

Colorado Springs Candidate Survey

Response date: 3/8/19

Q1

Thank you for completing our survey.

Name: Athena Roe

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.

Research has shown that general citizen perceptions of response time were strongly related to their overall satisfaction of police services. Indeed, response time was determined to be the strongest predictor of citizen satisfaction with police actions (International City/County Management Association, 1997; Spelman & Brown, 1984). In addition, perceived individual officer actions (e.g. did the officer do what the citizen perceived should be done regarding that particular call?) were shown to have a strong impact on citizen ratings of police response. Earlier findings on citizen satisfaction demonstrated response time and officer action to be areas that police agencies can both influence and have the greatest impact on overall citizen perception of police service (Percy, 1980). SEE: <https://inpublicsafety.com/2016/05/improving-police-response-time-doesnt-reduce-crime-so-why-is-it-still-important/>

Q3

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

Yes

Q4

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

I do not support lane diets. People are twice as likely to be killed on a bicycle, this is a public safety issue. "It could be worse. In the United States, 698 cyclists died in road accidents in 2007. More than half a million others required treatment in hospital emergency rooms. This is an expensive problem. Cyclists in North America are twice as likely to be killed and eight times more likely to be seriously injured than cyclists in Germany and three times as likely to be killed and 30 times as likely to suffer serious injuries than cyclists in the Netherlands." From CBS News.

Q5

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

No. My campaign is about less taxes and less regulation. Colorado Springs while lovely, is becoming very expensive. Throughout my campaign, many in our community are sick and tired of being taxed incrementally. By the way, public utilities will cost taxpayers \$500 million dollars to decommission Drake and build new infrastructure to promote alternative energies. This is in the approved "City Plan for TOPS and Shooks Run" that was debated last evening at the Colorado College debate. Moreover, the "Plan" recommends taxing homeowners more money when selling their property. Even worse, the Plan includes another property tax making home ownership and selling a grinding profit reducing, oppressive and disgusting attack against our economic liberties.

Q6

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

NO. Let the non-profits who get federal funding (already we are paying taxes for the homeless) move the homeless out of the streets.

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?

While I love my city and have lived here for 20 years, it is becoming a congested, expensive, and harder for those of us natives; to continue to be "taxed" because of all the promotion of Colorado as a family friendly, best place for women, etc. to live. Many locals are moving away, as a result of the rising costs. Factually, violent crimes have increased, we now surpass Pueblo for violent crimes. New development must incorporate green style homes, for example using prefabricated "affordable" materials like straw bale or even adobe. New development should include affordable, green

homes, then perhaps natives would actually not be moving away, because the cost of living here is becoming prohibitive. Property taxes rose anywhere from 10-40%, utilities are rising, it is simply too much. The decommission of Drake will cost \$500 million over the next ten or so years. Yet, some candidates want to go faster. Perhaps these candidates can pay for their expensive ideas. This is why, I said we need more information and better paying and more jobs before careless "ideas" force people away from here. Moderation is key!

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 pledge to oppose and vote against any increases in taxes or fees and the establishment of new fees. We must charge \$6.00 to visit our parks, and impose taxes and fees to "tourists" to maintain our parks. This includes lodging taxes, parking fees, etc. But I will not support taxing our residents. Did you know, that TOPS plan asks for increased property taxes and another tax when home owners sell their homes! This is socialism. While moderate taxes for public safety is essential under the Constitution, excessive and overreaching taxes is "not." Americans have lost economic freedom and are 75% poorer today than 75 years ago due to regulatory accumulation. The average American family would have \$277,000 more each year in their pockets; but for, taxes and regulations. (From Reason magazine) and this is on my website.

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?

First, I do not support tax increment financing. Second, it is unconstitutional "no taxation without representation" to tax residents absent their approval. That being said, if bond investors wish to sink their money into projects without taxation to the residents, then this is a viable alternative. THE CAVAET IS THAT THERE WILL NEVER BE TAXPAYER BAILOUTS SHOULD THE PROJECT FAIL. Since no one ever "guarantees" programs will succeed, COPs are also risky. Look at the Affordable Care Act. The executive fiat, cost America nearly 19% of the GDP and is ballooning to \$5 trillion each year. Moreover, the individual is punished for not buying health insurance. What has happened over the last 120 years in America is an erosion of personal liberties, financial liberties, and to reiterate, "we would have an additional \$277,000 in our pockets today, right now, but for all of the tax and regulatory schemes. Since there is no accountability to the public for the administrative state, well, you draw your own conclusion.