

Dear Mountain View City Council candidates:

The Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning (www.mvcsp.org) would like to have an opportunity to endorse City Council candidates this October. Our endorsement will be based on the extent to which your values, goals, and plans seem to align with ours, as we seek to make Mountain View a sustainable city. We are therefore asking if you would be so kind as to provide written comments that a group of our members can review and discuss. We are asking just three questions (below the dotted line). We think that each can be answered in no more than 200 words. The first concerns your goals as a Councilmember and the others we hope will shed some light on your experience with our city government's procedures. Please reply to mvcsp.info@gmail.com by October 5. Thank you very much!

1. What two or three long-term problems in Mountain View are you most eager to help solve during a 2017-20 term on the Council? What specific steps do you look forward to being able to take, as soon as possible, to solve them?

The crisis in housing affordability and severe traffic congestion are among the most intractable problems facing the city. They are inextricably linked; high housing costs force people to live far away from where they work, and many drive to work because our transit system does not adequately serve them.

I support inclusionary zoning (including legislation to fix the Palmer decision) and housing impact fees to help create and finance affordable housing, and I strongly support infill and transit-oriented development. The city must encourage production of market-rate rental and ownership housing to the greatest extent possible.

I will promote a variety of solutions to help address the affordability crisis, including further relaxing restrictions on companion units and incentivizing housing that is affordable by design (reducing or eliminating parking minimums, small units, unbundled parking, etc.). I support Measures A and B to provide regional sources of funding for affordable housing and transportation. I also support significant investment in bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure to provide alternatives to driving alone.

2. Have you served on a Council-appointed advisory body? If so, which and when, and what were the most valuable take-aways from this experience?

I have served on the Human Relations Commission since 2013, including two terms as chair (2015 and 2016). I've learned about the paramount importance of running meetings well to ensure that all Commissioners have the opportunity to participate, that the public understands what's going on at all times, and that business is conducted efficiently and effectively. I've also learned how to work with other Commissioners to compromise when necessary and secure majority votes to get our business done.

3. About how many Council meetings have you attended or watched (online) during the past six months? (We know that some of you are incumbents, making this a really easy question.) If you are not an incumbent, what have you found most interesting or useful (in relation to your plans to sit behind this dais)? Are you planning to attend or watch all Council meetings during the last three months of 2016?

I have attended almost every council meeting not only in the past six months but also in the past four years. In doing so, I've learned a great deal by osmosis about process and procedure, policies and development proposals considered during this time, city staff, and the "outside" individuals and interests who lobby the council. This is enormously helpful background to have as a prospective councilmember. I intend to attend every council meeting for the balance of the year.