

2007 Municipal Election Questionnaire

About You

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Questions

1. Describe your current occupation and other experience relevant to the elected position you are seeking. What other public offices have you held, if any?

Sandra McDavid: Attorney and University Professor in the areas of Law, Information Technology and Business Strategy. I have both a JD and an MBA degree and have overseen a staff of 45. I have spoken at both City Council and Planning and Zoning Commission hearings against increasing the density of developments in our city; pointing out the factors of school overcrowding, inadequate infrastructure and lack of open space. I was a member of Idaho Power's Citizens Advisory Committee when the company was contemplating the placement of power lines through residential areas. I was previously on the board of the Boise Chapter of the National Association of Women's Business Owners.

All Shoushtarian: Partner in an investment company and hold a Masters Degree in City and Regional Planning. I have 20 years of experience and work as a consultant reviewing and analyzing Comprehensive Plans for cities in different parts of the world. I have been involved in Eagle city issues and have expressed my technical point of view regarding the future of Eagle in city council meetings, in the media, and in the Eagle and Boise Chambers of Commerce.

Michael Huffaker: Attorney for 13 years and ten years of running my own practice. I have Continuing Legal Education credits in land use law. I was a Petitioner and the spokesperson for the other Petitioners in a Judicial Review proceeding who were attempting to overturn various zoning decisions and development agreements made by the Eagle city council to increase density in the west Eagle area. I have appeared in front of the City Council and in the District Court on numerous occasions on behalf of the Petitioners and other citizens of Eagle who were aligned with this cause.

2. What experience do you have with conservation issues? What, if any, specific conservation accomplishments are you most proud of?

Conservation issues are some of the top priorities not only for our city, but also for the effect it will have on the entire Treasure Valley. Tomorrow's future depends upon today's conservation. Mr. Shoustarian regularly attends seminars and others programs regarding these issues; most recently a two day program in John Day, Oregon (Solowest) on conservation activities. As a boy scout leader, Mr. Huffaker regularly teaches conservation to his troops and has taken groups of youth to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count. He has been a member of the Audubon Society, the American Bird Conservancy and the Golden Eagle Audubon Society. Ms. McDavid is an avid outdoors person who incorporates conservation practices into her daily and recreational activities.

3. Systems, such as the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System, were created to conserve energy, and encourage the use of renewable materials. Would you support requiring all new and remodeled city-funded buildings to obtain LEED certification? Yes or No, please explain.

We would be an advocate of all new construction and major remodels considering energy-saving features which would resize or eliminate equipment or reduce the total capital costs by paying for themselves immediately or within a few months of operation. A preference would be to employ LEED accredited architects, engineers and consultants on city-funded buildings and encourage their use in the private sector.

4. Given Eagle's rapid growth, where would you support new development being located? Please address specifically your thoughts on development in the Eagle foothills?

Any development, including foothills development should adhere to Eagle's overall vision of open space. High density development should be located near major transportation corridors such as downtown Eagle to generate income for the city, and compliment the community. In any foothills development large tracts of land should be preserved as open space for wildlife and recreational activities which can coexist with our wildlife; such as hiking and equestrian trails. Any development should be accompanied by proper infrastructure and services prior to approval.

5. Please explain your strategy to keep growth in Eagle sustainable. What new tools would you employ and what changes would you pursue?

Market conditions play a role in our growth. We experienced a surge of opportunistic development during the last two years and are now experiencing a market correction with an oversupply of homes on the market. Our comprehensive plan for the large tracts of undeveloped land to our west and north should be reviewed, and an emphasis put on quality, not quantity. We need to set our focus back on the Eagle heritage of open spaces and preserve the water, air and natural places that enhance our quality of life.

We need a better process for approving developments. Currently the process appears to be an automatic approval of all of the developers' requests for increased density changes to the comprehensive plan. Eagle's developments have changed our comprehensive plan rather than our comprehensive plan dictating the rules for developments. There should be a reasonable impact fee assessed to developers that covers the cost of adding the growth to our community.

6. Would you actively work to increase city owned open space? What type of open space, and how? How should new open space be funded?

We are very concerned about open space and will work towards ensuring a safe environment and maintaining a higher quality of life for our children and residents. Open space should be defined as natural areas, not streets, sidewalks, berms or golf courses. We should work as a community in tandem with our private land owners to encourage the preservation of our open spaces.

7. Please describe your idea of a healthy community.

A healthy community is one in which the residents are able to achieve a high quality of life. It contains adequate schools and health care services, transportation corridors, and a healthy and safe environment. A healthy community provides adequate infrastructure, open space, public services, parks, playing fields, bike and equestrian paths and sidewalks. It also encourages people to participate in the political process including land use and zoning issues.

8. Who do you think should bear the cost for growth? How would you allocate those costs?

Our citizens should not subsidize new developments or bear the cost for growth. If a new development will result in a decrease of the services and quality of life of our existing residents, then the new development should incur the costs of providing services to its residents.

9. What are the top three conservation issues you see currently facing the city?

- 1. Whether our community is in a position to manage growth, whether our current city administration is responsibly planning for growth, and will our community be a healthy community after the proposed developments are built.**
- 2. Whether we have enough water resources in our city limits and proposed areas of annexation to support the proposed and existing population densities.**
- 3. Whether the proposed developments in our City adequately plan for open space and the preservation of wildlife habitat.**

10. Please include any additional comments you may have.

Currently, Eagle has an insufficient infrastructure. All future development should be considered in light of the current infrastructure's ability to accommodate increased demand.