



Questions for
Naples City Council Candidates

Submitted by: Linda Penniman

Email: _____

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Date: _____

1. About you:

- How old are you? I am 80 years old.
- How long have you lived in the City of Naples, and where did you live previously? We purchased our first home in 2000 and previously lived in St. Louis, Missouri
- What is your educational background and past work experience? I have 21/2 years of college...my family ran out of money. Went to work for the daily newspaper whereby I worked a number of jobs and then was hired by a gentleman who owned a local AM radio station who was wanting to capture the opportunity to begin an FM affiliated station to this AM station. I left there after a few years to get married.

2. What are your thoughts on the proposed NCH Heart and Stroke Institute and its location on NCH's Downtown Naples campus?

This will come before City Council next week. I believe it will and should pass. This new iteration for NCH is a perfect fit for the age of the people who live in Naples.

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?

Here are the facts relative to the airport:

To move it could take anywhere from 12-15 years or longer-this according to a consultant that presented to the Naples Airport Authority just a week ago. The Picayune Strand was tossed out as an option....that property was purchased as a

preserve years ago...they bought out 52 families to create the Preserve. Federal monies were involved. Therefore, if the Picayune Strand were a choice, there would have to be an act of Congress.

Page Field is 90 minutes or more away....likely not a good choice for that reason and the FAA would be involved in that choice. RSW is closer at around 45 minutes away ...there again the FAA would need to be involved. We cannot move the flight school from the Naples Airport without FAA approval. That was my plan in order to cut back on volume and pressure on the airport arrivals that were circling waiting for flight school students.

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?

Because we have only 5 roads in this entire area to handle traffic going east/ west (Immokalee, Vanderbilt, Pine Ridge . Golden Gate and 41 east, I do not believe we can deal with continued growth in this area until we deal with the question of capacity on our east/west roadways. There is no place for us to put in another road to service east/west traffic and yet....destinations on the part of the autos in service at any given time is-east/west.

We need to hear from the MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization which includes FDOT) as to what their long range transportation plan (LRTP) is for this area. Choices are few. We need to know.

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?

The clean up of the water treatment ponds in the city needs to be completed. We can either dredge (\$1 million per pond) or chemically treat with eco friendly products that have proven to be just as effective but take a bit longer.

We have to remove the outfalls along the shore....FDEP ordered.

We need to address point source pollution both insofar as our retention ponds (41 is a known source for at least one of our ponds) and insofar as the Bays. If there are still outfall pipes going into Venetian Bay (as a for instance) we need to get rid of them.

Resiliency is currently in the hands of the Army Corps of Engineers who will be returning with natural solutions for our shores in 2025.

We have to see their plan if for not other reason...it is fully funded.

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?

The Burt Harris Law was written in 1995 which set forth the rules (if you will) for property rights. Let's take a look at the courts and how that law has withstood the test of time in the courts: In 30 years, 200 suits have been filed....the courts ruled in favor of the plaintiff 6 times and the rest were settled out of court. One could extrapolate from this that the courts have not ruled in favor of this law. We have codes. Those codes are the backbone of planning in the City of Naples. Adhere to the codes.

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?

No. Each council and especially this one, has been especially sensitive to the needs and wants of this community.

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

I want to focus on water and water quality and see to it that we have plans in place for making our shores resilient to storms using natural solutions.

How do we do that:

Finish dredging or using eco-friendly chemicals to make all ponds in the city do their job...deal with water treatment and some retention

Remove all outfalls that exist that are running into any of the bays in the city as well as finishing the FDEP mandated current outfalls project. Continue the swales program in the city. Pass a code that makes all new parking lots, driveways, and pool surrounds pervious.

Take a serious look at the use of reclaimed water in the city that adds harmful nutrients to stormwater.

I want to work closely with the Corps of Engineers to complete and begin to put in place a natural solutions application to our shores.

Our vulnerability assessment discovered that our water treatment plants are especially vulnerable to surges and hurricanes. We need a plan to address this vulnerability....sooner as opposed to later.

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