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With the city so close to build out, what specific policy or actions can the City Council take to create more affordable housing opportunities?

Affordable housing is a major challenge for Carlsbad, as property values increase. Many residents object to high density in the Village and Barrio. Those who oppose growth are likely to be disappointed with new state mandates for additional housing, above what is expected from the General Plan.

Many residents would like their grown children to be able to afford local housing, while businesses need housing in order to attract and retain employees. Providing housing for those who work in Carlsbad is desirable to alleviate traffic congestion and improve the quality of life for everyone. We must be creative in siting new developments, with an emphasis on low and middle-income options which are near transit.

Higher density in some areas is necessary in order for developments to be cost-effective, and it is in our interest to avoid sprawl in our remaining open lands. The area at the West end of The Shoppes mall is an attractive possibility. In addition, areas in the Barrio just East of the train tracks and the area on the East end of Marron Road may be possible. But the city should work with all stakeholders to limit building height in the center of the Village, and to maintain the residential and cultural history of the Barrio.

San Diego County holds tremendous power over the McClellan-Palomar Airport. Including the recent actions taken by the City Council, and assuming the master plan update is not passed by the Board of Supervisors prior to the election, how can you and the council work toward bringing a fair deal to the city and residents?

The City Council is taking the right steps regarding the Airport, and should continue on its current path. Carlsbad has hired an excellent consulting attorney regarding our legal options for the Airport, and it appears that our best option is to negotiate for as much local control as possible. We should work with the cities of Vista and San Marcos regarding concerns of those in the flight path.

Many residents are concerned with noise and environmental issues, particularly if flights are expanded. While some Carlsbadians would welcome expanded commercial service for the convenience of avoiding trips to San Diego, it is possible that increased flights might be of greater benefit to local businesses than to residents. Our council representatives must advocate for the issues of all residents

and businesses with the Board of Supervisors, and negotiate to maximize our ability to influence changes to the Airport.

Homelessness is a major issue throughout San Diego County and in Carlsbad. The Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) is a success, but are there any other options or strategies to address the issue? Are shelters on city abandoned or unused property a consideration?

Homelessness is a major issue, particularly in coastal areas. There are many factors involved, including the local cost of living, lack of affordable housing, substance abuse, and the attraction of a temperate beach community. Mental health is a significant factor, and the recent closure of Tri City Hospital's Behavioral Health units may exacerbate the problem; we need more mental health resources, not less!

When I volunteered with "Friends in the Park" to feed the homeless at Magee Park, I was able to see firsthand the excellent work of the Homeless Outreach Team and their positive relationship with both volunteers and homeless people. I have also volunteered with Interfaith Community Services, and I applaud the city's support for that organization.

The recent decision to hire social workers to augment the outreach is a good one, as local organizations have been asking for additional city support to better coordinate the available resources. However, the fact remains that there are not enough options to meet local needs, and one or more additional shelters would help. The City of Carlsbad should consider partnering with a social service organization like Interfaith or Solutions for Change, in order to provide additional shelter.

In addition to compassionate reasons, there are good public safety arguments for providing the needed resources. While some residents may be rightly concerned that providing too many resources may simply attract more homeless people to Carlsbad, we can resolve those concerns by partnering with other cities and with the county to insure that each municipality provides similar options.

The issue of single-use plastics is becoming more prominent as many municipalities, and California, have banned plastic bags and not looking at single-use plastic straws. What is your position on single-use plastic straws, what should the city do about it (if anything) and if action is taken to enforce a ban, how do you work with businesses (and residents) to ease the burden?

I do not believe it makes sense for small local cities to unilaterally enact a plastic straw ban, as this could hurt local businesses. Either a countywide or a statewide ban would be more fair to all businesses, and would be less confusing for consumers.

I applaud California's recent decision to require that restaurants offer plastic straws only upon request. This is a reasonable compromise, as many elderly, disabled and young people still need straws. However, it appears that most of the plastic straws which litter our beaches come from fast food establishments, and these are

exempted from the new law. We saw with the plastic bag law, that once the state of California made the change, businesses and consumers easily adapted and understood the new situation.

Plastic pollution of the ocean has reached horrifying proportions globally, and local residents do value the health of our ocean and beaches. I would support a new statewide law which includes fast food establishments, and which requires that plastic straws be provided on request, and only on request.

Earlier this year, Carlsbad discussed an anti-gun violence resolution. Recently, the Del Mar Fairgrounds board voted to suspend the Crossroads of the West Gun Show in 2019. What is your position on the board's decision, and if Carlsbad should reconsider the resolution, regarding a constitutionally protected right?

Clearly, the right to bear arms is constitutionally protected, and the City of Carlsbad should do nothing to abridge that right. However, reasonable regulation is in agreement with the constitution, and many local residents are rightly concerned with threats to public safety with the proliferation of unregulated firearms.

The Gun Show loophole endangers all of us, because it provides a way to bypass background checks. I support the board's decision. Most Americans, including a majority of gun owners, do agree that regulation is important for public safety.

I applaud the Carlsbad City Council's decision to move forward with public discussions about gun violence. However, I do not believe that the Council's choice to address it through the City/School Committee is the optimal forum. I attended a meeting of that committee on September 20. I appreciated the comments from citizens and representatives of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, but it appears that state law and our local school board are already working to keep our schools free of guns, and to protect our children.

The council should have a public forum in which all sides may be heard, and develop a consensus on a resolution against gun violence. The resulting resolution should include input from all stakeholders, but ultimately, it must reflect the will of the majority of residents, rather than just activists on either side.