



**RE: Dave Armstrong | Chaffee County Commissioner 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).

- The County is facing significant growth opportunities and challenges. My business career, both large company and entrepreneurial, plus 15 years of active, outcome based Community service are important qualifications to deal with this growth. I grew up in a small Community and want to see the heritage, environmental resources and economic diversity that will both sustain our culture and meet the changing needs of our Community be protected and developed. The Commissioner position offers a unique opportunity to leverage my skill set and values to leave the County better than I found it.

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.

- Somewhat Agree

3. Development approval times are:

- Too slow, holding up development

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?

- County population growth, economic sustainability and environmental protection needs require well thought out strategies and implementation. Efficient, effective and

economically viable development should take advantage of existing municipal areas while protecting the historical and valuable agricultural and open space areas. This principle should guide growth decisions along with environmental preservation strategies and diversified economic growth supporting individuals and the Community.

5. The County government is sufficiently connected to, and communicative with, local school districts and higher ed institutions.

- Strongly Agree

6. How can County government encourage/support/facilitate increasing work-based learning programs for local youth?

- Community and County government connections with local school districts and higher ed institutions is critical to workforce development and preparing the next generation(s) for success. The concurrent enrollment, work based learning and internship programs in place are growing at rates that will deliver short and long term results for the students and the Community. County Government should continue to encourage and support these work based programs.

7. I have read the latest strategic plan of the Chaffee County Early Childhood Council.

- Yes

8. County government should take tangible action to support the creation and maintenance of childcare slots.

- Strongly Agree

9. What should the County government do starting in 2025 to support childcare?

- Actively lead, support and assist the Chaffee County Early

Childhood Council to accelerate the implementation of the strategic plan. Actions and results that close the large service gap we have and meet the needs of families and businesses at affordable costs. Childhood Council to accelerate the implementation of the strategic plan. Actions and results that close the large service gap we have and meet the needs of families and businesses at affordable costs. Childhood Council to accelerate the implementation of the strategic plan. Actions and results that close the large service gap we have and meet the needs of families and businesses at affordable costs. Childhood Council to accelerate the implementation of the strategic plan. Actions and results that close the large service gap we have and meet the needs of families and businesses at affordable costs. Childhood Council to accelerate the implementation of the strategic plan. Actions and results that close the large service gap we have and meet the needs of families and businesses at affordable costs.

10. Passing a County ordinance requiring the installation of broadband infrastructure as a part of all new development is a must.

- Somewhat Agree

11. Internet infrastructure should be treated as equally important to other utilities (water, sewer, gas, electricity) in infrastructure projects.

- Strongly Agree

12. What is the local government's role in increasing broadband availability and reliability for the community?

- Local governments role is as primary a "connector": Supporting public/private partnerships to improve/upgrade infrastructure, push for "dig once" policies, create digital equity policies/rules supporting access for all. Being a funding partner with State and Federal programs. Protect affordability for the County.

13. Chaffee County has enough water to meet municipal, housing, and commercial development growth.

- Strongly Agree

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14. In the face of inadequate current water supply Town should...
- Pursue additional water sources to support future development
15. What is the most important next step for the County Government in regards to water or wastewater?
- Keep what's here, here in partnership with UAWCD and local municipalities via a clear plan that supports growth in housing, business, agriculture, recreation and environmental sustainability.
16. Producing housing that is accessible to our local workforce requires public subsidy in amounts that directly affect affordability levels.
- Somewhat Agree
17. Density is directly linked to affordability (i.e. increased density lowers the cost of each housing unit).
- Strongly Agree
18. Encouraging more housing development, including market rate housing, is helpful to overall housing affordability and thus to the community.
- Strongly Agree
19. Housing policy is a County government responsibility.
- Strongly Agree
20. What specific policy would you change or advocate for that would have a tangible impact on workforce housing if elected?
- A policy that supports a significant increase in building or refurbishing housing that improves supply and affordability commensurate with various income levels. Some key components would be revised entitlements for various AMI

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levels, Federal, State, Local funding programs for developers and homeowners/renters and integrated with childcare.

21. New rules & regulations to advance environmental sustainability should be considered in the context of their impact on the health of local employers.

- Strongly Agree

22. Environmental sustainability is inextricably linked with innovation and technology.

- Strongly Agree

23. The single most important action the County government can take in 2024 to advance environmental sustainability is...

- Update the 2020 Comp Plan and drive implementation via strategic plans and priorities.

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

- What is the County's role, if any, in supporting workforce development?

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