



CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES 2018

The Bend Neighborhood Coalition asked the candidates for City Council and Mayor to address several issues affecting neighborhood livability. We said we would circulate their answers, as written, to our members and other interested citizens. Here are the responses from one candidate.

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1) **Name:** Brian Douglass

2) **What do you see as the main threats to the livability of Bend's neighborhoods as the City grows?**

Lack of wards: City Councilors should be elected from districts where they must reside. Go from 6 - 4 Councilors and Mayor elected at-large.

Inadequate infrastructure: There are 7 miles of unpaved (mostly Westside) City streets, 300 miles of missing existent sidewalks, and 4,850 non-existent curb ramps. Once labeled "Accessibility", it is now "Livability and Mobility", of which Bends ranks very low on both counts for cities 50K and up. Street calming techniques in ALL neighborhoods (speed humps). NO new CTAC Bond until we have filled in infrastructure deficiencies stated above. Many of our neighborhoods and taxpaying citizens have been left behind for the past 20-30 years. " NO vision, NO planning, NO leadership" per Mike Hollern are the reasons.

Congestion on our streets and in our neighborhoods. The planned NE 27th Street Eastside by-pass will WALL off neighborhoods across the east side of Bend and put 35-40,000 vehicles per day on 27th. 27th is a two lane road until you get to Neff Rd and resumes two lanes all the way to Hwy 97 Interchange. The route goes by senior care facilities, child care facilities, churches, middle schools, a high school, strip malls, medical facilities, a regional medical center, a regional shopping mall, and the County dump. The route should be moved further east of NE 27th Street and then go south to Baker/Knott Road and Hwy 97. \$15 Living Wage. Affordable housing stock served by Light Rail serving Bend and beyond. Net zero energy program (solar).

3) **What changes in City policies do you support to address those threats?**

Significantly increase traffic citations for speeding, install traffic cameras to catch offenders, take their picture and mail them a citation. Traffic lights at NE 27th and Conners and NE 27th and Wells Acres. \$100M General Obligation Bond for Infrastructure needs stated above. Put off UGB development until existing City infrastructure needs have been met. The UGB residents must wait their turn, we cannot afford chasing the next "Shiny Object" — it has failed us every time.

4) **On which of these issues do you expect to take a leadership role on Council.**

Over four years, ALL OF THE ABOVE. Councilors assigned to Districts, Mayor elected at Large. Reduce the number of Councilors from 6 - 4 in districts North, South, East and West. (Boundaries: NE Third Street and NE Greenwood Avenue.) Net Zero Energy Program (Solar). \$15 Living wage. No public funding for Mirror Pond — form a private LID. 100% City-wide assessment for Septic-to-Sewer. (If the City can increase utility fees, that can support the critical Septic-to-Sewer problem that is

threatening the lives of our citizens. The City created this problem and it is time for them to take responsibility. They have taken 20 years of tax revenue from SE Bend without setting aside a penny for infrastructure like streets, sidewalks, curb ramps, street lights and sewers they promised the residents in 1998. They overpromised and NEVER EVER delivered!)

5) Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following:

- a) Establishing parking districts in areas where nearby uses 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 strongly
- 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 of the property
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) Developing code regulating events on private property (e.g., duration, frequency, proximity to other uses, requirements for parking, public safety, etc.)
Agree strongly
- g) Reducing decibel levels in the noise ordinance to more closely match other cities
Agree strongly
- h) Adopting an occupancy limit or high occupancy permit as a means of avoiding single family homes being used as rooming houses or stealth dorms
Agree strongly

6) How can the impacts of tourism be mitigated to protect the quality of life for Bend's residents?

Start by ratcheting-down the amount spent by Visit Bend for advertising and promotion. Bend is well known and we should begin benefiting from the prior years of advertising and promotion expenditures. Require hotels to provide their parking for their guests on their own property. Offer "carless" vacation packages for their guests. Partner with Redmond, Madras and LaPine for Park-and-Ride transportation options. Encourage visitors to ride a "Tourism Train" from first Portland and then Eugene and leave their cars at home. Hospitality companies must beef up their shuttle services, and jitney buses, along with the use of ride-sharing services. Turn Wall and Bond Streets between Greenwood and Franklin into "Pedestrian Only" walkways.

7) Do you believe the STR code passed in 2015 has successfully curbed the loss of inventory of residential homes to tourist use? What improvements to that code would you support?

I am just not familiar enough with that Code. I will study it in time for the upcoming Candidate Forum at COCC.

8) What changes to the role of the elected mayor should be made to better address the City's needs?

Put the Councilors into districts in which they must reside. Shrink the number of Councilors from 6 to 4, with a Mayor elected at-large.

Make sure Councilors understand the job of Mayor is not a "Councilor Warmed over". The pay grades should answer that question. The Mayor works closely with the City Manager to establish the transition from a City Manager-centered governance to a directly-elected-Mayor-centered governance model. The Mayor's most important job is "to be the Strategic Visionary " for the City. The first four years are very important to set these governance concepts into working order. That is one of the main reasons a currently sitting Councilor should not be elected Mayor. The citizens voted by a margin of 73.4% to directly elect their Mayor for "A Change".