

2019 Candidates Questionnaire - City Council

Response for: Anonymous

Completed: 9/11/2019 12:49 AM PDT

Text Block :

Thank you for your interest in serving our community as an elected official. The Greater Federal Way Chamber of Commerce extends the invitation to all candidates to complete its Candidate Questionnaire. The questionnaire and your answers will be shared with the community via our website, fedwaychamber.com. In addition, completed questionnaires will be compiled and distributed to our Membership in a special publication. To meet production, deadline is 4 p.m. on September 4, 2019. About the Questionnaire. There are four sections to the Questionnaire. Please limit your answers to no more than 200 words max for each question.

1 Full Name:**2 Position you are seeking:****3 Education:****4 Current Mailing Address:****5 Telephone:****6 Email:****7 Website:****Text Block :**

Business and Economic Issues

8 Industrial Realty Group estimates that its Woodbridge Corporate Park will create 3,100 mixed-spectrum employment opportunities. Do you support IRG's economic plan to develop approximately 30% of its property for such job creation? Why or why not?

See attached

9 Given the diverse nature of our business community and its workforce, do you support an external, independent oversight committee to review the use of force issue by the Police Department? Why or why not?

See Attached

10 Chamber members have identified Permitting as the 2nd most challenging issue facing our business community. As a Councilmember, how do you propose to address this issue?

See attached

Text Block :

Political Engagement

11 Have you sought elective office before? If so, please describe the office, the level and outcome.

Yes, I was appointed to the City Council position in 2014, and I was elected to the same position in 2016. I am currently seeking reelection.

12 Do you have any previous experience with the local government office you seek? If yes, please describe.

My experience is that I have been on the City Council for the past 5+ years, and I am seeking re-election for the same position. As a Council member, I have served on all council committees, and regional boards and committees.

13 How has your Campaign positively impacted the business climate in the South Sound?

This is an area that I have not strongly focused on or been involved in actively. after this election, I am going to actively engage in conversations in supporting local businesses, and joining the Chamber of Commerce.

Text Block :

Campaign Activity and Finance

14 What is your campaign budget, how much have you raised, and what are your primary sources of funding?

I am hoping to raise \$10,000
I have raised \$2,500
My primary sources of funding are personal friends and family.

15 Please share your major endorsements from the South Sound region (This scope should include the surrounding South King area in addition to Federal Way itself).

- 30th LD Democrats
- Young Democrats

16

Have you contracted with a firm or individual to manage your campaign? If so, please provide the name and address of the firm/individual. If not, what are your plans regarding management of the campaign?

My campaign manager is George Vadino, who is going to help with fund raising, organizing sign-waving, posting of signs, and helping with mailings.

- 1. Industrial Realty Group estimates that its Woodbridge Corporate Park will create 3,100 mixed-spectrum employment opportunities. Do you support IRG's economic plan to develop approximately 30% of its property for such job creation? Why or why not?**

Yes, I support the plan, with some reservation. IRG's forecast of creating 3,100 jobs in Federal Way could be a boost to our economy, and lift the city up, only if the jobs are livable wage jobs.

IRG's initial plan to build a fish warehouse was a bad move, and I am pleased to see that the community, in particular, the Save Weyerhaeuser group, pushed back, to where, Woodbridge Corporate Park is now developing a commercial center, and to maintain most of the natural attributes that currently exist, and still make them accessible to those who want to enjoy these features and continue to visit the rhododendron and the Bonsai museums.

I believe, Woodbridge Corporate Park will generate revenue for the City during the permitting process, and through other tax resources. The hiring of 3,100 jobs, as good as it may sound, doesn't identify the percentages of those in low-paying wages as opposed to those in higher paying jobs, which are part-time, temporary, or where the work force is coming from.

If done correctly, the Woodbridge Corporate Park can be an icon in Federal Way, and be an economic engine for the City.

- 2. Given the diverse nature of our business community and its workforce, do you support an external, independent oversight committee to review the use of force issue by the Police Department? Why or why not?**

Yes, I support an independent oversight committee. According to the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOL), the role of the oversight committee is that "it works to enhance accountability and transparency in policing and building community trust through Civilian oversight."

Nationally, there have been significant and many incidents where the police have used deadly force on people of color. Federal Way has become more diverse and continues to change demographically. According to the recent American Community Survey, Federal Way's racial composition is 42.61% minorities and People of Color. Considering the increase in people migrating to Federal Way, which leads to more diverse population, it's clear that the police and residents paths will cross, and could lead to a bad outcome.

I think having an oversight committee will boost our PD's credibility with those who feel they are targets, and may not have a positive interaction with the police. The oversight committee will be able to review incidents, determine whether or not the measures taken are warranted, and offer a recommendation for improvement.

By having an oversight committee, there will be accountability, transparency, and it shows that our police department has the community's interest at its core.

3. Chamber members have identified Permitting as the 2nd most challenging issue facing our business community. As a Councilmember, how do you propose to address this issue?

I want to start by saying that City staff do an amazing job with permitting, considering their constraints. I don't think this issue is unique to the City of Federal Way, and is something that needs to be looked at.

Some ideas I have entertained are – opening longer hours, and possibly on Saturdays. However, this might defeat the purpose, especially, as we are short staffed. What may be helpful is to see which of the process is time consuming, and have a process to minimize time it requires or eliminate redundancies.

I also want to point out that the permitting process includes the Fire Department, which is an outside, partner agency, which requires coordination.

As the City finds ways to generate more revenue, it could hire additional staff to expedite the permitting process.