

Colorado Springs Candidate Survey

Response date: 2/23/19

Q1

Thank you for completing our survey.

Name: Wayne Williams

Office you are seeking: City Council At Large

Q2

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

Adding 120 police officers within the city's existing revenues can be done and I support this. We also must provide good working conditions and appropriate wages to retain our officers and reduce turnover.

Q3

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

Only in limited circumstances in intersections with significant safety risks. They should be used for safety and not for revenue generation.

Q4

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

Where practicable I would rather connect our off-road trail system. There are circumstances where a bicycle lane might be appropriate if it can be done without adversely affecting mobility or safety. Research Parkway was not an appropriate road for a bicycle lane, particularly given the already existing extra wide trail on the south side of the road.

Q5

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

No.

Q6

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

No. I support the City's 2019 Homeless Initiative in which nonprofits will play a major role and the City's role is covered out of existing revenues.

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?

In-fill projects, particularly when they match the existing zoning and plans, should be encouraged. Our region will grow by several hundred thousand people over the next few decades. Given the City's renewable water supply, the best place for most of this growth is within the City. I support letting each home buyer make their own decision as to what is best for them. Government should minimize the cost to home buyers while ensuring that growth pays its own way.

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.

I support TABOR and will never seek to increase taxes without a vote of the people. I was one of three Commissioners who successfully eliminated a gimmick tax credit and permanently lowered county property taxes. As Secretary of State I lowered fees to the point where they were the nation's lowest. There are times when fees need to be adjusted up or down to keep pace with costs, particularly with respect to utility fuel prices. There are occasions when referring a tax measure for a vote is appropriate.

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?

In limited circumstances a TIF or COP may be appropriate. For example we used a COP to reduce the interest rate the county was paying, saving taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars.