



Bountiful Council Candidacy Questionnaire

From:

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To:

Gary Hill, City Manager
Bountiful City Council

Overview

This questionnaire provides my responses to the council's questions to candidates regarding my qualifications and suitability for the role of councilmember. I look forward to working with each of you to maintain the good fiscal and operational standing of the city while moving forward with creative and data-driven solutions to the problems of today and the future. I want my city to work for everyone, no matter their age, interests, or income bracket.

Questions

Why have you submitted your name for consideration?

- My interest in city governance extends into all aspects of the operation, from police to parks, hard infrastructure to softer community-building volunteer efforts and events.

- I have an especially keen interest in helping implement the Bountiful By Design General Plan. The land use code, and to a lesser extent the building/business codes and traffic code, will have to be modified to be consistent with the General Plan and Utah state legislative actions. I have been active in the General Plan process and count my familiarity with the plan as an asset.
- I enjoy my time on the Trails Advisory Committee and cherish the relationships I have developed during my time there, both with other volunteers and with city staff. The City Council role is an opportunity to further these relationships and be more useful in service to the citizens of the city.

If appointed, what legislative issues/priorities are you most interested in pursuing?

- Implementing the General Plan, particularly through the land use code and building/business codes.
- Regulating e-motorcycle/e-bike use and providing for acceptable use cases in both instances.
- Ensuring the RDA drives progress at the Renaissance Center and Downtown areas to meet state-driven goals for housing, as well as improve economic opportunities for the city.
- Emphasizing incremental growth, driven by local residents and not outside developers.

Please share your past service to the city as a volunteer, community project participant, or other capacity.

- Bountiful Trails Advisory Committee, June 2023 - Present
 - Led several Trails Day projects, including planning and execution
 - Led naming efforts for recently completed trails
- Get Healthy Bountiful Advisory Committee, July 2025 - Present
 - Participated in initial discussions for state application
 - Participation requested by current and former City councilmembers

Please discuss your ability to dedicate sufficient time to this position of service.

- My work schedule is consistent and I rarely travel. I have a family with small children, but this should be seen as an asset and not a liability. We often attend city events together, and the city needs the perspective of someone with children currently attending school.

- I do not have extensive church or other community demands on my time. I am fully aware of the responsibilities of current city council members participating on various boards or attending meetings of organizations in and around the city and am confident in my ability to fulfill those assignments.

What is your fiscal philosophy and under what circumstances would you consider a tax and/or fee increase?

- Governments abide by many fiscal rules and regulations that make comparisons to household budgets untenable. Governments are established to provide certain services and benefits to the public, and those are constrained by public demand.
- Currently, there is tension about residential property taxes borne by residents, and combined with (often) unfunded demands from the state government, the city has to be creative to meet all its obligations without passing funding demands to local residents.
- I support citizens' ability to vote on tax increases, such as the RAP tax and school levies. Cities also have the responsibility to consider improvements to city amenities that would increase livability or future tax flows in an amount equal to or greater than increased taxes. A good example of this is Bountiful Fiber, of which I am in favor.
- Some instances don't allow for citizens to weigh in on taxes directly, such as urgent infrastructure needs (road/sewer/water) or inflationary pressures on city budgets. Cities should lobby the county and state governments for property tax reform that reduces impacts to low income residents, including seniors.
- In built-out cities such as Bountiful, land should be taxed at a higher rate than improvements. Speculators should not hold swaths of the city vacant while many struggle to find decent living accommodations. Studies hold that this shift in taxation results in improved city budgets, as the capability of fixed assets are maximized, without a significant increase in costs. This is one of my primary concerns for the coming decades.

List relevant work experience that you believe would help you fill the role of city council member.

- I currently work as a federal procurement program manager and understand how government procurement is supposed to function. This includes government budgets, accounting, fiscal policies, transparency, and ethical considerations.
- Every year, I have to report my assets to the federal government on special conflict-of-interest paperwork. I take ethics courses and consider it a privilege to serve taxpayers responsibly. More than any single attribute, my ability to perform

duties exceptionally well and with exceptional commitment to prudent and efficient decision-making makes me an excellent candidate.

- In my work, I lead teams writing contracts worth hundreds of millions of dollars and evaluating the subsequent proposals, the technical information as well as cost or price information. This requires achieving unanimous consent among the team. The process of achieving that consent is rigorous and can be difficult at times but I strongly believe that one acronym defines our success: HEAR (**H**edge, **E**mphasize agreement, **A**cknowledge other perspectives, and **R**eframe to the Positive). I plan on bringing the same spirit of positivity and consensus-building to my time on city council.