

Candidate Questionnaire:

If the economy continues on its current path, what is the first step you would take to reduce spending? Would you cut jobs in that effort?

Cuts to reduce spending due to the downward spiral of the economy would only be made where it does not affect the safety or well being of the residents of Plano. Overtime cuts and pay increases would be looked at very hard before any job cuts are considered. Every effort should be made to avoid job cuts.

How, specifically, can voters distinguish your approach from your opponents' on economic development: On job growth?

I am an avid proponent to offering incentives on a case by case manner. It doesn't make sense to 'give the farm away' to every developer that comes to Plano. Each developer brings something different and unique and an incentive should be based on what is fair and equitable for both sides. I don't think we should start negotiations with what we will give away first!

Development of the industrial park on Eldamain Road is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and I believe as it is developed it will bring jobs to Plano. With the coming of Prairie Parkway it will be a viable location for industry to develop.

How will Waubonsee Community College's new campus affect the city's economic future? What should the city be doing to promote development near the new campus?

The Waubonsee Community College Campus will generate revenues for Plano by bringing people into our city who will utilize present and future retail services. It will be a wonderful asset to Plano.

The city is working to position retail near campus for staff, students, and residents convenience. This will generate sales tax revenue for the city.

At least one mayoral candidate expressed concerns about the cost of the new police headquarters. Do you agree with the city's planning and execution of the project? Do you believe a new headquarters is needed?

I strongly agree with the city's planning and execution of the new Police Department Building plan. I have been part of the planning process of the new Police Department Building for nearly six years. It has been approximately 15 years since this project's inception. The primary reason it never reached fruition was lack of revenues to fund the project.

It was necessary to acquire property for the structure and develop a revenue source for construction all while assessing the current growing needs and state requirements for architectural design. That is why the city has been working with Larson & Darby Group professional police building architects. The present council has made hard decisions to

enable the opportunity to finally meet the long overdue needs of Plano's Police Department. Approving to implement the utility tax in a 6-1 vote nearly a year ago enabled a revenue source dedicated to two funds, the new police building and street repairs. Next was application for bonds (loans for municipalities based on evaluation of financial stability) to determine interest rates which are at an all time low of 4.15%. Two mayors, many councils, and approximately 15 years have finally brought a viable plan to accommodate Plano's Police needs for up to 20 years into the future. A significant factor in planning for the future of Plano are three large approved Planned Unit Developments; Lakewood Springs Club, North Country, and Kingsland. When the economy begins to swing upward the development of these large subdivisions will directly impact our police and that need is accounted for with the present plan. Building a small building now will only put us in the same predicament when development starts up again. That would not be a fiscally responsible move because construction costs and interest rates will definitely go up.

There will be **no new taxes** with the referendum. Any overages in borrowed bonds will be used to pay off existing higher interest bonds. I wouldn't call that wasteful spending.

I believe our Police Department is a direct reflection on our community and we should be responsible in making sure they have the tools needed to properly, safely and professionally protect our fine city.

Without an incumbent running, the city will have new leadership no matter who wins. What previous experience qualifies you more than your opponents to lead on Day 1?

I am the most qualified candidate running for Mayor. I have six years of experience in municipal government. I have been elected twice by the constituents of Ward 2. Below is a partial list of the things I have been involved in since my inauguration in 2003:

Alderman Ward 2, City of Plano – 6 years

- Parks Committee Chairman – 6 years
- Building, Grounds and Zoning Committee Chairman
- Administrative Health and Safety Committee – 6 years
- Special Events Committee – 6 years
- Finance Committee – 2 years
- Revenue and Expenditure Meetings (began 1 yr. ago) -1 year
- Illinois Municipal League Conference – 6 years
- Illinois Municipal League Conference Voting Alternate – 6 years
- Extra-Curricular/Athletic Ad hoc Com. w/Plano Schools – 2 years
- Safe Routes to School Grant Committee
- Created “Newly Elected Alderman Guide”
- KenCom Executive Board Meetings -4 years
- KenCom Executive Board Alternate Representative
- Regularly attend:
 - Streets and Utilities Committee meetings -6 years
 - Plano Area Chamber of Commerce Events and Ribbon Cuttings -6year
 - Coffee with the Mayor -6 years
 - Attended various seminars over the past 6 years; (Elder Friendly Forum, Kendall County Growth Conference and Open Meetings Act Training to name a few)

I believe my involvement in current issues in Plano and municipal government enables me to have the best qualifications to lead our City on Day 1.

What other issues do you believe will shape the city over the next four years?

Acquiring commercial development is an important aspect in shaping the city over the next four years. Due to the downturn in the economy development nationwide has come to a virtual halt. However it is very important to keep in mind the high standards Plano has held developers to in paying their way. When the economy starts to turn around and money is available, Plano will be seeing three large approved subdivision developments begin; Kingsland, North Country, and Lakewood. There is also an approved large commercial development site on Eldamain and Rt.34 with a “big box” store. An incentive agreement was implemented to promote this and I believe incentives should be awarded on an individual evaluation basis. Commercial development should be a priority to stimulate revenues for Plano.

The industrial park approved on Eldamain Road is an important asset to the City because it provides an area for new industrial growth. It will provide jobs and increase tax revenue for the City and schools with no impact to the schools. Plano has long needed an area for industrial use outside of residential parameters. It also provides a future relocation area for existing industrial operations in Plano.

Budget is a very important aspect of City government. It is a daunting task to review each line item for months, making necessary additions or cuts in order to approve a balanced yearly budget. It is especially difficult to meet needs when revenues are going down instead of up. Sales tax has been dropping on a steady basis due to the economy’s downturn. At the same time operation costs are going up. I feel we have done an exemplary job of budgeting our tax dollars. It proved out when we applied for bonds for the new police building and Ehlers Bond Counsel highly complimented the City on the fine job of fiscal responsibility directly resulting in the very low interest rates offered to the City.