INC PARC 2019 Candidate Survey

#30

COMPLETE

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Page 1: Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation Parks and Rec Committee Survey

Q1 What is your name please?

Tony Smith

Q2 What Office are you running for?

Council

Page 2: Further questions

Q3 Which council district are you running for?

Council District

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Q4 Regardless of the office you are running for, if you were appointing the Executive Director of Parks and Recreation Department, what education and previous experience would you expect the person to have?

I would first look to Human Resources professionals for their expertise in these regards to complement my own thoughts for education and previous experience. I would look for someone to have at least 10 years combined experience in parks, civic, public and non-profit management roles, as well as education related to business, parks, recreation, tourism, hospitality, civic and urban planning.

Q5 Will you support an ordinance moving OS-A zoning from the Ex. Director of Parks back to City Council? If not, why?

I would like to learn more from proponents and opponents of OS-A zoning responsibility falling to the E.D. of Parks. "The OS-A district is intended to protect and preserve public parks owned, operated or leased by the City and managed by the City's Department of Parks and Recreation for park purposes", and I would assume and hope that the Executive Director of Parks and the whole department would be more intimate with the needs for this zoning, not City Council -- but again I'm open to hearing proponents and opponents views.

Q6 What would you consider is adequate green space for high density development, for example Elitchs. What steps would you take to ensure the zoning requirement for green space is adequate?

I believe 10-15 or more% of actual space for public parks and green space is adequate for high density developments as well as a tall-slender building concepts as appropriate too allow for as much sunlight to the ground as possible. I would also add what green space exists with current plans in relation to what is proposed. Examination of plans by council and urban planning professionals is vital for approval of all zoning.

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Q7 The use of recycled water in Denver parks appears to be causing the premature loss of many mature evergreens. Is that an acceptable trade-off for accommodating more population growth or should the city spend money to untie remediation measures to save those legacy trees? Please explain your answer.

Due to climate change, droughts are going to hit Denver more and more frequently. We need to do what we can to mitigate water usage for public parks, and I view the use of recycled water as vital to our efforts to fight massive future droughts. However we must address the life of our legacy trees and encouraged continued collaborations and investments with Denver Water and Denver Parks and Rec to addressing the higher salt content in recycled water and determine alternatives.

Q8 What would you do to protect and enhance waterways going through Denver?

We must strengthen pollution laws. In order to do so, we should increase the number of trash and recycling cans in public spaces in the city. We should also construct a number of cigarette-specific trashcans, as cigarettes are such a large pollutant in their own right. Water flow through Denver is directed by the topography of the front range, flowing down gutter, gulley, and street towards larger river outflows. We must support stormwater pipe infrastructure, urbanization impact, park and golf course redesign, what enters our waterways from construction sites and more.

Q9 What aspect(s) of INC Parks and Rec Urban Platform do you support?

I am in full support of the of entire platform. https://www.denverinc.org/inc-platform-for-denver-urban-parks/