

# Colorado Springs Candidate Survey

Response date: 2/16/19

Q1

Thank you for completing our survey.

Name: John Suthers

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Office you are seeking: Mayor

Q2

What is your solution to ensure adequate Public Safety response times throughout the City? Please explain.

The city is adding 120 new police officers. The majority will be assigned to patrol. That will reduce police response times. Greater efficiency can be achieved in fire response through better processing of calls to ensure appropriate and not excessive manpower responds. 85 % of calls to the fire department are medical calls.

Q3

Do you support the implementation of automated red light cameras throughout Colorado Springs? Please, explain.

Yes. We have way too many people running red lights and that is contributing to higher traffic fatality and injury rates. Red light cameras are a proven deterrent.

Q4

What is your position regarding the elimination of motor vehicle traffic lanes (road-dieting) in favor of installing bicycle lanes? Please, explain.

It is appropriate in some places. Making Colorado Springs more bike friendly has helped Colorado Springs to attract the fastest growing millennial population in the country. We need to attract approximately 4,000 millennials annually to meet our existing workforce needs in cybersecurity , software engineering, etc.

Q5

Should City for Champions projects —either initial construction or long-term maintenance— be funded through additional local taxes? Please, explain.

No. Additional taxes to be distinguished from tax increment financing used for public improvements in the area of a project.

Q6

Do you support the implementation of new taxes or fees to solve the City's growing homelessness problems? Please, explain.

No. Most of the effort will be done by non-profits. No new taxes or fees are necessary.

Q7

What are your thoughts on in-fill, sprawl, and the growing population in Colorado Springs? Should the growth of development be encouraged or restricted?

Infill development should be encouraged. New development of land should be managed in a way that respects property rights and achieves high quality of life. "Restricting" growth is legally problematic unless it stems from water or power availability.

Q8

Do you pledge to oppose and vote against any increases in taxes or fees? Do you pledge to oppose and vote against the establishment of new taxes or fees? Please explain.

No. The Lodging and Rental Tax (paid 95% by tourists) is extremely low and I believe tourists should pay a larger share of parks maintenance, etc.

Q9

Do you support local Tax-Increment Financing (TIF) dollars for City for Champions projects without a vote of the people? Also, would you support or oppose any new proposals of Certificates of Participation (COPs) for City financed projects?

Yes. Tax increment financing of public improvements in an Urban Renewal Zone does not constitute a tax increase under TABOR.