
RE: Devin Rowe | 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).
 - I have lived in Buena Vista for over 8 years and I have a total of 5 ½ years of experience as a trustee for the Town of Buena Vista. I was appointed for 18 months November 2016 - April 2018 and I have currently been on the board since April 2020. I have a bachelor's degree in social work. I worked for many years supporting teens in various programs across the country. I currently work as a bartender and I feel my experience working in the Buena Vista service industry makes me an excellent candidate to continue to represent the working people here in Buena Vista.
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 Disagree
3. Development approval times are:
 - 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?
 - This statement means that we all have a responsibility for responsible growth. As far as setting policy I think it's important to find away to connect different density areas gradually while not hindering growth. Most of this centers around common sense and perception. It doesn't make sense to put high density tall buildings next to a rural area.
5. The Town's government is sufficiently connected to, and collaborative with, the school district.
 - Somewhat Disagree

6. How can the Town's government encourage/support/facilitate increasing work-based learning programs for local youth?
 - I feel a lot of this burden falls onto the school district. It can be hard to offer many programs such as this in a small school. I have a social work degree and I have seen first hand the power of experiential education for teenagers. I feel continued communication and collaboration with the school district could help. I think providing more experiential programming, like the recreation department's cooking classes can really be beneficial to local youth. The town is a huge supporter of the Boys and Girls Club, donating land to their new facility.

7. Passing a local ordinance requiring the installation of broadband infrastructure as a part of all new development is a must.
 - Somewhat Agree

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

9. What is local government's role in increasing broadband availability and reliability for the community?
 - I feel local government should treat reliable high speed internet as a necessary utility. It is needed for jobs as well as learning for our youth. I think all developments should be ready to have high speed internet. I worry there is not enough competition in the sector and high prices can really hurt people. Higher levels of government should work to prevent this, fight net neutrality, and offer co-op/government owned options for people.

10. [BV/Poncha] has enough water to meet municipal, housing, and commercial development growth.
 - Somewhat Disagree

11. In the face of inadequate current water supply Town should...
 - I am a firm believer in the town's Water Allocation Policy. I feel it is important to prioritize the water to developments that benefit the community.

12. What is the most important next step for Town in regards to water or wastewater?

- An important next step is to acquire more water storage and continue to search for more water to diversify our portfolio. As the town is not part of the sanitation district I think it is important to have more transparency and communication with the sanitation district, specifically it is important to record our water outflows back into the Arkansas. I have been on the board for a total of 5.5 years and have we have had little to no contact with the sanitation district.
13. Producing housing that is accessible to our local workforce requires public subsidy in amounts that directly affect affordability levels.
- Somewhat Agree
14. Density is directly linked to affordability (i.e. increased density lowers the cost of each housing unit).
- Somewhat Agree
15. Encouraging housing development, including market rate housing, is helpful to the overall health of the housing market and to the community.
- Somewhat Disagree
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?
- I would continue to advocate for and strengthen our Water Allocation Policy. Putting aside water for affordable housing is a great way to secure affordable housing in future development.
18. New rules & regulations for environmental sustainability should be weighed against, and modified for, their impact on the health of local businesses.
- Somewhat Disagree
19. Environmental sustainability is inextricably linked with innovation and technology.
- Somewhat Agree
20. The single most important action [BV/Poncha] can take in 2024 to advance environmental sustainability is...

- To supply recycling to all citizens. Since the closing of Angels of Shavano there has not been easily accessible recycling to all citizens. I believe recycling should be required and should be paid for by producers of plastic materials.

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

- No Response