



CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES 2016

The Bend Neighborhood Coalition asked this year's candidates for City Council to address important issues affecting neighborhood livability. We thanked them for their time and thoughtful attention to the following questions, and said we would circulate their answers, as written, to our members and other interested citizens.

1) **Name:** Doug Knight

2) **Why did you decide to run for City Council? What are your priorities?**

Please go to my website, DougKnight2016.com, to see my priorities laid out in better fashion. But, namely:

- 1) Preserving the character of Bend's Neighborhoods & Bend's livability.
- 2) Adding a technical voice to Bend's Transportation Infrastructure decisions -like growing a robust surface transportation system & deployment of more Transient Room Tax dollars to streets.
- 3) Addressing Bend's Affordable and Work Force Housing problem.
- 4) Tackling Bend's transient homelessness problem.

3) **How do you differ from your opponent (if you have one)? If you were the second to file for the position, how did you decide to challenge the person you are opposing?**

Bill Moseley is funded with special interest money — no two ways about it. He is taking money from COAR among others, if not relying upon the political engine of this special interest organization. He is paying a shell corporation by the name of Insite Corp that has been established by a well known local lobbyist, Jeff Eager, to flout proper campaign spending reporting requirements and employ Eager's lobbyist efforts. He touts himself as a centrist, yet he alienates the very organizational group he seeks to join by accusing them all of being divisive and bullying. I am none of these, and will have none it: I'm not taking money from (or paying for) any special or lobby interests.

4) **Some city officials have said that livability is hard to define or that everyone has a different definition, making it difficult to do anything to improve livability. What role do you think the city should have in keeping Bend livable? Please list specific areas of city policy that you feel apply.**

Protecting the property of its citizens in a way that they expect, and quite frankly deserve, so that the single greatest investment that they make — their primary residence, will not loose its value because of insidious activity associated with STR's, improper ADU notifications, or a dysfunctional noise ordinance that doesn't properly protect neighbors. People camping on streets in front of our houses and our parks overnight is a huge disruption. This activity is already illegal, and it needs to be enforced with more regularity.

5) **With more density on the horizon, what changes in policies or code enforcement do you think would help protect the quality of life in Bend's residential neighborhoods?**

Neighbor's should be encouraged to band together to create discrete neighborhood special district overlay zones that reflect the individual ethos and character of their neighborhood. Forming these districts is more expensive than it needs to be, and I will seek to reduce the cost to neighbors if they decide they want to get together to create development codes for their neighborhood to reflect and even cater to their lifestyles.

6) Regarding the noise ordinance and special events, please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following:

a) Reducing decibel levels in the noise ordinance to more closely match other cities

Agree strongly

b) Requiring a permit for outdoor music venues (including restaurants and pubs)

Agree strongly

c) Shifting responsibility for enforcing the noise ordinance from the police to a sound technician

Agree somewhat

d) Requiring that noise and event permits be spread out in terms of frequency and location

Agree somewhat

e) Requiring that event permits have a community focus, rather than a private commercial focus

Agree somewhat

7) Regarding these land use issues, please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following:

a) Establishing parking districts in areas where nearby uses (commercial, educational, etc.) create excessive demand by non-residents

Agree strongly

b) Creating neighborhood compatibility zones to buffer residential areas from the offsite impacts of adjoining commercial and mixed use areas (through a step-down in permitted uses)

Agree somewhat

c) Establishing a university district to concentrate campus-related development in adjoining mixed use zones, while protecting the character of nearby residential neighborhoods

Agree strongly

d) Terminating the ability to transfer non-conforming short term rental permits on sale

Agree strongly

e) Planning for one or more entertainment districts where outdoor amplified music and late-night entertainment is concentrated and allowed to operate under more relaxed guidelines

Agree strongly

f) Directing staff to encourage property owners and developers to plan projects in line with the comprehensive plan and development code, and to reduce spot-rezoning and variance requests

Agree somewhat

g) Adopting an occupancy limit or high occupancy permit as a means of avoiding single family homes being used as rooming houses or stealth dorms or mini-dorms

Agree strongly

- 8) City staff frequently bring the Council a single solution or preferred scenario or final draft for discussion and an up/down vote. Critics charge that this dilutes the Council's role as a policy-making body, and that staff should instead present alternatives, with an analysis of pros and cons. What is your view on whether the Council should insist on practices that strengthen its policy-making role?**

Good decisions are made by councilors with the capacity to make hard choices, once presented with logical options... Need I say more?

Yes! We should insist upon this protocol for all decisions.

- 9) Momentum is building for a charter amendment to change the form of governance in Bend to one like other similarly-sized cities. As a leader in the City, what changes in the governance structure do you believe are needed as Bend continues to grow?**

I believe that in an ever-more sophisticated work environment, and within a City that is growing by leaps & bounds, councilors need to be given the proper tools to do their job effectively. Recently, we had a council liaison for communication (Anne Aurand) who helped the council better communicate with its constituents, but that position has not been filled since her promotion to Communications Director. We need the help of people like Anne to help us better reach our citizens.

I believe councilors should be paid, so the revenue lost from their day to day jobs could be at least be (partially anyway) recouped. Council would then be comprised of more working-class people who could afford to give back to their community. I believe there is less desire to run for council than ever before, and that is because the job is ever-more difficult, with almost no compensation, and with even less thanks.

I don't believe in an elected mayor; it just turns that position into a partisan-packed special interest race which would only serve to be more divisive within our community.