

SONOMA COUNTY SUPERVISORIAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE for April 2008

Please fill out the following questionnaire and return to the Santa Rosa Chamber no later than 5 pm on Thursday, April 17th. Please limit your responses to no more than 200 words per question.

The responses to this questionnaire will be posted on the Chamber website (www.santarosachamber.com) after the April 23 Good Morning Santa Rosa event.

1. For nearly a decade Sonoma County has lagged other California communities in economic and income growth. Yet the current and draft 2020 Sonoma County General Plan, unlike many other counties including Napa, does not have an economic development section to address job creation and future location of businesses. Should such an element be included in the plan?

Yes, I strongly support planning before acting, and learning before planning.

Do you believe in the following statement? Why?

There needs to be a balance between enhancing a community's economy and protecting the environment. You can enhance both without being detrimental to either

A robust local economy along with a healthy environment makes a healthy community. Economic vitality, environmental health and social well-being are truly a single interdependent system.

2. Board of Supervisors also serves as the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Water Agency. What do you see as the biggest obstacle to securing a sustainable water supply to meet General Plan needs for the County and for the Agency's customers?

The biggest obstacle is peoples' access to information about the vital importance of living sustainably including and especially their use of water. There are many effective means by which we can overcome obstacles such as aging water supply and transmission infrastructure in need of capital improvement, groundwater draw down and depletion. I have seen first-hand the power of education to change through non-biased, objective communication.

3. Sonoma County has the worst rating for quality of County roads in the entire Bay Area, principally due to deferred road maintenance in the unincorporated area of the County. How do you propose to fund repairs, maintenance and improvements of local roads? We should be ashamed of the condition of our roads. This need to be at the top of our priorities and sustain that focus and by working together

and with determination we will find creative means to better maintain our roads thus enhancing our public safety.

4. Please state your position on the recent decisions by the County to adjust employee's benefits. How would you address the OPED (Other Post Employment Benefits) issue?

We are facing some tough choices budget wise. As a future County retiree, I have a vested interest in finding a fair and equitable solution. We will need to forge consensus through interest based-bargaining, which should allow us to "get to yes." All parties will not get everything they want, but working together we will find something palatable to us all.

5. The key to Santa Rosa's Economic Health is our ability to implement Redevelopment areas throughout our City. Do you support Santa Rosa Redevelopment efforts?

I certainly support redevelopment in the Roseland area, the urban heart of the 5th District. I am bilingual and will work closely with the Hispanic and Santa Rosa Chambers of Commerce.

Please return this questionnaire to the Santa Rosa Chamber, 637 First St. Santa Rosa, CA 95404, attention Mary Ann Barr or email at maryannb@santarosachamber.com.