

Colorado Springs Mayoral Candidate Surveys

March 2003

Freedom Watch Special Edition

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Questions

1. What is your vision for Colorado Springs?
2. What businesses, industries, or organizations would you encourage to settle in Colorado Springs?
3. Citizens continually site growth as their main concern for Colorado Springs. What is the most important aspect of growth on which to focus?
4. What are your thoughts consolidating common services of the City and El Paso County (such as Planning and Park and Recreation)?
5. In what areas, if any, should city leadership cultivate relationships with Colorado Springs' growing minority populations, such as African-Americans, Asians, and Latino/as?
6. What measures have worked and what suggestions do you have to conserve water?
7. What is the greatest challenge facing the community and how do you intend to address it?

Candidate responses

Tony Carpenter

1.

Our infrastructure has been ignored for years; we need to use the growth in our revenue to correct this neglected problem. We have to prioritize our spending, create a city government our citizens can trust starting with 100% disclosure and a government accountable to our citizens. If we work with our citizens there will no longer be excuses we will have solutions.

2.

With our city working with citizens the sky is the limit, with a government that can be trusted; prioritizing, taking care of roads, police, fire and safety I'm going to use a phrase out of a movie "If you build it they will come" any and all businesses are invited.

3.

Water; we have water rights but we have to do our jobs and build the pipeline so we can get our water to us. Growth to me is not a problem as long as we plan for tomorrow and not yesterday.

4.

I like the Idea if we lived in a perfect world but we can't get anything done with the city alone involved and if we add another government entity I think we would be creating more problems, in the future if we put the citizens back in charge of their government we might be able to accomplish this.

Education:

Prince George VA

Occupation:

Retired

Colorado Springs resident:

In 60s for six years and since 1980 to Date

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5.

I think we need to do our jobs for the first thing creating a government that can be trusted by all citizens. We need 0 tolerance for harassment and create diversity in hiring panels for jobs and committee members so we can prove we are being fair to all citizens of Colorado Springs. Thus creating a government that can be trusted.

6.

Education, explaining the plan we have and getting our citizens involved. We need to give a price break to citizens who help their city with conservation and anyone not helping should have a stiff increase in their water bill.

7.

Our infrastructure falling apart, prioritize our spending, making sure when money is raised and spent on what we say it is. We need to set aside the majority of our growth in revenue increases for infrastructure. Our city government not being accountable to the citizens, TABOR is not the problem our City Government is!

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MarieAnn Carter

Education:

High School, Humboldt Institute
(business school)

1.

I do not desire to remake Colorado Springs. Why should we copy anyone, Boulder included - I believe that Colorado Springs is unique, special, and has its own creative energy and innovative talent to find its own destiny. My job, as Mayor, is to provide leadership, for this environment to happen.

Occupation:

Marketing representative for Protocol Marketing Group

Colorado Springs resident:

8 years

Contact information:

2.

I will encourage new companies and ventures to the area that are low resource users. The business environment must be balanced with the resources of the community; water, etc. For the businesses and organizations we have, and others we seek, we must be competitive with other cities, and not create an undue burden of taxes, fees, strangle-hold bureaucracies and regulations.

5.

Colorado Springs has long been a multi-cultural and ethnic city. My job as Mayor, is to represent all citizens of Colorado Springs, with equality and justice for everyone. Yes, I will cultivate and have represented, all minorities. Where special needs exist, my office will be open to minority representatives and their advice and counsel.

3.

Water and transportation.

6.

The City should determine the allocation of water based on supply, and provide it to the citizens, who in turn, determine their own priority of usage. To charge additional fees because of a drought, is unfair. The simple but tried and true method is water restrictions.

4.

It would save money, eliminating overlap in some areas. But whether I would say 'yes' or 'no' would depend on how the consolidation is set up; i.e., who the controlling government entity would be. How much power and voice will the City have?

7.

Besides water, Traffic congestion is our greatest current challenge. The East-West Mobility Study has been completed. It is time for City Council to make the decision and move ahead. As Mayor, my choice will be the one with the least impact and pain as possible, on people and businesses. But we will begin - no more time can be lost.

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Sallie Clark

1.

City plans cannot afford to wait four more years! I've experienced city hall from both sides. I'll lead by reaching out, refining meetings, being accessible and coalition building. Water, transportation, jobs, growth, conservation, open government - it's about basics and deciding what WE want. My philosophy: "It doesn't matter who takes credit as long as we get the job done."

2.

The city should encourage new businesses that require minimal infrastructure and utility needs. Government must help our local businesses provide jobs by getting out of business' way! As Mayor, I'll find ways to remove obstacles for local business expansion and provide more support of our existing employers by reducing the business personal property tax and business use tax.

3.

For the sake of current and future citizens, growth must be consistent and predictable. Roads, bridges, drainage and other infrastructure must be built with fair contributions from private enterprise. Residential and business development must complement the established community and vice versa. The city must encourage conservation measures for both new and existing residents that will assure long-term benefit.

4.

As Mayor, I'll meet monthly with the county administrator, commission chairman and city manager to discuss ways to consolidate and partner on services. There are many departments, which could save taxpayer money by utilizing or contracting for services. Our city and county transportation planning must be more cohesive. The council must

Education:

Certified Medical Assistant-Bryman College

Occupation:

Business Owner-17 Years, Holden House Bed & Breakfast Inn

Colorado Springs resident:

Resident since 1985

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5.

I'll develop an outreach program, which will encourage city employees to visit schools and community centers for mentoring minority children to introduce them to the many opportunities available in the workforce. As an example, shadow a firefighter or police officer for the day. I'd support cultural events, the Sister Cities program and expand the Mayor's 100 Teens.

6.

A water shortage ordinance allowing flexibility as our water supply changes. Revise the commercial landscape ordinance to allow for more water saving landscapes and develop a residential landscape ordinance that is fair and simple. Look for ways city facilities can save water and offer continuing incentives for items such as low-flow toilets, low water washing machines, xeriscaping, etc.

7.

Carry through with long-delayed plans to store and deliver water. Work with other elected officials to fast-track the Pueblo/Colorado Springs pipeline. Focus on lower-cost, common-sense traffic improvements like double left turns, right turn bays and synchronized lights. Follow

meet with the commissioners regularly.

through with prioritized list of transportation projects such as Woodmen, Austin Bluffs, MLK to Powers and transit that operates on a grid.
Resident since 1985

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Ted Eastburn, MD

1. What is your vision for Colorado Springs?

Protecting and preserving what we have - clean air, clean water, educational system, neighborhoods, public safety, parkland, jobs; securing what we need - water, transportation improvements, expansion and diversity in the economy and the prosperity necessary to create opportunity

Education: Medical School

Occupation: Physician/Cardiologist

Colorado Springs resident:
14 years

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for us and our children to take us to the next level as a community of excellence.

2. Biotech, multi-sport training and fitness complex, with Colorado Springs becoming the sports medicine capital of the world. Finance healthcare, general aviation, military high-tech capital. Biomedical, warehousing, distribution.

3. Urban density development in unincorporated areas, notably those relying on ground water stores. Compliance with comprehensive plan outlining logical sequencing of development with efficient extension of utilities and municipal services. If council can implement the comprehensive plan, along with appropriate water resource management with a combination of economic incentives, legislative guidelines, pedestrian friendly, multi-modal transportation improvements underpinning mixed-use zones.

4. Should absolutely consolidate services where operational efficiency is gained. Ultimately, need to look at the issue of consolidating government.

5. Within the business community, faith community, neighborhoods. Assuring access to services, opportunity for prosperity, insure educational excellence and integration into the community at large.

6. A combination of education, water efficient appliances with rebate incentives, aggressive pricing of outdoor water use, modest landscape ordinance and restrictions under drought conditions.

7. Acquiring, diverting and storing our water and water resource management (conserve it, get it, transport it, store it, treat it, exchange it). Will have to find common ground with Pueblo to move forward. Plan "B" is to build around city of Pueblo, bypassing their obstructionist's efforts. Plan "C" is to litigate. Multi-modal transportation improvements, implementing inter-modal transportation plan.

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Ken Kretzschmar

1. Common sense and equality. Contract city out to qualified, low bidder for each job. Night meetings in various parts of city. Voluntary council. Voters and I will write ballot language. No attorneys or doctors on council. Homeless will work. Move county prisoners to east El Paso County to live off land. City prisoners help homeless

Education: B.A. Education

Occupation:
Dining Facility Specialist

Colorado Springs resident:
March 1993

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keep city clean.

2.
None, because of drought.

3.
Chamber of Commerce should inform businesses and prospective new home owners that Colorado Springs is in a drought and move here at your own risk.

4.
City and county government should be combined into one government for all areas such as planning and park and recreation.

5.
City leadership should cultivate no relations with any minority population. Government should provide basic necessities only.

6.
Tell new comers Colorado Springs is in a drought and move here at your own risk.

7.
With companies closing, leaving many unemployed, encourage non voters and voters to vote, bring me receipt, apply at city personnel for any job this voter is qualified for, be low bidder and employed for a fully employed Colorado Springs.

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Jim Null

1.
My immediate concerns are for good jobs, ample supplies of clean water, transportation corridors and bus systems that move citizens through our city more efficiently and quickly, keeping our air clean, and TOPS. Long-term, we must reserve money for tight times, water for drought periods, and repair infrastructure while balancing the quality of life we all hold so dear.

2.
I believe that we need to bring environmentally clean industries with good wages and benefits. Clean manufacturing, new technological companies, business headquarters for

Education:

B.A. Political Science, University of Nevada, Reno, 1965
M.A. Political Science, University of Nevada, Reno, 1967
Ph.D. Government, University of Arizona, 1970

Occupation:

Professor, University of Colorado - Colorado Springs

Colorado Springs resident:

I have lived in Colorado for 32 years.

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insurance, financial, and banking industries, and companies that deal with international trade or import/export businesses. These types of businesses generally also bring a philanthropic philosophy to support non-profit and arts community.

3.

Finding the balance between urban sprawl and density. We still have room to grow, but that stretches the infrastructure, public safety, and education systems. We must provide incentives to increase the density within our current city boundaries and use more mixed-use zoning. Water will remain a concern we need to develop a workable residential landscape ordinance.

4.

I believe there are many opportunities to utilize intergovernmental agreements to save money. It would make sense to consolidate efforts in the parks system, fire response, and building departments establishing uniform standards and procedures. A regional communication and criminal justice information system also would provide efficiencies to City and County law enforcement agencies.

5.

The City needs to set the example in management practices including fierce enforcement of our zero discrimination policy including recruitment. Honor and support minority communities through public education of significant holidays and celebrations. Enhanced Sister City relationships with these communities providing cross cultural exchanges in education, arts, and business. Access by communities to the cable system for cultural and educational messages.

6.

Stay on phased watering cycles. Develop a reasonable and simple residential landscape ordinance that does not require neighbors to turn in neighbors. Enhance education and have some faith that people want to do the right thing. Use pricing to control abuse of water use. Continue incentives for internal and external capital improvement for low water consumption equipment and appliances for businesses and residences.

7.

Get the pipeline built and reservoirs expanded. Clean abundant water is key for citizens and businesses. Lack of it hurts the economy and tourism. I have the most extensive background and experience in water politics and have authored national water legislation. I have regional and national relationships that I will call on to help get these projects moving.

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Lionel Rivera

1. What is your vision for Colorado Springs?

I see Colorado Springs as the destination of choice for all travelers to the Rocky Mountains. Our airport will be expanded with great access and it will be the jewel of Colorado. Our tourism industry will be very strong, our road networks will be the best in the state and our economy will be diverse and strong. Our success will provide the revenue.

2.

Financial Services; Software development; Regional HQ for defense contractors, Sports governing bodies HQ; Medical supply distribution centers; retail distribution centers; Military (AF, Army, DoD) units.

3.

We must retrofit our current east-west arterials to expand capacity and reduce traffic congestion. We must acquire the Row necessary to insure good transportation corridors to the east, northeast and southwest. We must secure our long term water supply.

4.

We should look to consolidate services wherever we can with the county.

Education:

Bachelor of Science, Microbiology, Texas Tech University 1974; Masters of Business Administration Jacksonville State University 1986

Occupation:

Vice President-Investments UBS
PaineWebber

Colorado Springs resident:

19 years

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5.

We should reach out to all our citizens and invite them to participate in shaping our future. We should invite leaders from ethnic minority and racial minority groups to meet with the Mayor on a regular basis to discuss issues.

6.

We should place increased emphasis on rebate programs to encourage current residents to retrofit their yards with less water consumptive landscapes, and also encourage new landscapes to use less water consumptive plants through incentives.

7.

We must secure our long term water supply. I will meet personally, face to face, with members of the Pueblo City Council to help develop a win/win solution for both of us. I will then work with our Senators and Congressional delegation to pass the necessary federal legislation.

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