

# The BeaconNews

## Candidate Questionnaire

If the economy continues on its current path, what would you like the city to do to reduce spending?

Please list a few ways you would encourage new businesses to locate to Aurora. Do you believe financial incentives, such as tax rebates, are a good tool for commercial development, or should they be used sparingly?

How do you feel the \$580,000 per year ward funds should be spent by aldermen? Would you support a cap on non-infrastructure-related expenses?

How important are ward committees? How do you, or would you, organize your committee and run it?

Do you think the City Council has enough check-and-balance power on the mayor's office? Why or why not? If not, what can be done about it?

Citywide, what are your top three specific priorities?

What's working well in Aurora these days? What's not?

For everyone but the incumbent – Why should voters choose you over the incumbent?  
For the incumbent – Why should you be re-elected over the challengers?



THE CITY REGARDLESS OF THE CURRENT DOWNWARD TREND WILL NEED TO VERY CLOSELY MONITOR ALL OF ITS INCOME FOR AT LEAST THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS. WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO BE VERY TIGHT WITH THE MANY GRANTS THAT WE GIVE OUT UNTIL THINGS HAVE TURNED AROUND. WE MAY ALSO HAVE TO LOOK VERY CLOSELY AT PURCHASES THAT CAN BE PUT OFF.

ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS THAT WE HAVE TO DO IS WELCOME DEVELOPERS AND HELP THEM WITH ALL OF THE RED TAPE. WE NEED TO MAKE SURE WHEN A DEVELOPER IS GOING DOWN THE RIGHT PATH THAT WE DON'T CHANGE THE RULES IN THE MIDDLE OF THE GAME. I DO BELIEVE IN SOME FINANCIAL INCENTIVES, BUT I WANT TO SEE A DEVELOPER COME IN AND TELL US THIS IS WHAT I INTEND ON DOING AND IF I DO THAT CAN I BE IN LINE FOR SOME HELP. SO THE GRANTS, REBATES ETC SHOULD BE USED SPARINGLY, BUT THEY SHOULD BE USED AS ANOTHER TOOL.

I FEEL THAT THE ENTIRE PROGRAM NEEDS TO BE LOOKED AT, NOT JUST ADJUSTED. IT MAY BE ALRIGHT TO CONTINUE WITH A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF MONEY BEING PUT INTO EACH OF THE 10 WARD FUNDS, BUT MAYBE NOT THE FULL 580,000. WE MAY WANT TO REDUCE TO A LESSOR AMOUNT AND THEN PUT THE BALANCE INTO A GENERAL ROAD FUND THAT WOULD BE HANDLED BY THE CITY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT.

HAVING BEEN ON THE WARD COMMITTEE SINCE ITS BEGINNING I THINK THAT THEY CAN SERVE A PURPOSE. I AM NOT SURE HOW MANY OF THE ALDERMAN USE THEM, AND OF THOSE THAT DO WHAT THEY USE THEM FOR. ARE THEY A PLATFORM FOR THE ALDERMAN OR ARE THEY TRULY A GREAT INPUT FROM THE WARD RESIDENCE. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE A BROAD REPRESENTATION FROM ACROSS THE ENTIRE WARD SO WE COULD GET AN INPUT FROM ALL OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS.

I THINK THAT THE POWER IS PROBABLY THEIR, BUT WHETHER IT IS BEING USED I AM NOT SURE. HAVING NOT BEEN IN THE POSITION OF AN ALDERMAN I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF PRESSURES ARE BEING PUT ON THE ALDERMAN.

CRIME NEEDS TO CONTINUE TO BE OUR TOP PRIORITY. WE ALSO NEED TO CONTINUE TO LOOK AFTER OUR INFRASTRUCTURE, SOME IS VERY VERY OLD. WE NEED TO CONTINUE TO DE-COMBINE OUR SEWER SYSTEM. WE ALSO NEED TO SEE IF AS THE 2ND LARGEST CITY IN THE STATE IF WE CAN PUT PRESSURE ON THE STATE TO MEET IT'S OBLIGATIONS TO FUND THE PROGRAMS THAT THEY HAVE REQUIRED ALL OF OUR SCHOOLS TO DO.

THEY ARE SIMILAR TO THE CITY. CRIME, INFRASTRUCTURE & SCHOOLS. IN THE WARD WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT WE KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING IN ALL OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS. WE SHOULD ALSO HELP AURORA HOUSING AUTHORITY TO MEET THEIR OBLIGATIONS, JUST AS WE DO WITH A PRIVATE CITIZEN THAT OWNS PROPERTY. WE MUST ALSO MAKE SURE THAT WHEN WE AS A CITY PASS AN ORDINANCE, THAT IT IS NOT ONLY LEGAL, BUT DOES IT MEET THE GOOD COMMON SENSE TEST.

I THINK THAT WE ARE VERY BLESSED WITH AN EXCELLENT POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENT. I ALSO THINK THAT OTHER THAN TAXES MOST OF THE CITIZENS ARE PLEASED WITH OUR PROGRESS. I STILL HEAR SOME HORROR STORIES HOW AN INDIVIDUAL TRIED TO GO THROUGH THE PERMIT OR RED TAPE PROCESS AND FOUND MANY INCONSISTENCIES. I THINK THAT THE CITY IS GETTING MUCH BETTER IN THIS REGARD. I THINK THAT ALL OF THE CITY EMPLOYEES NEED TO FEEL THAT THIS IS THEIR CITY, NOT JUST A JOB. THEY NEED TO BE STAKEHOLDERS SO THAT THEY WILL GET AN ANSWER FOR THE QUESTION OR MAKE SURE THAT THEY WILL GET ANOTHER EMPLOYEE THAT GETS BACK WITH THE PROPER ANSWER.

I HAVE THE FULL TIME TO DEVOTE TO THIS POSITION. I HAVE WORKED WITH MANY GROUPS ALL OF MY LIFE AND HAVE BEEN ABLE WORK TO A CONSENSUS. I KNOW HOW TO OFFER POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE ALTERNATIVES, RATHER THAN CRITICIZING OR COMPLAINING IN A SITUATION. I WILL COME TO ALL MEETINGS ON TIME AND WILL BE FULLY PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE. I PROMISE TO BE A GOOD STEWARD OF OUR LIMITED BUDGET AND WILL WORK VERY HARD TO KEEP OUR TAXES AS LOW AS POSSIBLE. I PROMISE TO HAVE OPEN COMMUNICATIONS AND WORK WITH ALL MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND OTHER OFFICIALS. I PROMISE TO FOCUS ON THE PREVENTION OF PROBLEMS, RATHER THAN PASSING ANOTHER ORDINANCE.

I THANK YOU FOR THIS CHANCE TO GIVE SOME OF MY VIEWS.

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