



Questions for
Naples City Council Candidates

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1. About you:

- How old are you? 54
- How long have you lived in the City of Naples, and where did you live previously? 54 years – lived in Auburn AL while at college
- What is your educational background and past work experience? Bachelor of Science in Operations Management from Auburn University. Owned and managed my own insurance agency which I sold last year. Currently VP for the insurance group that purchased my agency.

2. What are your thoughts on the proposed NCH Heart and Stroke Institute and its location on NCH's Downtown Naples campus? The new facility should be approved and built as soon as possible. It is a travesty that our community could possibly be deprived of this state-of-the-art facility and the \$250 million that has been offered from private funds of some of our residents.

3. Do you support the Naples Airport continuing to operate at its current location along Airport-Pulling Road? What are the most important considerations with respect to a potential relocation of the Airport? The relocation of our airport is not practical and would be a disservice to our community. Studies have shown that the relocation would cost around \$1 BILLION and would take in excess of 15 years to complete. We need to continue to be diligent in our efforts to address the noise issues and continue to implement rules and regulations to prevent any use at night or early morning. We should also petition the FAA about the possibility of pilots

using a “higher/faster” method to get the planes away from residential areas as quickly as possible.

4. What are the most important factors to be considered by City Council as it is asked to approve redevelopment proposals for the 5th Avenue South Extension, Four Corners, and Davis Triangle areas? It is important to follow current codes when addressing any new redevelopment. It would also be prudent to contract with nationally known experts and professionals that can help develop an comprehensive long-term plan for the development of these areas moving forward.
5. What are the most important environmental (especially water-related) issues facing the City of Naples? What measures can and should City Council take in the next four years to address them? Develop and implement the Storm Water Plan. We had a plan approved in 2019 that was never implemented. The construction cost of this plan has not gone from \$30 million to \$90 million. This plan needs to be addressed immediately and executed as soon as approved (again).
6. Some people generally want to limit any new development and keep Naples the way it is. Others are generally opposed to any infringement on property owners’ rights. Where do you fall on the continuum between the two? To try to stifle or stop redevelopment of Naples is both naïve and irresponsible. The answer is to make sure that the growth is controlled and planned properly. It is imperative that we follow building codes in place and use common sense with the execution of proposed development.
7. Was there a City Council vote during the last four years in which you disagreed with the outcome? If so, why did you disagree? The most egregious and suspect recent decision was to try to strip away the personal property rights of our residents by attempting to decrease the buildable lot size for single family homes. This effort, had it been successful, would have decimated property values. The most abhorrent aspect of this decision was that it was attempted right after a natural disaster (Hurricane Ian) when there were going to be many residents considering the sale of their homes after they were devastated by the flood waters.

8. What three things do you want to accomplish in the next four years?

- Begin the implementation of a Storm Water Plan
- Begin/complete construction of the new Heart Institute
- Help develop a long-term comprehensive plan for Naples

Please email your responses to Sandy Parker, sandy@sparkers-soapbox.com, no later than February 2, 2024.