



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:** Bill Moseley

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

Bend, Oregon is the greatest place to live on Earth. I want to keep it that way and our current council is not getting the job done. We need to stop fighting growth wars and start solving problems so that our children will enjoy Bend too. My priorities include:

- Nurture a strong economy
- Empower an entrepreneurial ecosystem
- Increase the supply of housing
- Lead the city to solve key problems like streets and infrastructure

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?**

At its core, the biggest difference between myself and Doug Knight is leadership. I am a strategic thinker who can set goals far into the future to solve large, complex problems. I make plans. I measure progress. I stay focused and mobilize people to execute. I get results. I applied my resourcefulness, integrity and strategic thinking skills to build a 60+ person software business in Bend. I have served in government and led other organizations.

I approach service on the council from my humble background as a person who started in this world with very little and has a duty to give back now. I approach elected office as a service to people where I listen with honesty and respect to all types of input.

Doug has not been a leader over the last four years.

Doug and I also disagree substantively on housing, street repairs, gas taxes, governance and whether your government should listen to how the community wants to live or whether government should tell the community how it ought to live.

While policy matters, you can accomplish much more than we do now with people who have the ability and temperament to lead.

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.**

Your government should listen to how the community wants to live, not tell us how we ought to live.

I've lived in Bend for nearly 20 years and much has changed over that time. While I support the UGB proposal as better than nothing at all, the proposed UGB will radically alter the way people live. Many people moved to Bend to get away from urban centers. The current council is making choices that bring urbanization to us.

The city council plays a primary role in shaping the livability of our city. I desire to set goals, quantify those goals, make plans to meet the measures and monitor progress. For example, a ratio of median incomes to median housing prices tells us whether average people can afford a reasonable home. That's livability.

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?

Policy and code enforcement can be useful for memorializing community standards. Such standards will be more important as the UGB proposal squeezes vastly more people into the existing space.

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 somewhat

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

Agree somewhat

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

Neutral

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

Neutral

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 somewhat

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 somewhat

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 somewhat

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

Neutral

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?

I strongly support enhancing the council's policy-making role. I wish to establish advisory boards for key community groups to provide feedback about the impact of an ordinance before it comes before council. The council should review and take testimony from the advisory committees. I created such a committee for the business community -- the Bend Economic Development Advisory Board. We need one for neighborhood associations and environmental groups at a minimum. It's best to get as much upfront comment as possible to give people a chance to shape outcomes and get on board with each other. If the city would establish a firm strategic plan and timeline, we would be able to run a smooth community comment system.

I respect the professional opinion of city staff as one of the various legitimate policy inputs. But, it's not the only or final say on what we will do as a community. There have been several instances where engineers say we need millions of dollars of improvements only to later find a more sensible, affordable solution.

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 want a governance structure that attracts talented leaders to public service who can help solve problems. This current council has a penchant for making it up along the way. I would learn from others. There are 14,000 municipalities in the US; we don't need to guess. We should look to other fast-growing cities with residents with diverse viewpoints to find models that work to bring stability and leadership.

I do not believe we should pay counselors. If we can't pave the streets, how can we afford to pay counselors? I am open to an elected mayor. I have mixed feelings about geographically based representation. I see the benefit of having councilors from all over the city, not just the Westside. But, I also worry that councilors will become focused on their part of town, instead of the solving our collective problems together.