
RE: Andrew Rice | Buena Vista Candidate Questionnaire Responses

1. In a few sentences, please briefly share why you're motivated to run for public office, and why you believe you're qualified to serve in this context. (your response will be printed on the in-person Forum Program).
 - o To be frank about it, I really don't "want" to serve on the Board of Trustees in the same way I "want" to spend an afternoon getting my feet wet with my fly rod in my hand. However, I feel like if I have an opportunity to continue to serve on the Board of Trustees then I have a responsibility to pursue it. In a democratic society, it is both a privilege and obligation for normal everyday citizens to play a role in their government. As a civil engineer, I have had worked with many municipalities in Colorado on projects related to water infrastructure (i.e., treatment plants, pipelines, master planning). I have seen the fruits of proactive planning and the pains of reactive responses to infrastructure and growth needs. I think my background as an engineer could continue to be helpful for the Board of Trustees as we navigate a season of growth pressure in BV.
2. I support changing codes and processes towards increased use of Administrative decisions by public sector staff, while focusing public input on changes to the code itself.
 - o Somewhat Disagree
3. Development approval times are:
 - o About right
4. As you are likely aware, the Chaffee County 2020 Comp Plan stated, "keep the country country and the towns towns". What does this statement mean to you and how would you use this guiding principle in setting land use policy?
 - o As we grow, we should endeavor to preserve the rural character of our community and encourage growth in areas where water, sewer and transportation infrastructure already exist.
5. The Town's government is sufficiently connected to, and collaborative with, the school district.

- I don't feel that I am knowledgeable enough on this topic to answer
6. How can the Town's government encourage/support/facilitate increasing work-based learning programs for local youth?
- This is not an area where I have experience that I can bring to bear.
7. Passing a local ordinance requiring the installation of broadband infrastructure as a part of all new development is a must.
- Strongly Disagree
8. Internet infrastructure should be treated as equally important to other utilities (water, sewer, gas, electricity) in infrastructure projects.
- Strongly Disagree
9. What is local government's role in increasing broadband availability and reliability for the community?
- I have more of a "limited government" perspective. Government is not, and cannot be, omniscient. Government should stick to doing things that only government can do like transportation infrastructure and water and sewer conveyance and treatment infrastructure. Government should tread very lightly where the potential for private sector solutions exist.
10. [BV/Poncha] has enough water to meet municipal, housing, and commercial development growth.
- Somewhat Agree
11. In the face of inadequate current water supply Town should...
- All of the above and then some
 - Restrict Development
 - Allow development but require development to pay for additional water rights
 - Pursue additional municipal water source to support future development
12. What is the most important next step for Town in regards to water or wastewater?

- Take a hard and realistic view of the fact that water is a very limited resource with ever more demand for it both locally and from afar. We need an "all of the above" approach that incorporates continuous long-term planning, procurement of water rights and storage rights, conservation, and a firm commitment to using the limited water we have for uses that benefit the entire community rather than market-timed development.
13. Producing housing that is accessible to our local workforce requires public subsidy in amounts that directly affect affordability levels.
- Somewhat Disagree
14. Density is directly linked to affordability (i.e. increased density lowers the cost of each housing unit).
- Strongly Agree
15. Encouraging housing development, including market rate housing, is helpful to the overall health of the housing market and to the community.
- I don't feel that I am knowledgeable enough on this topic to answer
16. Housing policy is a local government responsibility.
- Somewhat Agree
17. What specific policy would you change or advocate for that would have a tangible impact on workforce housing if elected?
- This is not an area where I have much expertise that I can bring to bear. However, I think it's hard to have a perfect solution to a problem if the roots of the problem are not addressed or not clearly identified.
18. New rules & regulations for environmental sustainability should be weighed against, and modified for, their impact on the health of local businesses.
- Somewhat Agree
19. Environmental sustainability is inextricably linked with innovation and technology.
- Strongly Disagree
20. The single most important action [BV/Poncha] can take in 2024 to advance environmental sustainability is...

- Have a candid discussion of the environmental impacts of constructing new houses when so many existing houses sit unoccupied for a significant portion of the time.

21. "Closing question: What question have we not asked that you'd like to share (and answer?)"

- Should the Town of Buena Vista move its biannual election from April to November?