Denver needs to invest in pet-friendly, bike-friendly electric streetcars that will ease congestion and provide cheap, accessible linkage for all riders. An added benefit of this system is that it can bring foot traffic back to struggling commercial districts that have been squeezed by development, a lack of parking, and increased congestion. We have so many multimodal options for transit, but they don't do much good if people can't get to them. Let's make our neighborhoods walkable again, and let's fill the gaps in RTDs system.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

I do support a higher minimum wage in Denver. I have been a laborer all my life, and a union member for more than 30 years, and I know that working people are underpaid. With the state's minimum wage set to go up to \$12/hr, with annual cost of living adjustments after that, I don't think we have gone far enough. The Fight for \$15 for city employees was important--and it's something that we should expand to all Denver's workers, not just those who work with the city. If the legislature so allows, we should raise Denver's minimum wage to \$15/hr, with annual cost of living adjustments after that.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

In general, the problem with this scenario is not that the servers are making too much, it's that the rest of the restaurant staff is making too little. A \$15/hr minimum wage would go a long way towards parity for the kitchen staff. That being said, I understand why tipped employees have a lower minimum wage, and I believe that's fine as long as their tips bring them to at least \$15/hr. However, wage theft is rampant in the service industry, and we genuinely need to provide oversight and enforcement to make sure that unscrupulous actors are not using the tipped-wage provision as a loophole to underpay their staff.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

No I do not. I believe that the city has, by and large, handled the legalization of marijuana responsibly--but serving as a public servant and first responder for 34 years, I fear marijuana consumption in public spaces would create added public health and safety issues, stemming primarily from transportation to and from such venues.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

No, I do not. Studies have shown cannabis plus alcohol is one of the most frequently detected drug combinations in car accidents. Any dose of alcohol combined with cannabis significantly increases the effects of THC in the blood, which cause increased performance impairments. I support legalization, but car wrecks are one of the leading causes of death in this country, and I believe we need to protect lives first and foremost.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Grocery stores, beverage distributors, and petroleum support companies--all of which are major employers in the area--all operate on roughly 2% annual profit margins, according to 2017 financial data. We need to make sure that the City is playing an active role in supporting all of these industries, including the restaurant industry. As a union member and labor advocate, I believe that we should take care of the employees, while also making sure that the employers are not driven out of business by rising rents and overly-complex codes.

Page 11

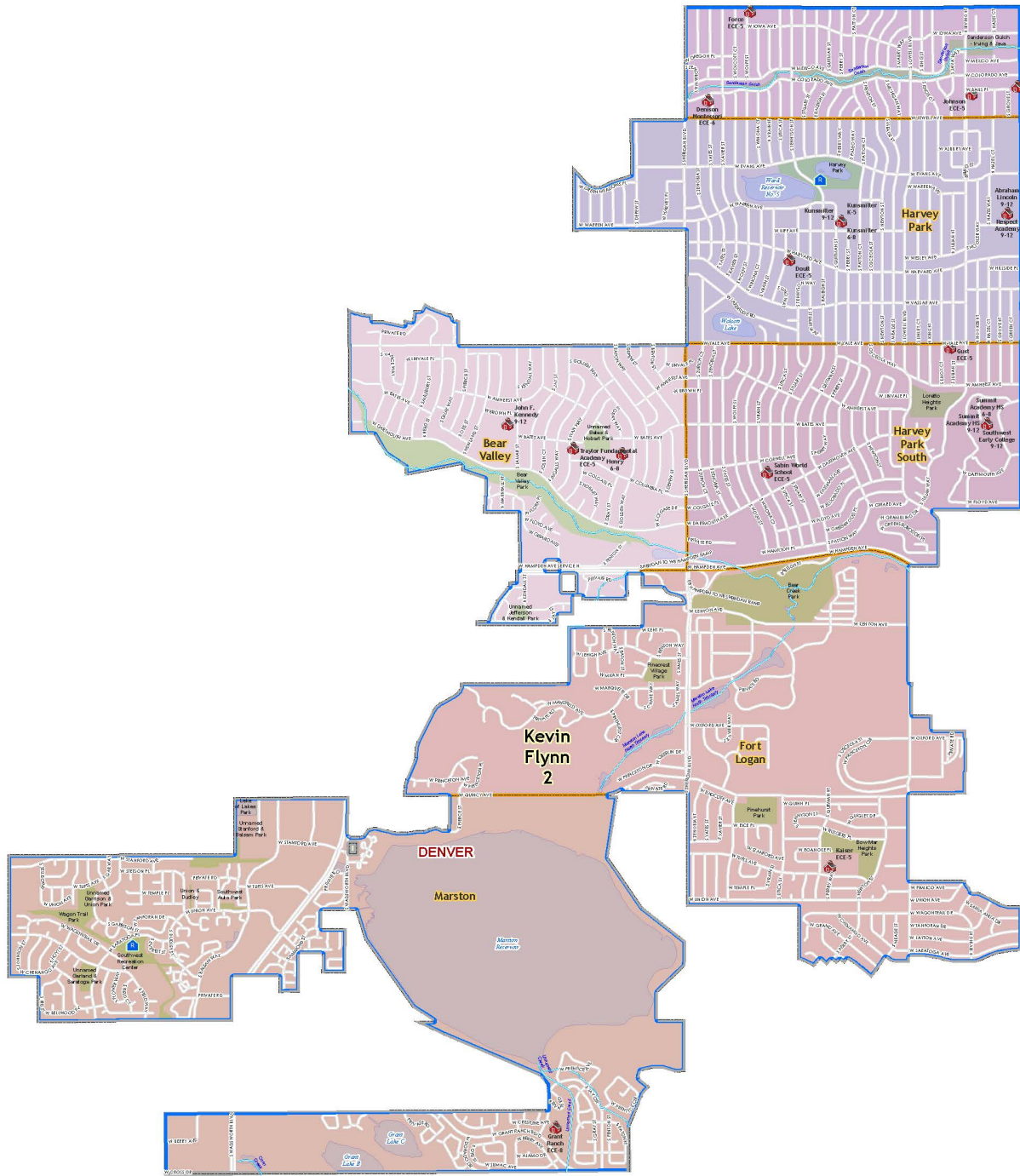
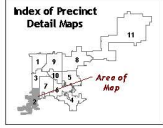
Tourism and hospitality questionnaire - Denver candidates 2019

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Serving this city has been my life's work--and I hope to take that service from the firehouse to city hall.

City and County of Denver Council District No. 2 Boundary Map

Map Produced: December 10th, 2011
By Technology Services - Enterprise Data Management GIS



Legend

- Lakes and Ponds
- Schools
- Recreation Centers
- Rivers and Streams
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Streets
- Parks
- City and County of Denver Boundary

0.25 0.125 0 0.25
Miles

Projection: Stateplane
Units: US Survey Feet
Colorado Central Zone 502
Horizontal Datum: NAD83
Vertical Datum: NAVD83

District Representative
Kevin Flynn

City Council District 2

Kevin Flynn

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Kevin Flynn

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver City Council District 2

Q3 Candidate email

kevin@flynnforcouncil.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

303-882-9027

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

Full implementation of our new services available through Caring4Denver to bring people experiencing homelessness, substance abuse problems, mental health issues and other housing-related impediments, which over time will reduce the number of transients causing many of these issues. Couple that with increased security presence around tourist centers such as the mall (which we already are doing) and continued police presence and enforcement.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

Absolutely not. 300 is a looming disaster for this city. It is not the right to survive, it is the right to surrender to hopelessness. It will increase our homeless population and make our outreach exponentially more difficult. It is my belief that if 300 were to pass, without a doubt there will be many more deaths of homeless individuals on our streets. I have no doubt of this.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

Yes, a festival park should be developed. I voted no on the use of Overland Golf Course for what became the Grandoozy festival because in my view the proposal conflicted with citizen-developed parks policies regarding use of our parks for private ticketed events. We need a place; the golf course was not the right one.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. And the passage of 2A sales tax for parks capital projects and acquisition (\$45 million a year) provides reasonable funding for undertaking this.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Most parks already have amenities such as fountains, public art and seating. The extent of commercial activities in our parks needs to be carefully vetted through public outreach and consensus, as our parks span a wide range of types, from neighborhood to regional. We already allow concessionaires in some of our parks, but the policy that is developed must be consistent with the type of park.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

Market forces tell us what to do in order to develop and retain the best workforce during periods of low unemployment such as we're in now. Wages have to be sufficient to attract and keep good workers. We recently passed a \$15 minimum wage ordinance for city workers and for workers in city facilities or under city contracts. For the private sector, particularly construction trades, we recently expanded the use of apprentices on city construction projects, which should help make room in the workforce for more entrants, and started the Worknow program to recruit and train future career workers in targeted ZIP Codes for the National Western Center project.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Targeted expansion of protected bike lanes, which with a recent ordinance change will also accommodate electric scooters; implementation of Denver Moves: Transit and Denver Moves: Peds and Trails to provide connected alternative mode infrastructure throughout the city and connected to neighboring jurisdictions; enhanced pedestrian crosswalks along our high-injury corridors such as Federal Boulevard.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Yes, I would. I would match the city's recent \$15 minimum wage ordinance, which would reach that level in 2021.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

There is currently a state of flux with regard to this issue due to the Trump administration's move to revoke an Obama era rule prohibiting pooling of tips. While I am inclined to support giving owners this flexibility, I need to first understand if in Denver, we would allow owners to retain a portion of pooled tips. I would not support it in that case.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

An amendment to expand the areas by reducing Excise and License Department's additional distancing requirements from prohibited locations currently is working its way through council and I have told the sponsor that I am undecided until I see maps of the impacts. My initial belief is that the amendment would not significantly increase the opportunity for social consumption licenses. I believe the business model in the initiative itself is flawed, and is the reason there are not more of them. I do not support expanding the definition of public consumption; Amendment 64 states "nothing in this section shall permit consumption that is open and public." We didn't write that; the initiators included that in their own amendment.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

This is currently prohibited by the state. Prior to the state's action, I was not opposed to the notion.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

I believe the role we now play is sufficient.

Page 11

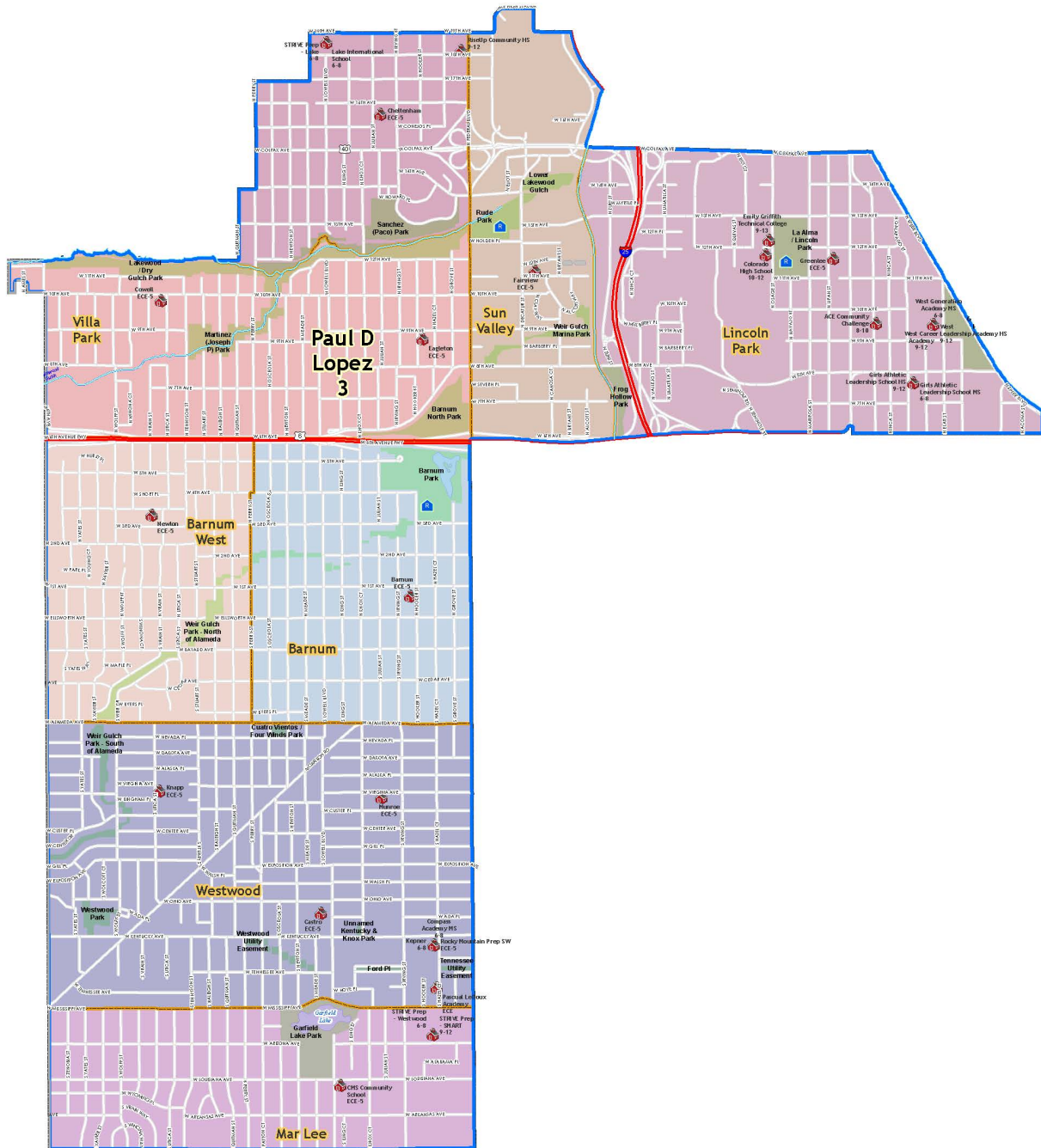
Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

My youngest son is employed in the restarant industry as a kitchen manager in one of the city's well known spots.

City and County of Denver Council District No. 3 Boundary Map

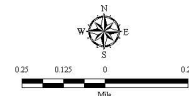
Map Produced: December 10th, 2015
By Technology Services - Enterprise Data Management GIS

Index of Precinct Detail Maps



Legend

- Lakes and Ponds
- Schools
- Recreation Centers
- Rivers and Streams
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Streets
- Parks
- City and County of Denver Boundary



Projection: Stateplane
Units: US Survey Feet
Colorado Central Zone 502
Horizontal Datum: NAD83/92 - NAD83
Vertical Datum: NAVD83

District Representative
Paul D Lopez



City Council District 3



Disclaimer: The City and County of Denver, nor any of its employees, officers, or agents, shall not be liable for damages of any kind arising out of the use of this information. The information is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use. This map is not a legal document. If you believe that an error may exist with this data, please contact us at: denver@denvergov.org



Veronica Barela

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Veronica Barela

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

City Council 3

Q3 Candidate email

hello@barelafor3.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

7206218985

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

Though Air Quality isn't listed as a major concern it should be. Tourist perception of blue skies and sunshine are misinformed. We have to take action to shift our energy economy and transportation system to repair the air for locals and visitors. I recently met with Police Chief Pazen and he informed me that crime statistics are down. This is welcomed news, I have been a big supporter of his community policing policy. In regards to homelessness, we are in a housing crisis and face issues with wage stagnation and rising costs. Workforce training and attainable housing are the best paths forward for solving these problems. To be clear these issues are being faced throughout the region and country. They will require collaboration at all levels to achieve.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, securing and protecting civil rights is a part of my platform. Housing is also part of my platform. I recently retired for NEWSED Development Corporation. In my tenure, we helped more than 2,000 families and supported small business grow. I believe workforce training and attainable housing are the best paths forward for solving these problems. To be clear these issues are being faced throughout the region and country. They will require collaboration at all levels to achieve.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I remain one of the original Producers of the Cinco de Mayo festival and my Campaign Director has been involved with many festivals, including City Park Jazz and the Underground Music Showcase. We understand the value to the community and the economic impact of large events. It is very important that we preserve festivals in Civic Center that have cultural legacy.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

I do support the creation of a dedicated park/grounds for events, but I don't limit all events into this park.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Activated parks and outdoors spaces make for a vibrant city for all. This takes many forms from passive enjoyment, organized activities, and larger permitted events. I support the restoration of historic fountains, the creation of more drinking fountains and seating, and the placement of public art. I am undecided regarding permanent concessionaires. Until then food peddlers and food truck permits can fill this gap.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

I would like workforce development to be contracted out to non-profits that can help educate residents gain the skills needed for jobs, especially in industries with high need for workers. Wages and attainable housing also play a part in workforce retention and will be a focus of my tenure on council.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

I support Vision Zero and future effort to build a transportation network where everyone arrives to their destination safely. I support the creation of A Department of Transportation in the City and County of Denver. I support buying RTD service to improve local connectivity. I support the build out of the high use corridors outlined in Denver Moves. I support the improvement of sidewalks and bike lanes. I see electric scooters as a great first and last mile solution. I support Public Transportation to Red Rocks and the Mountain Parks. In order to achieve all of this it will require a City Council and Mayor that commits to it in the budget.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Yes, I support moving the local minimum to \$17 over the next 5 years. If we do not grow wages, workers will not be able to live in this city.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

No

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Yes, voters asked for cannabis like alcohol. It is clear that the regulations have not supported this wish. I am in favor of creating a place where visitors and residents can consume cannabis socially.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Workers Rights and Small Business Support have been part of my life's work. The role local government can play is by ensuring safe working conditions for workers and adjusting the minimum wage. Loan pool programs with low interest rates will help small businesses.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Respondent skipped this question

Raymond Montoya

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Raymond Montoya

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

District 3

Q3 Candidate email

Raymond4CityCouncil@gmail.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

303-323-9996

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

When it comes to the preception of safety and safety in itself, we must keep in mind that homelessness is not a crime. However, more must be done to combat this crises. I see and understand the view from vistors and the camping ban has really helped in that way, however I feel it is to extreme and violates basic human rights. Tourism brings in a significant amount of money to our city, the steps are to put that money into mental health, housing for homeless, and security. I hope to work with tourism to find solutions that are compassionate and effective.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

In the beginning I said yes, we are talking about the basic right for humans to survive. However, Initiative 300 is really extreme and I feel will cause unintended harm and cost taxpayers way more to fix it then it should. I would respectfully pass on a yes or no at this time.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

Denver hosts some really amazing events and are for the most part safe. The city has worked very hard at attracting tourists and at the same time has not taken into consideration the people who call Denver home. Changes I would propose would have to be discussed with the people in my community.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

At this time no. We have great tourism and I feel before supporting a dedicated park/venue we have a priority to our housing and homeless crisis.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. Inclusivity and community is what Denver is about and this would create community.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

I would like to push trade skills/training a lot more in the city. By tapping innovative funding sources we can connect people to carers in the tourism and hospitality industry. This can also help provide wrap-around student services for those interested in this field. I want to expand and concentrate on unionized backed trades. One other aspect I would like to explore is a program where we can engage local business more. And use labor market data to drive decisions.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

The daily movement for our visitors are more easy to utilize than our residents. First we have to lower the cost of our public transportation, not just look at the first and last mile but find a solution. I think that the way two buses with just a few people in each follow each other to the same stops is a waste, RTD and the city could partner in helping the mobility infrastructure become more effective.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Yes, this is long overdue. I understand the concern of small businesses however we must find better ways to support them also. But folks need to have a livable wage. \$15.00 was a step in the right direction 8 years ago. A person making that still cannot qualify to buy a home here in Denver. That is unacceptable. I would like to see minimum wage between \$18.00-\$21.00. This should happen during councils next 4 years no longer.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. In this industry I would support this. So long as a the tips they earn do in fact bring them up to or over the full minimum wage. However, the question I would ask is by how much do they adjust?

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

No. I believe that respecting our public places and those who visit them, tourists and locals, must feel comfortable.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

No. We have an obligation and duty to keep our city safe for everyone and although we have bars and marijuana shops just opening this up would create an added risk to our city.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

I think that local government can take a direct action to helping small businesses like locally owned restaurants by offering or expanding programs that offer low interest loans in order for these businesses to upgrade the facades as well as the exteriors. Keeping things updated help the business grow and succeed. Fair regulations for employees should always be the number one priority but we need successful busiessses in order to have employees. (Not a sexy answer, but it is important)

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Thank you!

Jamie Torres

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Jamie Torres

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

City Council District 3

Q3 Candidate email

Jamie.Torres@comcast.net

Q4 Candidate phone number

720-270-5706

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

I want visitors to have good experiences and good impressions of Denver when they visit and part of that is ensuring they now we are committed to the humane and dignified treatment of all our residents, especially our most disenfranchised. The areas of concern you mention are key things that require our city-wide investment and commitment to. I would have concern with the three of these topics being lumped together, because I don't think they are mutually exclusive. Yes, I want to ensure our streets are safe for all, and everyone is able to enjoy downtown free of harassment or aggressive behavior, period. We must provide better pathways out of crisis, out of desperation, and into services and housing for our homeless community.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

I struggle with the ballot initiative because I don't believe we should criminalize homelessness. However, the ballot measure also fails to truly address solutions for homelessness especially chronic homelessness. Denver should put more weight behind social impact bonds, transitional housing, and create stronger employment partnerships for helping folks experiencing homelessness find paths out.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

Denver's home to a wonderful variety of events, which is what makes it such an appealing city for diverse interests. It's often difficult to navigate the multiple information and publicity streams of upcoming events. I would love to see more events that accent Denver's international tastes and interests. The key changes I would propose would be to increase marketability of public events, especially free events, to ethnic media, specifically Spanish language media.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, as long as it's truly available to the public and next to reliable transit options. I've been to several events at Levitt Pavilion and loved them. We should have a shuttle to the Evans light rail stop available.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, this is important and should be considered amidst an equity map ensuring parks and public spaces throughout our neighborhoods have these amenities. I would particularly support if it exclusively is inclusive of local artists, small business owners and MWBE businesses.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

I would encourage tourism and hospitality companies invest in LIVE Denver, which provides rental support to employees so they may live where they work. The labor force behind Denver's tourism and hospitality industry have to be able to survive on the work they do, and be encouraged and supported in retention, advancement, and promotion. I would like to work more with employers who hire immigrant and refugee staff on innovative workplace tactics that have been shown to succeed for both parties including offering on-site English acquisition class, and grouping staff teams by language.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Our mobility into Denver's core is generally good, but our options to move around Denver is untenable. I would like partners invested in mobility and transit, including City partners, to consider testing connector bus lines, for example, one that circulates from union station to the cultural institutions in Denver's core or to and from destination neighborhood centers. Finally, Our transit fare system is complicated and less accessible than other major cities I've visited.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Yes, I would. Denver should be able to determine what works best for its residents and its economic landscape. This conversation, when and if it happens, should include partners from a wide variety of interests including large, mid and small business owners and employees, unions, and the nonprofit sector. The City has set a new minimum for it's employees of \$15 by 2021, if we were able to do a city-wide minimum wage today, I would prefer that it mirror this timing. Since we do not, however, we would want to give employers time to prepare, especially small business and nonprofit employers who might have a more difficult time implementing. It would be ideal for this effort to be coupled with strategies to help businesses as well, including creating pathways to help with the back of the office (accounting, reconciliation, taxes, etc.)

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Tipped employees already earn below the minimum wage, for Colorado that's 8.08. In theory, I think it works to then have employers bring their staff up to minimum if they don't earn that gap up in tips. The challenge here is whether or not this is done consistently. Further, Colorado has an employer who has been working to get his tipped employees to a living wage, not just complying with the minimum wage, and he was able to do it successfully over a four-year incremental period. This should be what we aim for across the board.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Yes.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

Not at this time. I don't think we have enough information about the impacts of the combined usage.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Local government has a great opportunity to highlight restaurants and restaurant corridors throughout the city. District 3 has a number of phenomenal restaurants and folks know if they want great Vietnamese or Mexican food, they come to west Denver. I would be a strong promoter of what we have in our community. That said, we also have a responsibility to treat employees fairly and give them the opportunity to continue to work where they live and live where they work. We have a responsibility to ensure employees are not taken advantage of through wage theft.

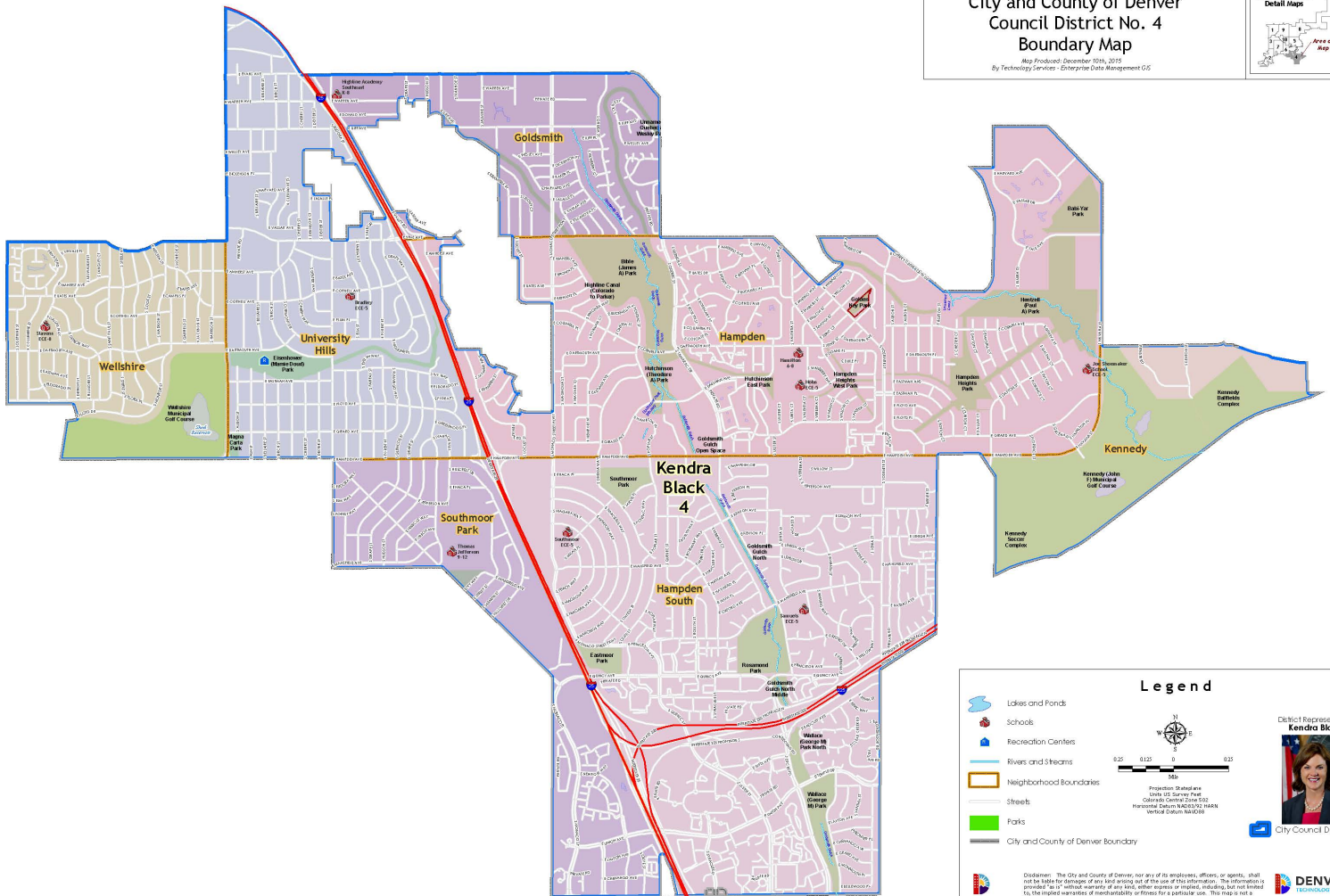
Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I feel immensely proud to say I'm born and raised in Denver's District 3. The easiest decision I made when looking for where I would put my own roots down in Denver was to do it in Villa Park, the neighborhood that gave me memories, mentors, challenges and victories. It is a community that I love and work tirelessly for. I chose to become an anthropologist because I wanted to learn from community, work with them to solve their most pressing concerns, and share with the world their talents and assets. I believe it's important for our elected leaders to have lived experiences that give them the insight and understanding of their neighbors' lives and who will tackle the toughest issues for the most vulnerable and underrepresented among us. Only by improving the inequities that plague our systems and communities, can we really stand strong together and say Denver is a place where anyone can succeed and thrive. I've spent nearly two decades working within Denver government advocating for residents, marginalized voices, and experiences that often go ignored or dismissed. I thrive on innovation, collaborative potential and showcasing the phenomenal value that diversity, equity and inclusion bring. I'm running to work with residents and represent the voices for the future of West Colfax, Villa Park, Barnum, Barnum West, Westwood, Mar Lee, Sun Valley and La Alma/Lincoln Park.

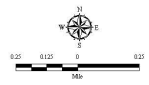
City and County of Denver Council District No. 4 Boundary Map

Map Produced December 10th, 2019
By Technology Services - Enterprise Data Management GIS



Legend

- Lakes and Ponds
- Schools
- Recreation Centers
- Rivers and Streams
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Streets
- Parks
- City and County of Denver Boundary



Projection: StatePlane
Units: US Survey Feet
Datum: North American 1983
Horizontal Datum: NAD83 UTM 18N
Vertical Datum: NAVD83

District Representative
Kendra Black



City Council District 4



Disclaimer: The City and County of Denver, nor any of its employees, officers, or agents, shall not be liable for damages of any kind arising out of the use of this information. The information is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either written or implied, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use. This map is not a legal document. If you believe that an error may exist with the data, please contact us at denvergis@denvergov.org.



Kendra Black

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Kendra Black

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

City Council, District 4

Q3 Candidate email

kendrablackdenver@gmail.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

303-877-7912

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

Improve and activate 16th St. Mall with more healthy and active uses, move the buses and create more outdoor patios and improved retail and restaurants. Healthy, active uses should be promoted like mini-yoga classes and other fun activities. Landscaping is important, and I'm excited that 100s of new trees will be added We've already improved the lighting which is positive. I'd like to see Civic Center Park activated with a permanent restaurant. Of course increased police, ranger & ambassador presence, and continued outreach to help homeless people.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

No. It is not a solution to homelessness. Camping is not a humane way to live. We need to help homeless people to find homes and services. Our public spaces should be for the enjoyment of all residents, and the city should have the ability to enforce rules.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I think our events are great! Residents and visitors enjoy them. They attract visitors from the metro area, around the state and the country. These visitors contribute to our economy. I like that Denver has a reputation as a fun, active city. I would not propose any changes unless someone convinced me there was a problem that needs to be addressed.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, but I'd really need to know more. I think all parks should be allowed to have more active uses.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, absolutely! Cities throughout the world have active parks. I'd love to see a beer garden in the City Park pavilion and the Wash Park boat house.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

Our high employment is making it difficult to fill many jobs. I support all efforts to get people into training. I'd like to foster more training among high school students to get them into some of these hard-to-fill jobs. I look forward to seeing the results of Worknow. Fostering a diverse economy is essential. I'm concerned about SB19-181 and how it might impact the economy. Lastly, there will be an effort to increase the minimum wage in Denver for all employers. It is important that we take our time, convene a stakeholder group that includes you, and that we don't rush.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

In my district, I have a campaign called "No Drive Friday" which I use to encourage residents to use other forms of transportation at least one day a week (or work for home.) I ride my bike every Friday. Education is important. So many people complain about traffic, but I give them pause when I say "You are not in traffic. You are traffic.) I am very supportive of all pedestrian improvements, including constructing wide, separated sidewalks and safe crosswalks. I support building out our bicycle network, and improving and connecting our trails. I think we should consider buying-up RTD service to provide additional transit where we need it most. We definitely need an easy shuttle between downtown and Cherry Creek. I support requiring Transportation Demand Management plans for new, large developments. I serve on the boards of two transportation management associations which work on these issues.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

I do support increasing the minimum wage in Denver, but (as I said in an earlier question) we need to go slowly and work very closely with you and other stakeholders. We don't want to adversely impact local, small businesses. We want to make sure that a neighborhood coffee shop, for example, can stay in business without cutting hours. We don't want to be a city where only chains (like Starbucks) can afford to pay their employees. I need to hear from you and other stakeholders before I can commit to details.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. A minimum wage is the low bar. If an employee makes more, then he/she is above that bar.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Yes. I think we need to have a viable social consumption program where residents and visitors can go and consume socially similar to a bar.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

I know the proponents of Denver's current social consumption law envisioned opportunities for venues that would allow for individuals to consume alcohol or marijuana. They used concerts as an example, where this is already happening. That said, I don't think public dual consumption is wise.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

We need to make sure that the regulations we impose are not so burdensome that the restaurants cannot survive. My district has only a handful of local restaurants, and an abundance of fast casual. My constituents want local restaurants. When I talk to restaurateurs one of the reasons they aren't coming to southeast Denver is that its too expensive. Additional burdens would make new restaurants even further out of reach. We always must consider both sides of every issue and consider unintended consequences.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I'm a native. I love the way Denver used to be AND I love the city that Denver has become. I value my relationship with all of you and the business community. My door is always open and I look forward to working together.

Colleen Zahradnicek

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Colleen Zahradnicek

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver city council district 4

Q3 Candidate email

contact@colleen4denver.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

720-317-8268

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

We need to house people experiencing homelessness. The city already spends millions to arrest and incarcerate these individuals with no real solution on helping them. We need a true housing first strategy, so not only we can help those experiencing homelessness, but we can ensure citizens and visitors of our city's commitment to safety and justice.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

I do not think Initiative 300 is the right approach to helping people experiencing homelessness. We need to repeal the urban camping ban and house people experiencing homelessness. Allowing people to sleep in parks doesn't provide adequate housing. I do not support Initiative 300 because of the many unintended consequences it raises.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I think its great there are so many options for events around the city. I do think having them in areas accessible by transit would be ideal, so we don't have to worry about parking disruptions to the areas they are hosted in, but I don't see that as a huge problem.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

I think its nice to have events all over town so people can experience events in their own areas as well as go to places they normally wouldn't see otherwise. I would be open to the discussion of a dedicated park or venue but at this time I don't feel it is necessary.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. When parks are more than just open space, more people tend to utilize them. It can also be done with minimal infrastructure and maximum enjoyment for people of all ages. I lived in Prague, Czech Republic for three years and beer gardens are very popular there. Most usually have a playground nearby for kids, basic seating and basic food options, with minimal impact to the rest of the open space. I think cafes or beer gardens in a park can connect the community as well.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

We need to ensure our workforce is earning a living wage, so they can afford to work and live in Denver. I would love to collaborate with the hospitality and tourism industry to find out what you feel you need and how the city can help facilitate those needs in order to benefit your workforce and the city at large. I am not an expert in your field and I think you all know what you need more than a politician does. Part of the reason I will be a good council member is because I will collaborate with experts in their fields when crafting policy and making decisions.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Our transit system is not very well connected. We need dedicated bus lanes and/or tram/trolley lines as well as a fully connected and protected bike network (which we do not have currently). We have been slow to figure out how motorized scooters fit in our system. I would support a Denver specific transit system to supplement and complement RTD, because what we currently have is inadequate.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Yes I would. As I mentioned, our workers need enough to be able to live and work in the same city. I support a saving wage (which I would define as 20% more than a living wage). \$15 is really the basement floor of a minimum wage, as the city has boomed exponentially and really a more realistic minimum wage would be closer to \$20-\$22 an hour. As far as timeframe goes, I would like to collaborate with business to discuss their needs. I would likely settle on something between when most businesses would support it and when the workers would want it.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

No. If a server and the staff is doing a great job and getting those tips (as well as keeping the customers happy), I do not think it is appropriate for their minimum wage to be reduced. Many people work in tipped industries because of the potential to earn more based on their sales service.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

I think the voters were clear when they intended for people to be able to consume cannabis in public and I support the voters. I think the same expectations we have for bars is suitable for an establishment for cannabis consumption. I would be willing to have a few test cases of a place allowing consumption as well as selling the product.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

Because of the nature of cannabis consumption (typically smoked) I do not think it would be appropriate to have it allowed in restaurants and bars across the board. I would be open to hearing the reasons why a specific place which could allow both should be considered.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

I want local government to support small business in whatever way it can, especially in the restaurant industry. I think one of the government's responsibilities is to ensure fair work environments, so as long as business isn't asking for concessions at the cost of their employees, I feel collaboration will benefit everyone.

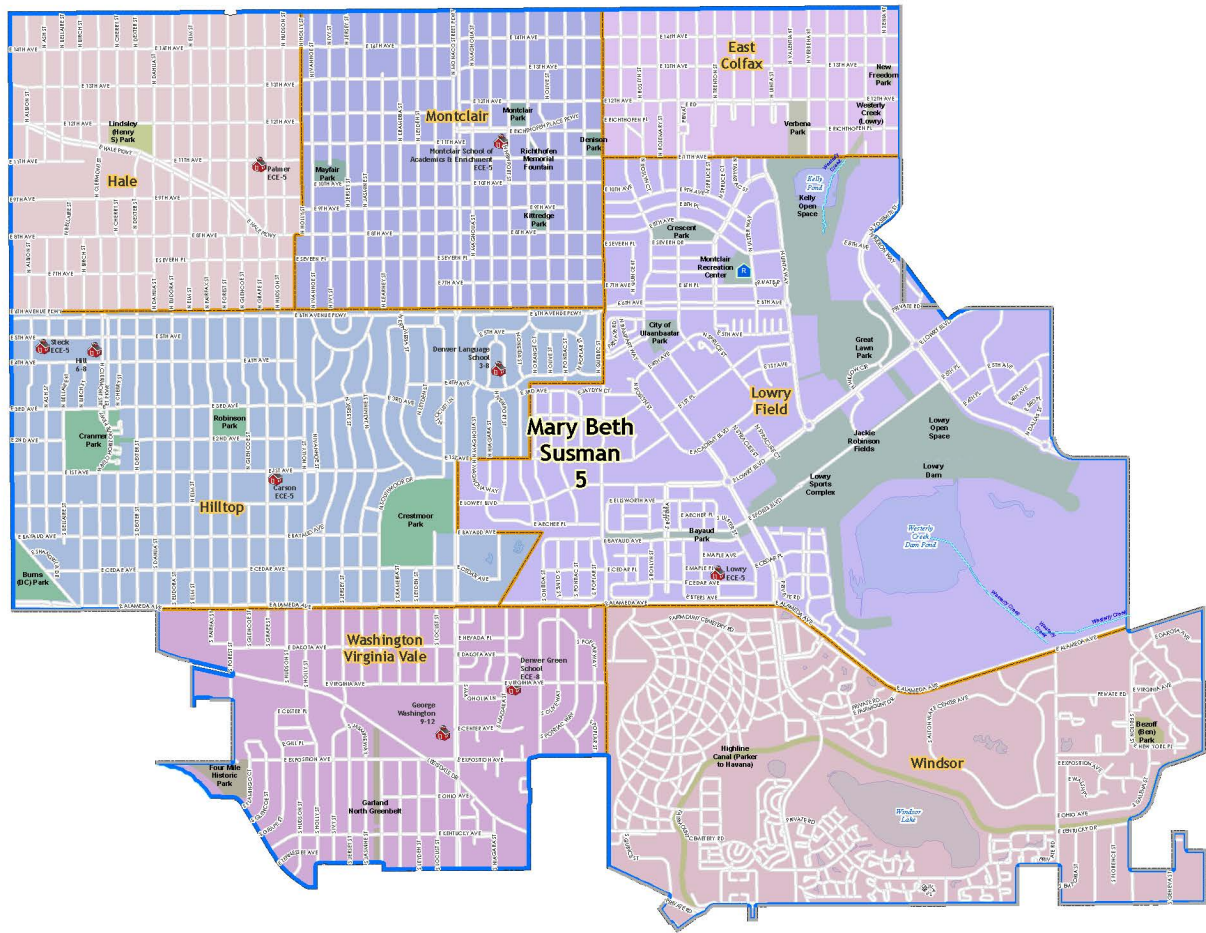
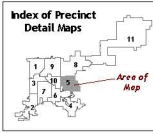
Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Respondent skipped this question

City and County of Denver Council District No. 5 Boundary Map

Map Produced: December 10th, 2015
By Technology Services - Enterprise Data Management GIS



Legend

- Lakes and Ponds
- Schools
- Recreation Centers
- Rivers and Streams
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Streets
- Parks
- City and County of Denver Boundary

0.25 0.125 0 0.25
Miles

Projection: StatePlane
Units: US Survey Feet
Colorado Central Zone 502
Horizontal Datum: NAD83/92 NAD83
Vertical Datum: NAVD83

District Representative
Mary Beth Susman

City Council District 5

Michele Fry

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Michele Fry

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver City Council District 5

Q3 Candidate email

michele@fryfor5.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

720-934-9546

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

Enforce the camping ban instead of selective enforcement. We residents who deal with the issue 24/7/365 pay extremely high property taxes and no one is helping us with the outlined issues of this question. We have people sleeping on our property overdosing in the alley also relieving themselves...what do we do?

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, homelessness has been criminalized without a solution to end homelessness. People are touting homeless people will be sleeping on their lawns etc. We deal with the issues experts are saying will be a consequences if 300 passes. The city and business don't seem to be concerned with homeowners who on a daily basis are experiencing the consequences of the unhoused issues in Denver.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

Respondent skipped this question

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

Respondent skipped this question

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Respondent skipped this question

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Respondent skipped this question

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 11

Tourism and hospitality questionnaire - Denver candidates 2019

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Respondent skipped this question

Stephen Replin

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Stephen Replin

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver City Council, District 5

Q3 Candidate email

sreplin@gmail.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

303-916-3479

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

With regard to the "perception of safety," the solution is to make the police as visible as possible in all of the tourist frequented areas. Horseback is really the best way to be visible as everyone likes horses (well, almost all people), and with this presence, the bad guys might just think twice before doing whatever they were thinking before. Homelessness has been an issue in all major cities for decades. This is sadly, not just a Denver issue and will take a concerted regional plan to make any dent in this issue, in my opinion without making ugly scenes throughout the city. To force them to move becomes confrontational. To ticket them for living in prohibited areas is ridiculous. And, shelters and not a permanent solution. I would like to have a region conference on this issue to come up with a plan that works for the homeless throughout our area, and not only Denver. Aggressive panhandling is harassment even to the point of becoming an assault. In these cases, lets have the police take the necessary actions.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

NO! What a bad, bad idea. Before you know it, homeless people throughout the nation will hear that Mile High Denver in Colorful Colorado is willing to host them in city parks and elsewhere throughout the city. All we will be doing will be to build camps without regard to the unintended consequences. What a bad idea!

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

Denver, because of its geography, is a difficult place within which to host outdoor events. Parking and traffic are the two limiting factors. I love these events, personally, but I would like to see a dedicated area for outside events if possible. Street fairs and festivals are outstanding and I am all in favor of these types of events. People find places to park in neighborhoods if they want to go badly enough. Take the Cherry Creek Arts Festival, for example, that brings in a large number of visitors and people manage to find the parking somewhere. Paying attention to the security concerns of visitors and tourists, again, I would like to have a strong police presence at these events and festivals to cause the bad guys to hesitate before doing anything bad.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Thats funny as I think that I suggested this in an earlier answer. YES, I would support the development of a dedicated park or other venue for these events or festivals that are not themed around a particular neighborhood.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Absolutely YES! In my platform I suggest that we focus on transforming city blocks that are undeveloped into city parks by purchasing the property from the current owners. Once these parcels are developed, the prospect of increasing truly useful and appreciate green space is gone forever. Denvers park coverage is among the lowest of any major city and if we don't turn this around soon, there won't be many parks left in Denver and the metro area.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

The issues are traffic congestion, high costs, and high density development. The goal is to make our city among the top cities in the country in livability. The studies that I've read indicate that the two common items that will make cities livable and lovable are: a significant amount of arts and cultural availability throughout the city, and 2) the amount of parks and other green spaces to ease stress and provide families and others with places of calm and peace to "get away" from the frantic activities of traffic jams, high costs, crime and so on.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

I will work to lower the costs of riding each aspect of our mass transportation system for residents and visitors. The impression that I want to give to tourists and residents alike is that it is much less favorable to take your car somewhere as opposed to taking a light rail or bus trip. Because the R in RTD stands for regional, I believe that this mass transit issue is a regional issue as well, to some extent. Let us work to make our mass transportation systems more efficient, cheaper and easier to take advantage of and I think that we will be on the road to a solution.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

NO. A minimum wage is legislative and not market driven. The law of unintended consequences says that higher wages will work themselves through the system sooner or later with an inflationary influence. And, the result is that as inflation increases and makes the \$15 per hour look less attractive, do we need to look at raising the minimum wage to \$18 per hour that will cause even more inflation? Its a very tough problem for sure, but I believe that the market will take care of some of these issues for us.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

NO, I do not. How can you ever keep track of tips in cash for example? How would you track this from an accounting standpoint, that didn't drive the restaurant's accountant crazy? I believe that if the wait staff do a great job, and their customers want to show their appreciation to them, then they should be allowed to do so without interference with their hourly wage.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Absolutely NOT! The smell of marijuana today is similar to a dead skunk. Its annoying at the least and downright offensive in most cases. Keep it indoors in your private residence where you will not be imposing on the clean air of others.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

NO, for sure. Same reason as above. The smell of marijuana is offensive to non-smokers and others who deserve and expect clean air to breath.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Health and safety laws should be vigorously enforced in restaurants and other places as well. I would also support a centralized "job board" for the restaurant and other industries to enable them to find the best qualified people quickly.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

My comments are as the result of my law practice in representing entrepreneurs and creatives over the many decades. As an attorney, a CPA and the holder of an MBA from NYU, I have had vast experience with these issues and have seen policies come and go and have observed outcomes that range widely. I would favor less governmental involvement in these industries in order to keep these types of businesses easy to start and to operate. I have heard from literally 100's of my clients over the years how difficult it is to start a business in Denver (I'm not sure if I really believe this, however) but if this is the perception, then it is the reality for entrepreneurs. We need to change this for sure.

Amanda Sawyer

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Amanda Sawyer

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver City Council District 5

Q3 Candidate email

SawyerForFive@icloud.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

303-549-2949

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

These issues are not only concerning to tourists, they are also reasons why many of Denver's families don't spend a lot of time downtown, except for special events. We need to be aggressive with our policies to ensure that these kinds of issues don't take over Denver. We need to allocate the appropriate resources to our first responders, so our tourist areas are staffed appropriately and crime – or perception of crime – is better managed. I'll work to house our homeless population and provide lower barriers to entry to our homeless shelters so more people experiencing homelessness can utilize them. Only when we mobilize on the bigger issues facing our community will we be able to overcome some of the negative perceptions tourists have of Denver.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

I do not support Initiative 300. We need to find ways to end the problem by housing our homeless and stop focusing on how to just manage the problem. The wording of Initiative 300 is overbroad and as a result, essentially allows anyone to camp anywhere at any time in Denver. This will adversely affect Denver in numerous ways and will certainly have a negative effect on our tourism industry.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I think Denver's events are fantastic. We have such a breadth and depth of options for residents and visitors alike. It's not just sports, but things I've attended – some since way back when I was in college - like The Great American Beer Festival, newer events like Pinot in the City, and a number of concerts. Transportation is the single biggest challenge for events in Denver. But because we lack public transportation, it's always onerous trying to get home, especially after sporting events or concerts downtown. These issues even keep some residents from attending events at all. Our rickshaws are fantastic but there simply aren't enough of them available during the peak times, and waiting for Uber or Lyft can prove extremely difficult. The single most important thing we can do is improve our intra-city public transit to help alleviate that problem.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

I believe Denver already has numerous fantastic venues that we can utilize for these kinds of events, and I think our tax dollars should be focused elsewhere for now. That said, I would like to know more about what kinds of special districts are set up around these event venues to determine whether the revenue being generated by these event venues is being shared with the City.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

While I love the idea of this, the reality is a bit more difficult. Until our public transit options within city limits improve, people will continue to have to drive, and that requires parking spots. This concept would have to be a very thoughtful choice for a very specific area and would need to be discussed on a case-by-case basis, with feedback from the affected neighborhoods, to determine whether it makes sense in a particular area. With that, I do support continued investment in the beauty of our street and parks, and promotion and backing in the arts. Our clean environment and public spaces are a big reason why tourists choose to come and stay in Denver, even when they could be closer to ski resorts and the mountains.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

More and more people are choosing to call Denver home, but the cost-of-living in our city has pushed many people to commute from the suburbs. Living in the city is one of the biggest draws for our workforce – especially younger workers and entrepreneurs. We have a highly educated workforce, but if we aren't competitive in the job market, people will ultimately choose to live somewhere else. There are variables in job retention and many things that can be done to improve this situation, but ultimately, people will be more willing to stay on the job if they feel valued and are being paid fairly. In regard to the tourism and hospitality industry, many of these jobs are simply too low-paying. I am a supporter of the minimum wage increase to \$15 that will go into effect in 2021, although I wish it were going to affect sooner. Additionally, I advocate for more affordable housing units to enable people like that in the service industry to live within our city limits.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Our mobility infrastructure desperately needs a dedicated source of funding so that we can continue to improve transit and mobility in our city. Without specific funding, we are relying on the whim of the Council and the Mayor to determine how much transit and infrastructure development can occur – and that comes only from the Annual City Budget. For example, the City's stated goal is to build 14 miles of sidewalk per year. A mile of sidewalk costs \$1 million to build. Yet in 2019, the City Annual Budget allocates something like \$2.5 Million to sidewalks. Obviously, the math does not add up. We need to prioritize clean, safe, reliable public transit and mobility infrastructure improvements like sidewalks, safe crosswalks and bike lanes so that the people who want to get out of their cars have safe alternatives. Only then will we be able to reduce parking spaces.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Yes. I supported the SEIU initiative to get contract workers \$15 per hour, and I support that for all Denver workers. I am frustrated that the negotiations with the City allow for that \$15 to ramp up over two years, because our cost of living is already too high for many City workers to live here. I do not know enough about the specifics of the issue to say what dollar amount would be appropriate to set as a minimum wage, but look forward to further discussions about this. \$15 is just the start, but fair wages are a huge problem in Denver and we need to keep at this issue, even when it isn't an election year.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. The incentive for doing a job like waiting tables, which can be both physically and emotionally demanding, is the tips. As long as the tips are bringing the employee over the minimum wage, I feel that is a fair trade.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

We don't ask people to bring their own beer to a bar, so I don't understand why we ask people to bring their own marijuana to a social consumption site. That said, no, I do not think that we should allow marijuana to be smoked in ALL public places. We want Denver to be a place that is inclusive for all, and most families will not want to bring their children to Denver if we have a population of people walking around our tourist attractions smoking pot. I would need to know much more about the specifics of something like this before I could support it.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

As I stated above, we want Denver to be a place for ALL, and so allowing consumption of marijuana and alcohol in the same place – if it were a bar or equivalent – could make sense in some scenarios. That said, I don't think it would be appropriate in all public locations in our city. I would need to know much more about the specifics of an ordinance around this before approving it.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

I'm a small business strategist. Most local restaurants are small commercial businesses and are being crushed by the state-mandated 29% commercial property tax rate in Colorado. We need to do more to support all of our small businesses, because they are the backbone of our economy. Local governments also have a responsibility to partner with restaurant businesses to support the needs of the employees. I look forward to learning more about this issue and specifics on the employee regulation you're referring to.

Page 11

Tourism and hospitality questionnaire - Denver candidates 2019

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I've spent my career helping small businesses thrive and I am going to bring those skillsets and common-sense to Denver City Council. Additionally, I am a mother of three, and my husband and I have lived in and out of Colorado for nearly 30 years. Our campaign has amassed grassroots support all through the district. I am knocking on doors, making phone, and raising the dollars to implement our robust campaign plan. We have a plan for mail, digital, and direct-voter-contact. My campaign team is experienced and has won races at this level before. I am going to win this election and look forward to earning your support and working with you once when I am elected.

Mary Beth Susman

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Mary Beth Susman

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver City Council District5

Q3 Candidate email

marybeth.susman@gmail.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

720 382 4003

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

The city cannot let people sleep outside in the cold. We must house our homeless. First by building more human shelters that allow couples, pets, and for veterans, the ability to see around them, i.e. good windows. But primarily we need to provide more permanent housing in the HOusing First mode. Establish stability first then provide mental health and addiction services, job training and help in seeking, perhaps unite families.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

No. It does nothing for homelessness. It accomodates it rather than providing housing and services as described above.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I love the events in Denver and participate in many. There is always something interesting, fun, different to do. Usually several per day.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. And would gladly work with with all to establish that. Perhaps more than one if feasible.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. I think we should continue to assess our right of way spaces to find opportunities to convert them to people activated space.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

More affordable housing; more "missing middle" housing; vastly increased transit for the middle of the city - for the "first mile" the daily distance people travel to access work, shopping, entertainment.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

micro-transit (14 passenger shuttles, on demand, circulating in the middle of the city); the creation of protected ABC lanes (anything but cars) that accommodate walking and rolling in multiple and expanding forms with their own laneage and signing; more mixed use zoning that is walkable, bikable; funding stream for sidewalk installation and repair

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

I do. And I support the Mayor's \$15/hour wage for city contracts. But should there be an expansion of that initiative to the general public, we need to carve out the tipped wage earner to establish equity; the un-emancipated minor wage to insure they can still find jobs; and other considerations to guard against unintended outcomes. I also think we might want to revisit the city \$15 wage after studying its effects on the hospitality industry and minors and others to see if there needs to be some corrections.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

yes, see above.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Yes, as long as it is within an establishment or its patio. I think providing more space would cut down on its use in our open public spaces, alleys, etc.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

I don't think proprietors of bars/restaurants want to be responsible for the over indulgence by users of mj. They have enough on their hands with alcohol use.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Local government should support the restaurant business with reasonable oversight for safety of customers and employees and fair employment regulations.

Page 11

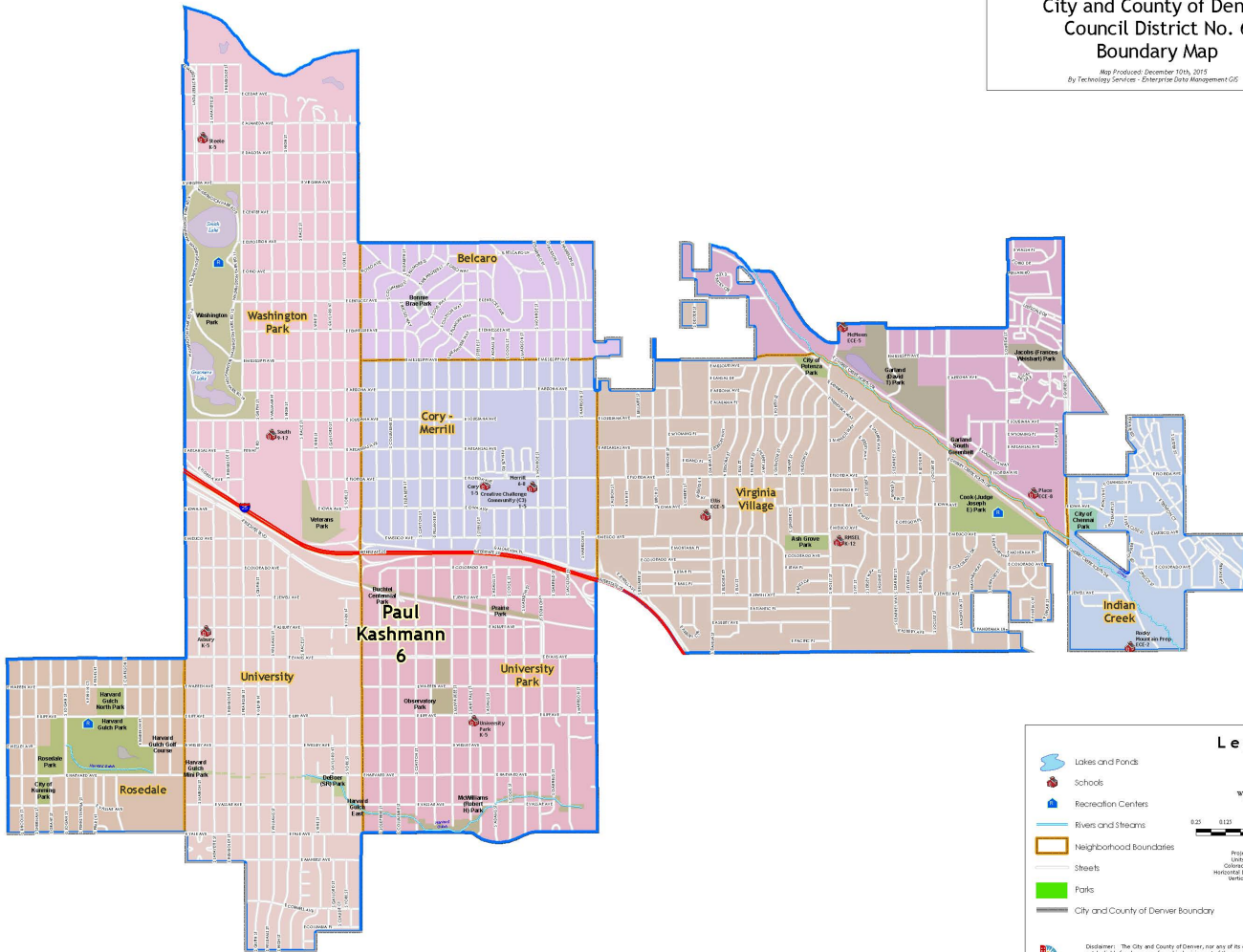
Tourism and hospitality questionnaire - Denver candidates 2019

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Thank you for all you do as the significant industries that account for the economic health of Denver and the region.

City and County of Denver Council District No. 6 Boundary Map

Map Produced: December 10th, 2015
By: Technology Services - Enterprise Data Management GIS



Legend

- Lakes and Ponds
- Schools
- Recreation Centers
- Rivers and Streams
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Streets
- Parks
- City and County of Denver boundary



Projection: StatePlane
Units: US Survey Feet
Datum: GRS82
Horizontal Datum: NAD83
Vertical Datum: NAVD83

District Representative
Paul Kashmann



City Council District 6



Disclaimer: The City and County of Denver, nor any of its employees, officers, or agents, shall not be liable for damages of any kind arising out of the use of this information. The information is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use. This map is not a legal document. If you believe that an error may exist with this data, please contact us at denver@denvergov.org.



Paul Kashmann

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Paul Kashmann

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver Clty Council District 6

Q3 Candidate email

kashmannforcouncil6@gmail.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

720-260-0638

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

I support Denver's Road Home's three-year shelter repurposing plan as a way to make our shelters more welcoming to couples, families, those with pets, those who work at night and must sleep during the day, LGBTQ residents and others not currently well-served by our shelter system. We must make good use of the new money coming from the Caring For Denver initiative that passed last year to immediately expand mental health and drug treatment services and we must continue to build permanent supportive housing that can help stabilize and rehabilitate those in our unsheltered community who need a leg up to get back on their feet.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

No. I think the initiative is too broadly and loosely written to be protective of public health for either the homeless community it aims to assist or the general public.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I think our office of special events is doing a good job of spreading special events around the city. I look forward to development of a festival park as part of the redevelopment of the National Western Center campus.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. I look forward to the creation of a festival park as part of the National Western Center redevelopment.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

I think each park needs to be evaluated depending on context. With Denver's parks being so well-used at the present time, and with Denver having such a vibrant restaurant scene, I am dubious of the need to add that type of activation to our parks.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

I think one of the most critical needs our city faces is developing the workforce to build-out I-70, the National Western Center, the terminal and concourse expansions at DIA, the Convention Center, the Elevate Denver bond projects and more. We must expand apprenticeship programs to provide workers, and expand our affordable housing initiatives to ensure our workforce can live in the city where they work.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Denver must create a cabinet-level Department of Mobility, taking responsibility for mobility issues from Denver Public Works. It is critical that we develop a permanent funding stream to facilitate the buildout of our sidewalk system and bike lanes. We need to work with RTD and the Transportation Network Companies to increase transit options and we should consider if Denver should operate some form of transit – bus shuttles, street cars, etc. – on its own, to take more control over our first and last mile solutions.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

I support increasing the minimum wage to \$15/hour, utilizing a phased-in approach over 2-3 years. This will require a broad-based community discussion to build-on best practices from other cities so implementation does not unfairly impact the employers who will need to adjust their business practices to accommodate the new pay structure.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

I am open to the discussion of how minimum wage is calculated for tipped employees.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

I support attempts to better honor the voters' decision to support social consumption sites. I do not support marijuana use in public places.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

I do not support dual consumption locations at present.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 11

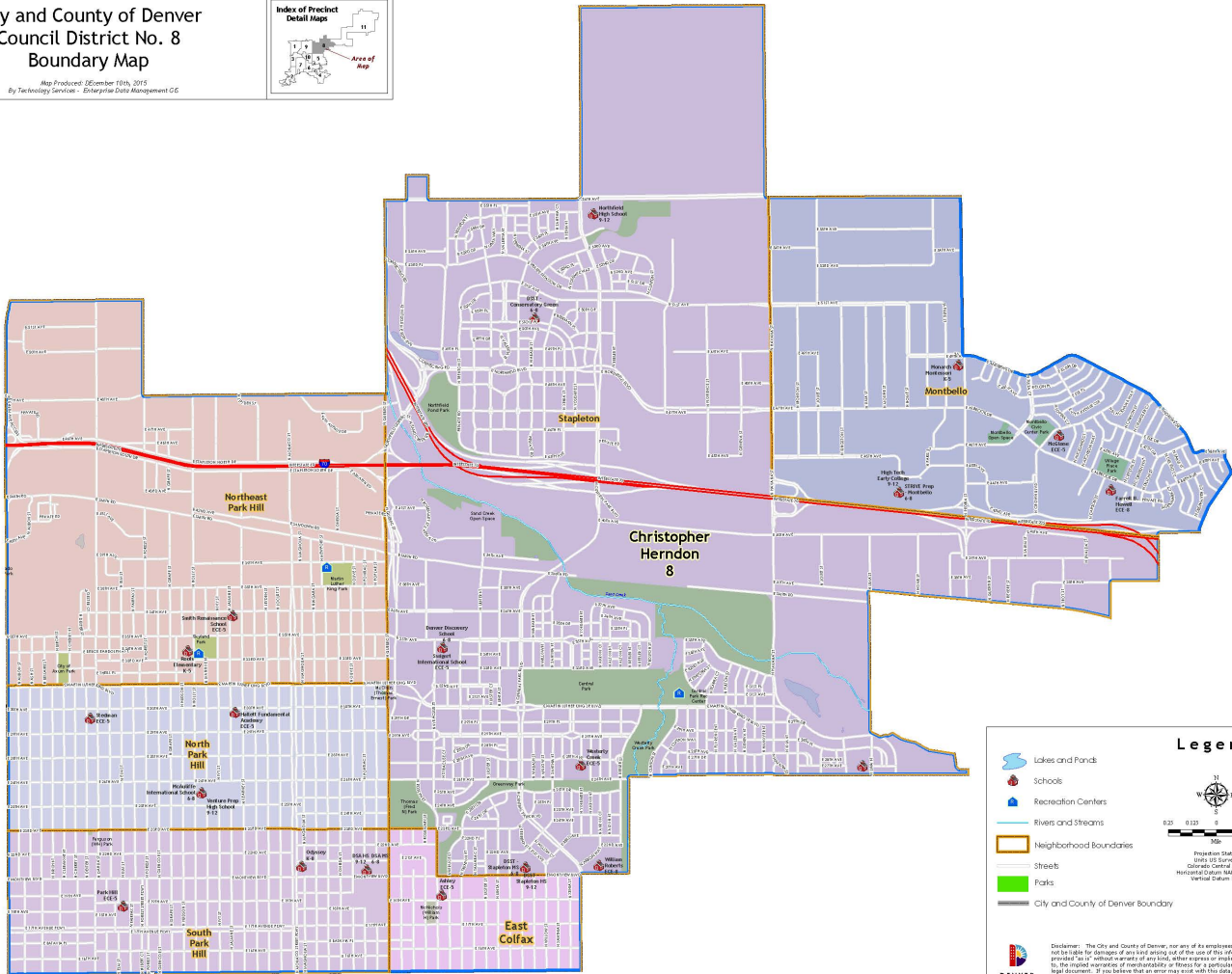
Tourism and hospitality questionnaire - Denver candidates 2019

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Respondent skipped this question

City and County of Denver
Council District No. 8
Boundary Map

Map Produced: December 10th, 2015
By Technology Services - Enterprise Data Management GE



Legend

- Lakes and Ponds
- Schools
- Recreation Centers
- Rivers and Streams
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Streets
- Parks
- City and County of Denver boundary

0.25 0.125 0 0.25
Miles

Projection: StatePlane
Units: US Survey Feet
Datum: North American 1983
Vertical Datum: NAVD83

District Representative
Christopher Herndon

City Council District 8

Disclaimer: The City and County of Denver, nor any of its employees, officers, or agents, shall not be liable for damages of any kind arising out of the use of this information. This information is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use. This map is not a legal document. If you believe that an error may exist with this data, please contact us at denver@denvergov.org.

Chris Herndon

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Chris Herndon

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

City Council District 8

Q3 Candidate email

herndon4denver@gmail.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

3034377951

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

Over the last four years I have worked to increase services and city efforts to assist the homeless community. This includes adding 150 beds for women in District 8, of which 50 can be used for stays up to 29 days, and over 200 beds for men, as well as the opening of the emergency shelter for inclement weather. I believe we need to take an all-hands-on-deck approach to solving the issues of homelessness in the city.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

No. Initiative 300 would make it harder to provide services to the homeless community and to assist them in getting their lives back on track. It would have a negative impact on our parks and public spaces.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

The many events that Denver hosts each year bring vitality and culture to the city. I do believe the Office of Special Events has done a good job managing events throughout the city.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

I believe there are pros and cons to that idea. I'd be hesitant to concentrate the impact in one area, but would be open to exploring the idea further.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, I support activating our parks and open space, where appropriate, so all Denverites and visitors may enjoy them.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

Ensuring that we have housing stock for all throughout Denver is key so workers do not have to travel great distances to get to work. Improving public transit throughout our city is a priority and the Bus Rapid Transit is a step in the right direction.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

I've worked to increase the multimodal transportation options throughout our city, with increased bike lanes and the development of Bus Rapid Transit along the Colfax corridor, to get more people out of their single-occupancy vehicles and into alternative transit options. I also support expanding the Bike Share program outside of the downtown core.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

I supported the initiative to increase the minimum wage for city employees to \$15/hour and if the legislation passes at the state level I'd like to see us work with the business community and consider the same approach we used at the city.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

This is an issue I'd like to explore more deeply before weighing in.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

No

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

No

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

It's important that the city listens to all stakeholders to make sure that policy positions are well-rounded and balanced.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I really enjoyed serving on the VISIT Denver Board. It helped me gain a deeper understanding of how much tourism and hospitality contributes to the success of our city.

Erik Penn

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Erik Penn

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

City Council District 8

Q3 Candidate email

Erik@PennforDenver.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

720-515-5649

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

Colorado is one of the safest states and Denver has a well trained system of police, investment in infrastructure and economic rehabilitation that combine to address safety concerns across the city. I will work with our city and non-profit agencies to address homelessness with a housing first approach, one that I believe can include the hotel and lodging industries as important partners in these efforts.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

I support the dignity of all people and their right to survive. I intend to vote in support of Initiative 300 and when elected city councilperson I intend to address the concerns of the measure while ensuring that we take every effort to address safety and housing with dignity.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I have always said Denver has it all; the wilderness and outdoors with the arts, sports, and events of a true metropolis. I believe the city can work better collaboratively with the entertainment and hospitality industry to coordinate city resources and infrastructure to address surge transportation and congestion.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

I believe the performing arts center has been a great asset for Denver and the current process of taking over park space can prove disruptive to communities. I would support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

I support parks and public spaces being activated as a means of encouraging engagement with our natural surroundings and community green spaces. I believe we can incorporate amenities in a manner that fits the already existing aesthetic of the existing space.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

Denver must focus on working families and services employees before this amazingly strong economy leaves them behind. With a push for livable wages, affordable housing, and workforce development we can continue our path and broaden the effects of the economic successes. I would like to see the workforce centers be more active in their communities. We must also responsibly invest our new 2A parks money to help continue Denver's ideal of a city within a park and expand our green space while cleaning up previously blighted areas.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Denver must move towards developing complete streets that give as much emphasis if not more to individuals and the personal use of a street, incorporating protected bike lanes, green ways, and dedicated transit lanes. We also must ensure mobility options are available citywide and not consolidated into certain neighborhoods. I believe in a transit and mobility system that allows every household access to frequent transit within a 10 minute walk.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

I support municipal control of minimum wage and believe in implementing \$15/hour within a year. To afford to live in Denver recent estimates state an individual must make \$23/hour. I believe Denver must set itself on a course to address cost of living adjustments in moving up from \$15 over the next few years.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

I do not support lowering the full minimum wage for tipped employees. I do not believe an employees wages should be at the whim of customers and believe in eliminating tipped positions in favor of steady wages that guarantee a higher minimum.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

I believe in expanding the availability of the Social Use ordinance to allow more locations to take advantage of the existing rules.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

I currently am not in support of dual consumption in public places but would consider more evidence in support of allowing dual consumption along with efforts for consumption control.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

The government should ensure the economic vitality and viability of our small businesses while ensuring that our employees are treated fairly and paid a livable wage.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I look forward to working with CHLA, CRA, and Visit Denver as your next Councilperson for District 8.

Blair Taylor

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Blair Taylor

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver City Council District 8

Q3 Candidate email

blairtaylorfordenver@gmail.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

720-727-7049

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

Homelessness is a significant concern in Denver and it needs to be addressed immediately. More than half of the homeless work and need housing assistance for those the real less than the 50% Average Median Income. That would reduce the population on the streets and perception of safety for visitors. We need to implement our Caring4Denver funding and direct it towards the urban-centric population as much as other initiatives. Providing social workers for crisis intervention will also reduce the criminalization and address behavioral issues of the population downtown.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

No. While I do not believe the homeless should be criminalized, we need real solutions. I stand with the Homeless Leadership Council, Initiative 300 is not a solution and may have other unnecessary effects. The city needs to expand its public programs, from housing to implementing Caring4Denver. We also need to support the organizations which already provide services including housing, jobs, and community, as the true experts in this area.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

Events and festivals downtown can bring in income and recreation. They need to be licensed and respectful of the residents and business owners and treated as any business would be expected to regulate. I do not see a need to change special event licensing and they should be evaluated on their potential to be as attractive to residents and they are to visitors. Ultimately tax payers have the responsibility.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

I support Elitch's, Mile High Stadium, and the Pepsi Center. Public park land is for public use, so as long as it was done responsibly and with the approval of the residents, it could be evaluated like any other development.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

While some areas of parks can be activated others need to be natural. City Park is activated by the zoo and museum. Not all people want to have food garbage and entertain in the parks. If you have weekend dedicated to entertainment and other for recovery and rest I see that as a good balance for nature, environment and people.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

Many hotels are being built downtown, like at the former Elitch Gardens property. We need to train and hire locally, pay fair livable wages, provide either parking co-ops or reduced rate fares to encourage workers to take public transportation.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

We need a dedicated metropolitan transit agency to provide a more focused and comprehensive approach to how people are getting around, when and preference. The RTD fares are some of the highest in the nation. The fares combined with the routes do not incentive an increase in ridership. And Denver Metro Agency will include offering a multi-modal approach of both light rail, buses, trolleys, dedicated bike/pedestrian boulevards in a hub and spokes plan that reach our far NE, NW, SE, and SW residents.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

As a city we have already passed a \$15/hr minimum wage for public employees which will be implemented by 2021. The current livable wage is \$14/hr. My concern with a minimum wage for any employee is that while right now the real estate and development industries are experiencing a boom. We could be at the top of the bell curve. If the bottom falls out, then many larger businesses will leave and the local businesses will go under. Pay needs to fluctuate with the market and implementing a flat minimum wage could be determinate to everyone's long-term.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

In order to address retaining and quality they need to have job stability. Paying a minimum wage, which is typically \$10-\$12/hr to ensure these workers who often do not have health insurance, pay taxes, no retirement, and have the same cost of living increases is reasonable.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

No.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

No.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

The city absolutely has a role in supporting small local restaurants and retail. They have large start up costs and a low profit margin. If a small business has identified property that can be rehabbed that should be provided incentives, or funding options, as well as zoning variances. Small local businesses have the opportunity to bring in residents and tourists by preserving and enhancing the character and culture of our city.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Respondent skipped this question

Patrick F. Thibault

Q1 Candidate Name

Patrick F. Thibault

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver City Council District 8

Q3 Candidate email

patrick@patrick4denver.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

3036679289

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

The first step is to aggressively work to provide safe and sustainable housing for our homeless population. The biggest barrier to accessing opportunities, for our homeless, is having an address. We also must strengthen our workforce development and re-training programs. We have to better support city programs that give homeless individuals stable work experience to be able to secure employment in the private sector. We can also work to create/support programs that provide incentives to businesses that give employment opportunities to our homeless populations

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

I do support I300. I agree with the Together Denver campaign, in that, "We can do better." We need better temporary and permanent supportive housing, for our underserved populations, that connects individuals and families to wrap around services on-site. I don't want our homeless population to have to resort to finding shelter in our alleyways, bus stops, and parks. The reality is that our jails have become the most accessible human services resource for our underserved. Ninety percent of our homeless population have had contact with law enforcement. It costs almost one hundred dollars a day to house a person in jail. I would rather see you tax dollars go to creating safe and sustainable housing, as opposed to our jails.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

Respondent skipped this question

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

Tourism is our Creating a strong local talent pipeline for jobs, from skilled trades to STEMs, has been a top priority for my campaign since day one. That starts with working to create alternative pathways, Career & Technical Education, project-based learning, and elective programming to ensure our Denver Public Schools are preparing our children for good-paying jobs, as well as, four-year university. I will also work to make sure our non-traditional learners have access to re-training programs to stay competitive in an ever-changing economy.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Respondent skipped this question

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Respondent skipped this question

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Respondent skipped this question

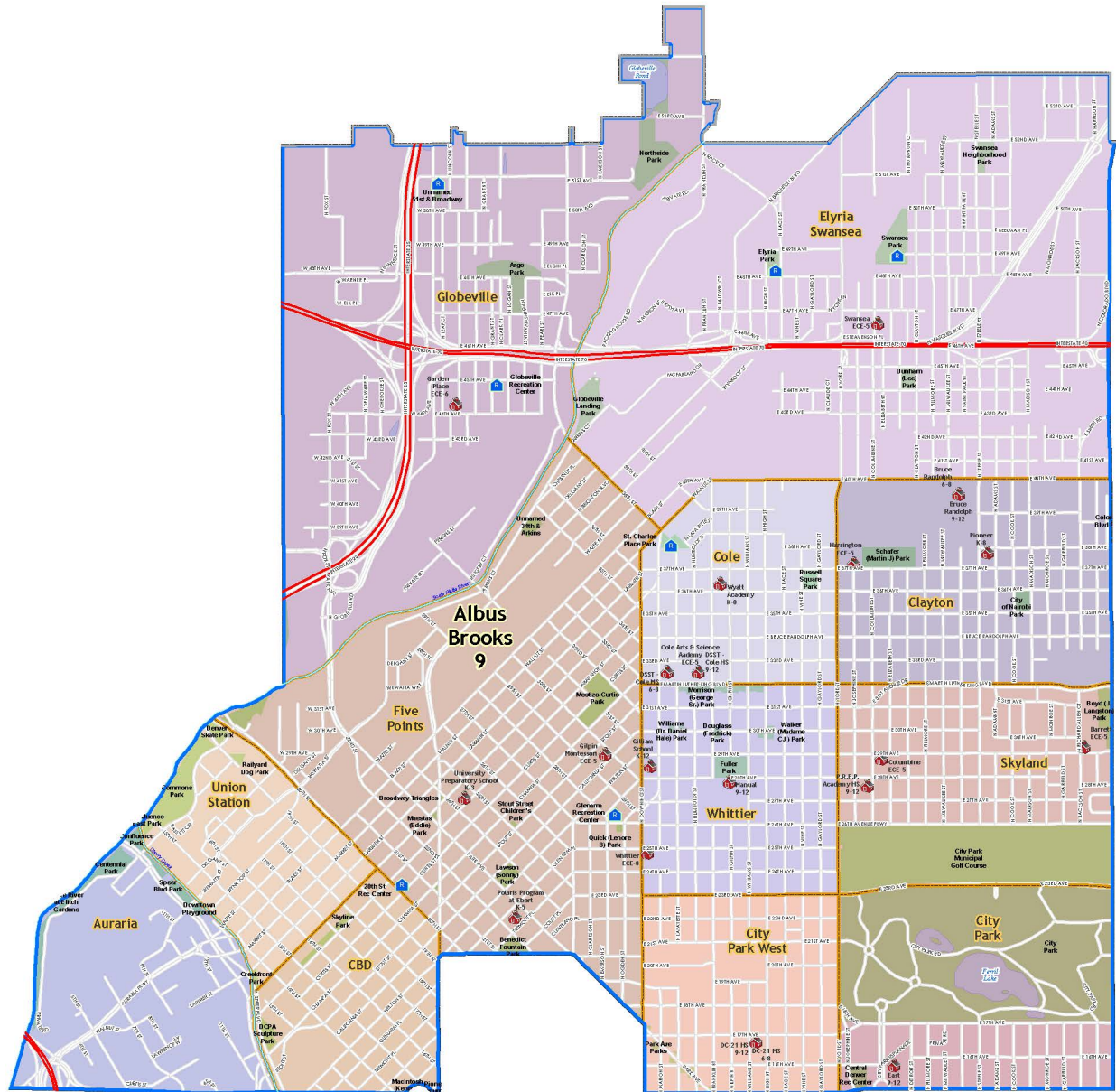
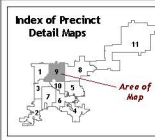
Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Respondent skipped this question

City and County of Denver Council District No. 9 Boundary Map

Map Produced: December 10th, 2011
By Technology Services - Enterprise Data Management GIS



Legend

- Lakes and Ponds
- Schools
- Recreation Centers
- Rivers and Streams
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Streets
- Parks
- City and County of Denver Boundary

0.25 0.125 0 0.25
Miles

Projection: Stateplane
Units: US Survey Feet
Colorado Central Zone 502
Horizontal Datum: NAD83/92 HARN
Vertical Datum: NAVD88

District Representative
Albus Brooks

City Council District 9



Disclaimer: The City and County of Denver, nor any of its employees, officers, or agents, shall not be liable for damages of any kind arising out of the use of this information. The information is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use. This map is not a legal document. If you believe that an error may exist with this data, please contact us at denvergis@denvergov.org.



Albus Brooks

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Albus Brooks

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

City Council District 9

Q3 Candidate email

AlbusBrooks@gmail.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

7206390872

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver’s friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

A truly inclusive city is one that places a high priority on the safety of its residents and visitors. One of the challenges of building a vibrant, world-class city is how to compassionately address issues like homelessness and perceptions of safety. I believe that we must properly train, support, and empower our law enforcement entities to keep our city safe for those who are enjoying the beauty of our city. We must see our police as not only “keepers of the peace” but also as representatives of the city. This means we should build a safe city, but not lose the warmth that attracts people to Denver. I also believe in wrap-around services for the homeless, with emphasis placed on mental health, addiction, and housing first.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

I do not support this initiative. A compassionate city does not simply step over its challenges. This is not a real solution, and would be detrimental to our city because it would prevent homeless individuals from being connected to an important continuum of services that help eliminate homelessness. This initiative is simply bad policy that wouldn't address homelessness in any meaningful, sustainable way.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

As the councilman for the downtown area, I absolutely love our urban events and see it as a way of connecting diverse communities; disconnected communities fail. We must manage our events with the Office of Special Events to make sure that our events don't adversely impact the quality of life for our residents. Unique events bring people together, drive revenue, and add to our brand identity as a city in an authentic way.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

This conversation has been taking place for more than a decade. I am certainly open to exploring the topic again, and I believe that it would be important to have a dedicated location that would limit the impact on adjacent residential neighborhoods. If this conversation progresses, it is important to involve stakeholders from the community, since our parks and open space are incredibly important to our residents.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, I support this type of activation, but on a limited basis. We have to balance the serenity of our parks with the potential commercialization of it. I would also not want national retail chains to have any sort of presence in our park if that means competing with local "homegrown " alternatives. Most of our parks and open space should remain truly open, but I believe that Denver has a lot of room to grow in terms of placemaking and activating the public realm.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

The next crisis for cities will be the challenge of developing skilled, retainable labor to support our market. Companies will stop locating in Denver if we don't do a better job of developing our workforce. I would specifically start developing local hiring and apprenticeship goals for all city projects, growing our Work Now program at CCD, and connecting with Emily Griffith to enlarge our job placement program. We need to make more investments in the technical and trade fields, and tie those investments to job placement at the city level.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Denver needs to complete its Denver Moves program for Pedestrians, Bikes, and Transit. For this to happen we would need a sustainable funding source, and one that would give substantial revenue to make the kinds of investments Denver needs. That is why I will be proposing a sales tax increase which will generate roughly \$50 million dollars towards mobility. We've spent too long investing in moving cars, so now it's time for us to focus on moving people! That means multi-modal transit that fights congestion, decreases Single Occupancy Vehicle trips, and brings people together in a way that's responsible to our climate and our culture in Denver. We have the plan (Denver Moves), but we just need the funding to implement it.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Yes, I would support a higher minimum wage. Workers are struggling to make ends meet in our growing city, and that is in large part because the cost of living is outpacing wage growth. If the state allows us to, I would propose an increase to \$15 within 12 months, but there would be qualifying exemptions for tipped workers and businesses with less than 20 employees.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, this part of our economic sector functions differently than most others so therefore it should be regulated differently. It is fair to adjust the hourly wages below the full minimum wage amount, as long as it can be proven that tips bring their income to the same amount as the new minimum wage amount. We don't want to create a gap for struggling workers, but in this special circumstance tipped earners should be treated with a contextual exemption.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Yes, as long as it is consumed in the club and not advertised explicitly to those under 21.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

I do not think this would be healthy for our city, at this time. While it may take place in the future, Denver is not ready for this type of change and I do not think any of our residential stakeholders would support this. Dual consumption certainly enhances the effect of both alcohol and marijuana, and my fear is that the city would be enabling experimentation in a way that would lead to negative outcomes. This would be bad for residents, as well as visitors who would come to Denver simply to consume.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Local government should focus on limiting the cost of doing business for restaurants, which includes the permitting process. Too much regulation, combined with a slow process, can hurt businesses and have a real effect on residents' lives. We should focus on empowering entrepreneurs and creating a restaurant culture that leads to a "food boom" in the city. High turnover and failing restaurants negatively impact neighborhoods, since the shared rhythms of neighbors often take place in these "third places" around our city. A healthy, stable restaurant scene in Denver will sustain us in more ways than one.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Respondent skipped this question

Jonathan Patrick Woodley

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Jonathan Patrick Woodley

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

City Council District 9

Q3 Candidate email

jpwoodley4denver@gmail.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

7205326311

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

I have worked as a restaurant manager downtown for over a decade. My last position was at Yard House on 16th where I was there close to 5 years. I understand fully the challenges that we have downtown and on 16th street. However, the issues surrounding the above mentioned is due to failed policies by our local government. Solving these issues is more than just a quick questionnaire response. We are talking about issues that have gone on for centuries. Our biggest issues were created by limited housing, increase cost of living, and failure to address mental health. On top of that, we have not seen an adequate increase in our law enforcement positions.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

Neither yes or no. I feel both Initiative 300 and the Camping Ban have good and bad points. However, they are presented as the extreme of one or the other. The solution cannot be rushed and I feel that both sides need to go back to the table to find solutions that work for both involved.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

Living in the city, I attend many events. However, I feel that security is a big issue and needs further addressing. We also have a traffic congestion problem, which we need viable solutions to getting people to the event and back home without requiring hours of travel time for short distances.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. Absolutely. We have wonderful spaces in Denver that can accommodate such events. Again, we need to address how people can get in and out of them.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

I think that would be great. Maybe this could be a reality, unfortunately, we are not there as a city yet.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

Everything starts with housing. It is not feasible for these employees to live in Denver due to not being able to afford it. Retention is already a problem and we have had a labor shortage in the hospitality industry for many years, and will continue to if current elected officials keep their seats.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Our public transit system is one of the most under-utilized systems in the country. The city needs to invest more in our infrastructure, to include basics like sidewalks. Unfortunately, the city has not focused on mobility and connectivity for years, that needs to change, and new leadership will help that.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Yes, I would support it. The time frame would be 365 days from implementation. If there is no local control on minimum wage or an increase, we will continue to have retention and shortage issues. What is the point of having a hotel or restaurant if no one will work there?

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. Not all restaurants are created equally. I managed YH, which is very successful, and team members did well.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

No. I feel that it is a personal choice to consume and something that should be done in your own home, not in public where others who do not consume congregate.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

No.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

I worked for both locally owned and corporate owned restaurants. Many locally owned restaurants have owners that are terrible owners, who do not provide a good product or even benefits to employees. On the other hand, the corporate run establishments did well and had a great product and benefits. I support assisting local business on all fronts, not just restaurants. The caveat to that is not every business is a good one or ran successfully. So it would be tough for me to support handouts.

Page 11

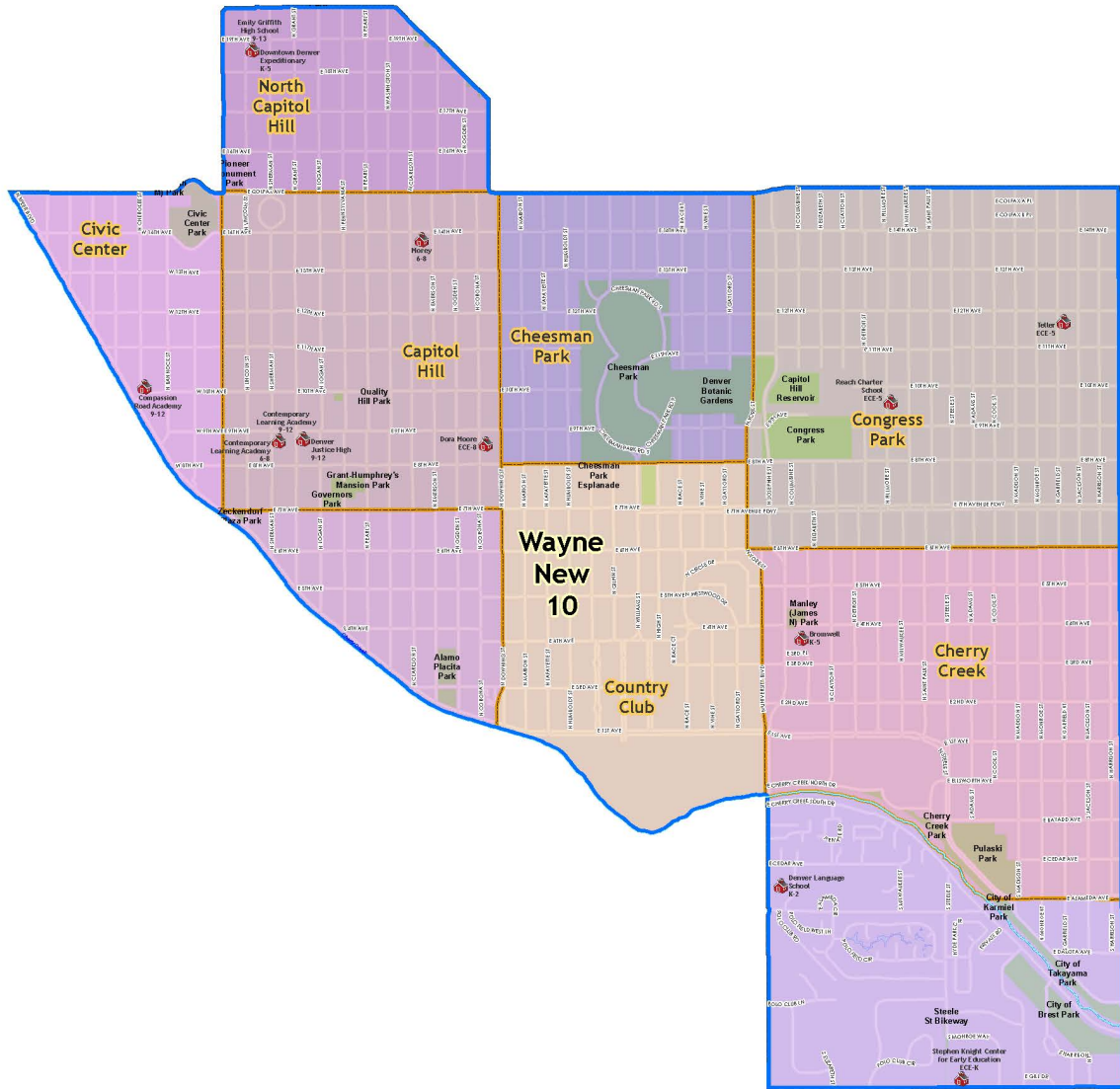
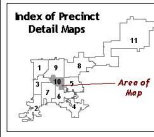
Tourism and hospitality questionnaire - Denver candidates 2019

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

Supporting current elected leaders would be a mistake. Also, personal interviews, as opposed to questionnaires would be preferred.

City and County of Denver Council District No. 10 Boundary Map

Map Produced: December 10th, 2015
By Technology Services - Enterprise Data Management GIS



Legend

- Lakes and Ponds
- Schools
- Recreation Centers
- Rivers and Streams
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Streets
- Parks
- City and County of Denver Boundary

Projection: StatePlane
Units: US Survey Feet
Colorado Central Zone 502
Horizontal Datum: NAD83 / 1983
Vertical Datum: NAVD83

District Representative
Wayne New

City Council District 10

Chris Hinds

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Chris Hinds

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver District 10

Q3 Candidate email

chris@chrisfordenver.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

3037179174

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

I agree and share their concern. So do residents in Denver. One lobbyist who regularly works at both the City and State levels has said she feels unsafe going between the two buildings because she must walk through Civic Center Park where she gets catcalled and treated like less than a person. In Colorado, we need a living wage, fully funded affordable housing programs, and a strong commitment to a housing first policy. Some existing affordable housing ordinances don't have the resources they need to succeed. As one example, Kyle Clark and others reported that hundreds of affordable homes had been sold at market rate, and as of December 20th, 201 homes are still out of compliance. Denver reports it's because of a staffing shortage. [<https://www.9news.com/video/entertainment/television/programs/next-with-kyle-clark/denvers-auditor-finds-deeper-issues-with-citys-affordable-housing-program/73-bfe4657f-ff9d-4f48-bd02-c5a8196ec87d>] A tactical solution for affordable housing is to ensure enough resources – including staff – to properly manage existing ordinances. Another consideration high on the priority list is to create a task force that looks at Minneapolis's recent sweeping change to land use to see how much of it can be used in Denver. I like their approach of tying increased density to transportation – both the distance to a transit stop and the frequency of transit at that stop are both considerations, and that's another way to encourage non-car transit, align priorities across multiple stakeholder groups, and increase land value by increasing flexibility of use of that land. That flexibility could include auxiliary dwelling units, which might further address affordable housing needs. Another consideration is how to keep Denver taxpayer dollars inside the city. As mentioned elsewhere, many of Denver's residents do not have a livable wage, and some people who are building Denver's future cannot afford Denver today. In publicly funded development contracts, community workforce or other agreements can be used to ensure the construction can continue while also maximize locally-sourced labor (skilled and unskilled). By employing locally, we provide additional funds to working families so they can better afford housing today and can buy a home, build equity, and develop wealth for themselves and their future generations.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

After extended discussion with Homeless Out Loud, Raffi Mercury (Right to Survive's campaign manager), Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, Centro Humanitario, and several other stakeholders, I have determined that while I am very sympathetic to Right to Survive, I am opposed to the ballot initiative because I am troubled by the definition of "public space." A legislator is responsible for creating laws that work for the city, and laws are no better than the words used to create them. Even a word as seemingly innocuous as "or" can create huge differences in the effect of a sentence, and the "public space" definition encompasses two geographic categories. The second category, "any city property upon which there is an easement for public use," is too permissive and has significant environmental, economic, and human impact in ways I believe were beyond the intent of the creators of the initiative. I believe housing is a human right. I believe it's not ok to discriminate against someone because they are homeless. I believe homeless sweeps are a symptom of several major issues. Sweeps do not treat the cause of any of those issues. Two causes of homelessness are substance abuse and mental health, and I'm happy to say I was a strong supporter for Caring4Denver from finalizing ballot language through to the election. We must ensure this money is used wisely and that we engage existing experts such as Denver Health and MHCD. Two other strong contributors to homelessness are the housing crisis and the lack of a living wage in Denver. I've already covered housing above. I'm also in favor of \$15forDIA because it begins to address the living wage issue at DIA. I believe in a business's right to a reasonable profit, but I am troubled when a wage is low enough that taxpayers are institutionally responsible to subsidize wages (ex: CHIP, food stamps, Medicaid, subsidized housing, and other welfare vehicles) for the average worker. Also, I support Colorado Coalition for the Homeless's alternate strategy for addressing the issue - as in the best we can do for our homeless is to give them homes. They've recently published a 5 point plan that I agree with.

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I sat on the CHUN board for several years - before CHUN outsourced the People's Fair. I volunteered at the event each year, and the events are wonderful for our residents and visitors. However, as you know, the People's fair is not happening this year. There are so many other, competing fairs that the People's fair wasn't deemed viable. In many ways, this makes me sad because it has been a Denver tradition for decades. We want to find a balance between hosting fairs that people will attend and hosting so many fairs that it's not realistic/viable for some of them to actually benefit the city. With too many fairs, our venues/parks/etc are impacted but don't provide good value to Denver.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

This makes good sense. Austin's SXSW festival is held in Zilker park, and by the end of the festival each year, so many festival-goers have trampled the grass that it takes an extended period of time to revitalize the park for Austin residents and visitors. The advantage of Civic Center park is its proximity to many transit lines, and a future park would have to be located in a place that also has transit options ... or that transit options are installed as part of the park installation.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

YES. Absolutely. Parks are a place where people can meet their neighbors, bring friends from out of town, and form relationships. "What is a city but its people?" Denver should encourage and nurture community and relationship-building of its residents. Our parks are also "free" (paid by taxes instead of an entry fee), and that means people from all neighborhoods, classes, status, etc can benefit.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

I've received the Denver Area Labor Federation endorsement. I've also received SEIU, Unite Here, and several other endorsements from organizations representing working families. We've worked extensively to find ways to businesses to have a reasonable profit and for workers to make ends meet. I was a supporter of \$15forDIA, and I'm supportive of making sure workers have a living wage. Denver also should address our non-car transit infrastructure. Fix our busted and broken sidewalks. Create a connected bike-lane network that includes protected bike lanes. Increase access to mass transit. With these transit improvements, workers can affordably and more efficiently get from where they live to their jobs. Cherry Creek is simply unaffordable for most who work at the mall. My vision is to create a cohesive sidewalk/bike/transit network that connects downtown to Cherry Creek mall - and includes the neighborhoods in-between. That will allow people to live in Cap Hill and efficiently get to their jobs in LoDo or Cherry Creek, and it could be the model Denver uses to roll out beyond that area (ie the most densely populated area in the state).

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

This was answered in the last question. We're expecting an additional 200k people to move to the City of Denver by 2040. We can't fit another 200k cars in our parking spaces, 200k cars on our streets (Colorado Blvd. is already a parking lot), so let's flesh out that mass transit system today before they all get here.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Yes. I'd start with \$15. I've already had several conversations about this, but I haven't had enough disparate stakeholders yet to form a strong answer for you. It's important that our elected officials engage people from all stakeholder groups before forming incontrovertible policy opinions. That said, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless say 60% of Denver's homeless work. To help reduce the number of homeless on our streets, blocking our doors by sleeping on our stoops overnight, or camping in the alleys behind our stores/restaurants, an increase in the minimum wage should be a component of that conversation.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

I support tip credits in our minimum wage ordinances. That way all employees are guaranteed a living wage and good salespeople get properly compensated for their talents. Servers at restaurants aren't an anomaly; most salespeople at corporations have the opportunity to make more than the CEO. After all, without sales, the company/corporation/restaurant can't meet expenses.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

I've testified at Denver City Council and at Excise and License in favor of social consumption facilities. Specifically, Cindy Sovine's Utopia concept I believe is a model we could use for future social consumption facilities. She's gone above and beyond and risked her personal wealth and reputation to ensure people can consume. They consume in a social setting, and it happens out of the way of our kids. She's even installed ventilation systems which ensure those near the facility aren't receiving secondhand effects. I believe the additional regulations placed above and beyond what the voters approved go too far.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

I haven't seen these studies or had enough conversations with stakeholders to form a strong opinion. I'm more familiar with those in the cannabis industries than in the alcohol ones, and I'd like to better understand the alcoholic beverage viewpoint.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

The balance should be between business owners' right to a fair profit and residents' right to a living wage. Denver residents are often more socially conscious than the national average, and we care about our neighbors. Multiple restaurant owners have suggested \$20/hr minimum wage (with tip credit) as a way to balance both. As for QSRs, I have a computer science degree and don't believe it's government's job to arbitrarily impede the adoption of technology in one's business.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I grew up in rural Texas as the only child of a single mom. Dad didn't graduate high school, mom cleaned houses growing up. I was the first to get a scholarship to go to college, and I went to Southern Methodist University in Dallas. I graduated with a computer science degree and went back to get an MBA in Finance and Strategy from the Cox School of Business at SMU. My mom was a hippie, and just like most children rebel against their parents, I rebelled by going into business. I came to Colorado in January 2007 for a short project at a Colorado tech startup. I went snowboarding several times, and since I had always been active with sports, I decided to move to Colorado because it's so much easier to exercise here than in hot Texas. I got a job working in finance at Quark, a software company based in Denver. On August 26, 2008, I was in a motor vehicle crash. I was rushed to Denver Health, and because of this crash, I was paralyzed from the chest down. Sometimes we can point to important moments where our life changed. I can point to that day – I asked myself: am I really doing the best I can do leave this a better planet than I found it? (Hippie mom strikes again!) Today I fight for access. I started 10 years ago by fighting for access for people with disabilities, but the more I went to the City and County building and the Colorado General Assembly, my neighbors asked me to speak on their behalf, too, even though they didn't have disabilities. We all need access: access to affordable housing, access to transportation, access to fresh and healthy food, and access to our representatives. Many of my neighbors say they don't have good access to any of those. I'm running for City Council to provide access for the residents of Denver and District 10. In the last reporting period, I out-fundraised all other candidates in 10 (including the incumbent). I have more than 60 endorsements from elected officials and organizations, far more than the next closest candidate in 10. Also, our field program will complete the second pass through our universe tomorrow. District 10 is very different than it was in 2015, and most of the population growth is in areas outside Cherry Creek and Country Club (where the incumbent received almost all of his votes). This is an extremely viable campaign, and this is the incumbent most likely to be unseated.

Wayne New

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Wayne New

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

City Council District 10

Q3 Candidate email

newleeway@gmail.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

303-333-3243

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

The concern about the homeless is that the City is not doing enough to provide housing and integrated supportive services, so that the homeless do not have to linger on the streets and in our parks and alleys and become a safety and nuisance problem for citizens, tourists, and other visitors. The City's new 3 Year Plan needs to be more comprehensive and proactive in order to make a difference.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

No. This initiative does not provide a homeless solution and the present condition to become worse. It will only cause the homeless situation to become a public health problem, quality of life disruption, and uncontrollable management problem for the City, our parks, and neighborhoods.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

The vast majority of all City events are well planned and managed. The only problem I have had with the City's Special Events Division is when an outside commercial event is approved within a neighborhood without any neighborhood resident involvement in the decision. Fortunately, that policy has been changed but it still exists in some business areas. Cooperative, participative planning in non-dedicated event areas always achieves better results.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

I favor the initial plan for a festival park at the National Western Center and hope it would meet our large festive needs as has been the case in other major cities.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. In all of my campaign meetings with residents, two issues keep coming up - need for additional open space and improved building design. Even though some new developments have planned some open space but, depending upon size and location, it may not meet the need for larger green areas that can be enjoyed by the public. This should continue to be a focus as major new land rezonings are being addressed.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

Housing is a major issue, especially affordable workforce housing. Our Housing Plan needs to provide greater incentives and flexibility to produce all levels of AMI housing, recognizing aggressive goals and adequate funding. Since land is at a premium, the City planning process predicts sprawl metro wide, and, if true, will only cause our traffic issues to become more acute. Another area to be more aggressive, productive, and funded is the development of our transportation system, which will help with our workforce development and retention.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

In my district I have been patiently waiting for the implementation of BRT on Colfax - the first segment of our transit system, which is not fully funded and may take 3 to 4 more years for this one stretch. Without a dedicated revenue stream for transportation, we will not be able to meet our needs and have a positive impact on the City. I have also been involved with the pilot project of micro transit and feel it would be a low cost transportation addition to RTD. Many miles of bike lanes are being added, but whether this will create a situation where less cars are used is still up in the air, especially without an efficient transportation system. Also, some cities have conducted a thorough evaluation of all its bus routes to make sure the design is more effective and able to draw additional riders. Houston is a good example. Public Work's creation of a Transportation and Mobility Division within PW is a good first step that may produce a dedicated transportation focus that will produce positive results, if not overly influenced by the traditional moving cars focus of PW.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

The Mayor's bill for an increase to \$15 per hour for City employees and contractors will be approved tomorrow night. The implementation of a State program for a higher minimum wage will require more study and evaluation to understand its effect on businesses.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

As I mentioned, I was just briefed on the restaurant minimum wage issue which is complicated. More study and evaluation needs to take place.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

A smoking lounge for cigarettes has been acceptable. One for MJ or a business venture for a social consumption venue has financial difficulties. I remain concerned about any effects on children who may come in lengthy contact with MJ. The research on brain development is of great concern to me.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

No. The increase in traffic deaths for individuals with both alcohol and MJ use in on the rise. The Police are very concerned about the combination effects.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Other than public health and zoning, I favor minimal new regulations unless there is an overwhelming cause and need for regulation.

Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I appreciate the incredible positive economic impact that all three have on our City.

Tony Smith

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Tony Smith

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

Denver City Council District 10

Q3 Candidate email

tony@tonyfordenver.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

7209841964

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

We must do everything possible to support and engage all related organizations to assist with any challenging perceptions for our visitors. We need to continue collaborating and encouraging existing programs, non-profits and city agencies to help keep our streets safe and to move people off the street, into shelters and into programs to help change lives. I appreciate both the DIA and Downtown Denver Partnership's program for ambassadors and would like to see those programs enhanced.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

I am not in favor of the Right to Survive initiative, as people do have a right to survive and not to be persecuted for being homeless, but they should not have the option to sleep on the streets and in the parks of our communities for safety reasons and for the protection of Denver businesses. Instead, we need to expand the City's funding of homeless shelters. We also need to expand and connect programs that work on finding people permanent homes rather than just temporary sleeping quarters. A major factor in getting to that point is by providing increased mental health care to homeless persons. Most people who are on the street are unable to work towards a personal housing solution due to mental illness.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I have worked in the special events and civic industries since the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta through my 18 years with the Cherry Creek Arts Festival; I am a huge proponent of public celebration as it relates to cultural and economic impact for cities. Denver has a robust and successful special events and festivals cultural landscape. I'd like to see additional support from the city's OSE and more incentives – versus hurdles -- for producers to bring large scale events to Denver.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

This is an interesting concept that I'd like to explore further – realizing however that we have a robust amount of parks throughout the city already that host events, as well as dedicated “fair grounds” in surrounding areas. I will always be a proponent of more public, green and open space for our residents, no matter the intention.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Absolutely, yes, I support park and public spaces – especially activated with all the amenities mentioned. I would also like to make sure these amenities are complemented with performing arts, additional trees, plants and green spaces.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

I am excited for the City of Denver approving the increased minimum wage to \$15 by 2021, and it is my hope that this will translate to higher minimum wages across the city. We also need to take measures to prevent automation of low-wage jobs and to continue supporting incentives to businesses expanding in Denver. We also need to support initiatives supporting transportation and affordable housing for workers to both live as well as work in Denver.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Denver's 2019 budget has \$27million more for transportation and mobility, with a focus on bike and pedestrian infrastructure. I support the Denver Streets Partnership to dedicate sufficient and sustainable funding in the Denver Moves Plans within 20 years, which they state at current levels would take more than 100 years. The October 2017 Denver Vision Zero program action plan states the establishment of a permanent funding source of \$2M/year for 2018/2019, with \$3M/year 2 additional FTE/year. This info was obtained at the Denver Streets Partnership policy platform meeting 2/23/19; I will look to these organizations to continue moving our transit and mobility concerns with the utmost priority.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

Yes! Denver needs to lead by example in paying its lowest-income workers. I endorse a \$15 dollar minimum wage by 2025 and pegged to inflation after that.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

No. It is a shame that restaurant workers in the United States must rely on tipping in order to even make minimum wage. Trends with our millennial population support not wanting wages to be determined by customer whim. Many restaurants have tried and failed at raising minimum wages and doing away with tipping, so I do not believe tipping will disappear anytime soon – and I do believe that tips incentivize service staff.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

Yes – marijuana is legal and represents entrepreneurial opportunities financially beneficial for businesses and tax revenues alike. Like alcohol and other recreational items requiring patrons to be 21 years old, however, public consumption of these items must be regulated for public safety purposes. I also agree we need to treat public consumption of marijuana the way we treat public consumption of cigarette smoking.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that “dual consumption” enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, as that individual would most likely do so outside of the establishment anyways. Like with consumption of just alcohol in restaurants and bars, this would give bartenders the ability to see if someone is too intoxicated and work to prevent them from driving accordingly. Also, notices should be placed in easy-to-read places in such establishments discussing the dangers of crossing alcohol and cannabis.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

I support ensuring that businesses provide a fair minimum wage for their employees. The 2019 Colorado tipped minimum wage is \$8.08 per hour. While this may be a naïve idea, I'd like to explore the concept of subsidized and temporary assistance for restaurants making the shift from current tipped minimum wages to \$15. I would also seek the advice of experts in this field to assist in helping restaurants to the best of our governmental ability.

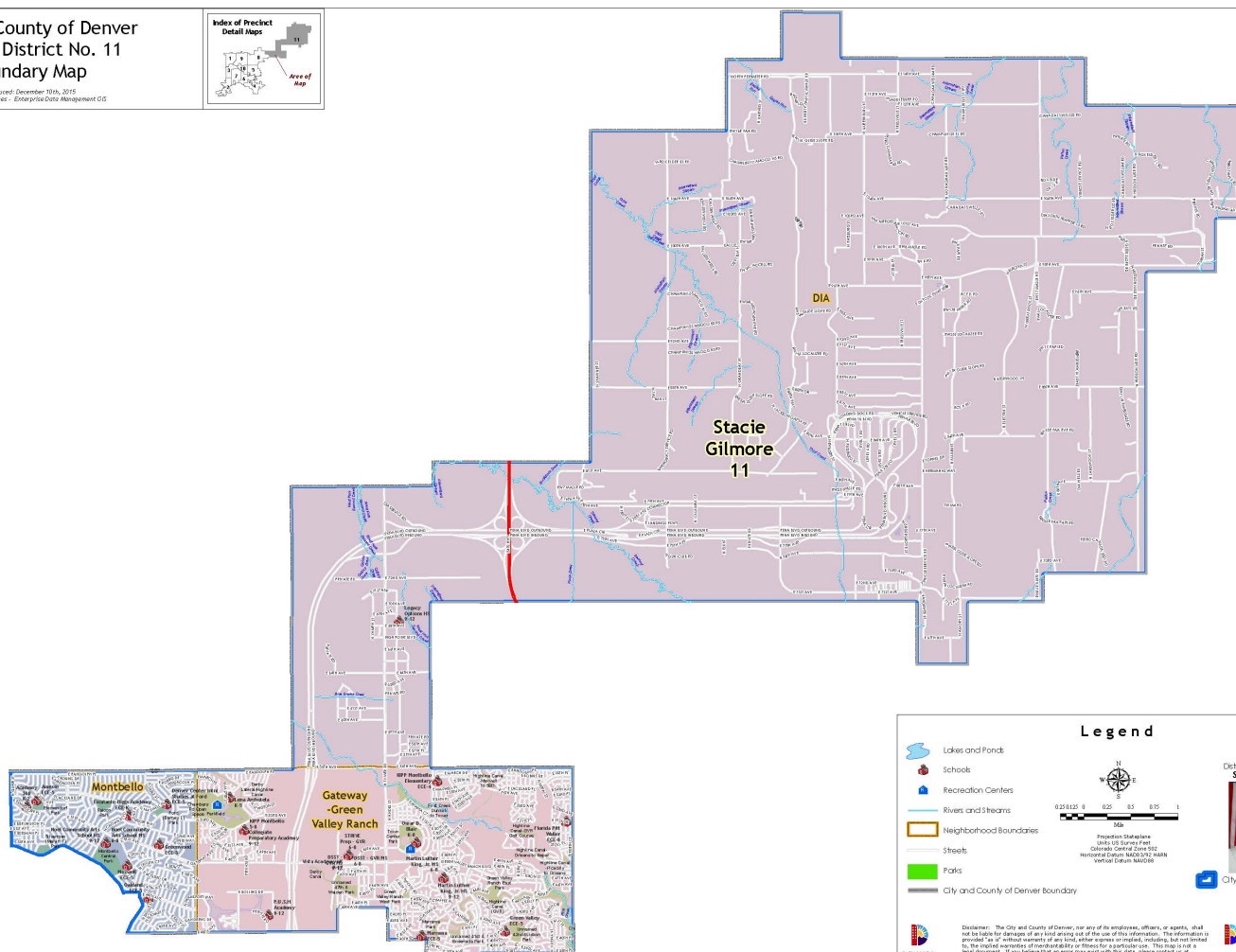
Page 11

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

My very first job was a busboy at a Chinese restaurant at 15 years old, followed by being a bagger and cashier at a grocery store. I highly value our service industries and respect the challenges. I've also been in the special events and festivals industry since 1996 and value the impact, importance and value of event tourism for cities. It has brought me the greatest joy serving the Cherry Creek Arts Festival for the last 18 years – seeing families and friends exploring imaginations – all while having significant cultural and economic impact for the City of Denver.

City and County of Denver
Council District No. 11
Boundary Map

Map Produced: December 10th, 2015
By Technology Services - Enterprise Data Management GIS



Legend

- Lakes and Ponds
- Schools
- Recreation Centers
- Rivers and Streams
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Streets
- Parks
- City and County of Denver Boundary

Scale: 0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

Projection: StatePlane
Units: US Survey Feet
Datum: North American 1983
Datum: NAD83
Vertical Datum: NAVD83

City Council District 11

District Representative
Stacie Gilmore

DENVER
TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Disclaimer: The City and County of Denver, nor any of its employees, officers, or agents, shall not be liable for damages of any kind arising out of the use of this information. The information is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use. This map is not a legal document. If you believe that an error may exist with this data, please contact us at denver@denvergov.org.

Stacie Gilmore

Page 1

Q1 Candidate Name

Stacie Gilmore

Q2 Candidate for which municipal office

City Council District 11

Q3 Candidate email

stacie@votestaciegilmore.com

Q4 Candidate phone number

303-720-9139

Page 2

Q5 Visitors consistently praise Denver's friendly people, walkability and weather as the most positive aspects of their stay. However, they list safety, the perception of safety, homelessness, and aggressive panhandling as their primary concerns. What is your position on these issues of concern? What specific steps can be taken to address these concerns?

We must protect Denver's well-earned reputation as a friendly, people-centric city with beautiful weather and multiple opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. I share your issues of concern and safety is always a priority. Through public space activation, creative green infrastructure, and artistic lighting we can encourage family- friendly spaces for our visitors and residents alike. I believe that the City's role in addressing homelessness includes the need for a housing first model that will create the stability and structure to support individuals in connecting to resources that will help them to begin address issues such as mental health and addiction. Aggressive panhandling is an issue that needs to be addressed through existing laws to deter it.

Q6 Related, do you support Initiative 300 (Right to Survive), yes or no? Please explain.

No, I support a housing first model to address homelessness; I am not in support of Initiative 300. I believe that we need to begin to address the transitional housing shortage not only across Denver, but the region. The homelessness issue will not be solved by any one municipality. I would like to look at this from a regional perspective and explore how we could create a resource sharing model through which we could make a larger impact on this issue. We must have a toolkit of options for homeless individuals to get easy access to resources, shelter, and ultimately housing.

Page 3

Q7 Residents and visitors alike gravitate to the many urban events, festivals, sporting events and outdoor activities available in Denver throughout the year. How do you perceive events in Denver? Would you propose any changes to the way events are hosted in Denver?

I am very supportive of events in Denver. Events shine a positive light on our city and neighborhoods. We must ensure that they are well coordinated and include community input. I currently do not have any proposed changes to the way events are hosted, but I would be interested in hearing from stakeholders about their suggestions.

Q8 Related, would you support the development of a dedicated park or venue for events and festivals in Denver, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes, I would be interested in learning more about the development of such a venue. I agree that we need to expand our capacity for events in Denver. In District 11, we have the 61st and Pena Transit Station and have large undeveloped areas that such a venue might work under certain conditions.

Page 4

Q9 Denver is an outdoor city and our parks and public spaces are enjoyed by residents and visitors on a daily basis. Do you support park and public spaces (downtown or city-wide) being activated with resident and visitor-friendly amenities including cafes offering food and beverages, fountains, public art, and seating, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. We need to encourage public usage of parks, including resident and visitor-friendly amenities. This presents the opportunity for small businesses to partner with the parks department to create investment in our parks and public spaces. Increasing our commitment to parks and public spaces will benefit the community and encourage use of the spaces, while also helping local businesses and economies.

Page 5

Q10 Workforce development and retention is a critical issue for many industries in the Denver metro area, including the tourism and hospitality industry. What new or expanded programs, policies, or other measures can the City and stakeholders undertake to ensure that Denver's economy remains robust and competitive? (Please offer specific examples.)

We must work collaboratively as a city, with nonprofit and industry partners to up skill and/or train residents in not only a career path, but a path toward homeownership. WorkNow, in partnership with the Office of Economic Development, Community College of Denver, and industry stakeholders has trained over 700 individuals for construction jobs on the Central 70 project and National Western Center. I am very interested in exploring the opportunity for a large-scale workforce-training center along the Tower corridor in Far Northeast Denver, in partnership with Adams and Arapahoe counties. This would present a transformational opportunity for both industry and community to have expanded training opportunities in construction, tourism, hospitality services, culinary arts, and technology. All the while ensuring working class families have opportunities to build their wealth through home ownership and financial security.

Page 6

Q11 Mobility infrastructure impacts the economic prosperity of Denver through the daily movement of residents and visitors. Tourists depend on our infrastructure to explore Denver's unique, diverse and memorable offerings. Denver's mobility system includes an international airport, public transit system including light/commuter rail and bus connectivity, protected bike lanes, bike and scooter share programs, and more. As Denver's residential population continues to grow, and more visitors come to Denver, what should the City do to further enhance connectivity and mobility for all people? (Please offer specific examples.)

Transportation and mobility gaps continue to adversely affect both the quality of life and economic growth in all areas of the city. We must address transportation infrastructure from building out our roadways to implementing multimodal options in all communities. Reliable, high-speed transit ensures that we can begin to build the ridership that is needed to sustain a thriving transit model. I believe that Denver needs to push forward with developing a new transportation agency within the City and County of Denver. A comprehensive transportation and mobility network for Denver will ensure that we can encourage economic growth while ensuring our families quality of life and access to livable wage careers create stable neighborhoods. Tourism is a major economic driver in Denver, and we need to hear from you about your ideas to further enhance connectivity in our city.

Page 7

Q12 The Colorado Legislature has introduced legislation that would allow local governments to set their own local minimum wage, which is currently prohibited. If such legislation passes, would you support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver, yes or no? Please explain, including the minimum wage amount and timeframe that you would support.

This is an issue that will require the input of all stakeholders involved. This includes working with local businesses, unions, and community members to fully understand how this legislation can affect our city and district. If the legislation passes, I would support the creation of a higher minimum wage in Denver. I represent a majority of working families who are in crisis mode and struggling to stay in our city. I support a phased in approach, with a goal of \$15 per hour. We need to fully evaluate and look at all intended and unintended consequence to support small businesses and others who either do not have the operating overhead to navigate a significant change in their personnel expenditures. We also need to take into consideration large employers such as hotels, to understand the financial impact and how to tier a change such as this.

Page 8

Q13 In the restaurant industry, restaurant staff that take home tips tend to be the highest earning positions, often surpassing managers. Do you believe restaurants should be able to adjust hourly wages below the full minimum wage for tipped employees, as long as the tips they receive bring them up to or over the full minimum wage, yes or no? Please explain.

Yes. Restaurant margins can be thin, and not every restaurant can afford to pay staff minimum wage plus tips. I would be interested in learning more about this issue. If requiring each restaurant to pay minimum wage plus tips could seriously hurt the economic health of the industry, we need to look at it from that angle as well. We want to ensure that all workers are compensated equitably. Every restaurant staff must be guaranteed to take home at least minimum wage.

Page 9

Q14 In recent years, there have been several attempts to allow for the consumption of marijuana in public places. In nearly all of the proposed scenarios, including Denver's Social Use ordinance, individuals would have to bring in their own marijuana to be consumed. Would you support expanding where marijuana can be consumed publicly, yes or no?

No, unless zoning was changed to open different areas of the city to this activity. Due to zoning in Montbello, there is a higher density of marijuana shops and cultivation businesses. The public usage of marijuana presents an unfair burden to the rest of the community. Smoking marijuana in public places, much like tobacco, negatively effects nearby non-smokers. People can legally consume marijuana in their residences as they please, but it is unnecessary to burden the rest of the community by allowing it publicly.

Q15 Related, would you support the ability for an individual to be able to consume marijuana and alcohol together in a public place like a restaurant or a bar, even though studies have shown that "dual consumption" enhances the effects of both, yes or no? Please explain.

No. Similar to my answer in #8, smoking marijuana in public places negatively effects nearby non-smokers. I'm very concerned about how dual consumption effects drivers and I would want to look at this from a public safety angle or learn how we might mitigate this possible negative impact.

Page 10

Q16 Restaurants traditionally run on very low profit margins with 3-6% being the national average. At the same time, this industry is a key employer in the State of Colorado providing more than 285,000 jobs. What role should local government have in supporting these businesses while balancing fair regulations for employees?

Ensuring fair regulations for employees must be the priority for local government. It is the government's obligation to ensure every individual has the right to fair compensation. That said, the regulations should not surpass fair to the extent that restaurants are no longer able to operate profitably. I would be interested in looking at ways that local government can reduce costs to restaurants to encourage them to stay a part of Denver's economy.

Page 11

Tourism and hospitality questionnaire - Denver candidates 2019

Q17 Do you have any additional comments or there anything you would like us to know about you?

I have been honored to serve as the Councilwoman for District 11 since July 2015. I am excited to continue the amazing work that the community, stakeholders, and my office have completed on behalf of the residents and businesses. I have lived in the Montbello neighborhood for the past 25 years, with my husband Scott and our three children, Sterling 22, Samantha 20, and Serenity 14. I graduated from Metropolitan State College in 1994 with a Bachelors of Science degree in Zoology and Chemistry. In 2003, I graduated summa cum laude from Regis University with a Master of Arts degree in Nonprofit Management as a Colorado Trust Fellow. I successfully founded and was the Executive Director for Environmental Learning for Kids (ELK) for 19 years. My community involvement in Far Northeast Denver goes back 25 years. I'm proud to be a founding board member of the registered neighborhood organization, Montbello 20/20. In 2011, I completed Leadership Denver through the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce. In March 2014, I was honored by The White House as a Champion of Change for Engaging the Next Generation of Conservation Leaders. I am running for re-election to the Denver City Council District 11 seat because I am committed to making sure our community is represented on all issues affecting our quality of life. I love our community and we deserve to have our voice heard. I am a strong advocate for a person's right to self-determine their own direction in life. We deserve to live in a community that has smart and sustainable economic growth, jobs that lead to careers, and a beautiful neighborhood where the quality of life supports our family's health and well-being. Through partnerships and collaboration, I know that we can ensure a robust economy while also supporting those most in need. I look forward to bringing my 25 years of successful business and community service experience, which has been recognized locally and nationally, to continue to grow opportunities for our District and the region.
