

Barbara Foushee, Candidate for Carrboro Board of Aldermen

1. What are the highest priority affordable housing issues in your community?

Most important priorities: Affordable homeownership, Senior housing, Permanent housing for homeless

Top priorities, but not most important: Rental housing, Critical repairs

Important, but lower priorities: Mobile homes

2. Should local government provide more money or less money to support affordable housing in your community?

Much more money. Currently Carrboro is not providing sufficient funding for this important issue. Other municipalities around us increased their efforts this past budget cycle while Carrboro remained the same. Our town must lead the way and show the community that they are committed to providing a broad range of housing for the varying income levels within our community.

3. Do you support donating surplus government-owned land to affordable housing developers?

Yes. Land that can be used for affordable housing is in short supply so this would be an ideal situation that could lead to affordable housing home ownership.

4. Do you think local jurisdictions do an effective job coordinating housing policies and programs with other jurisdictions in the county, including Orange County government?

Moderately effective. We should increase the collaborative efforts with Orange County and other neighboring municipalities in the county to expand the affordable housing stock; we would be pooling ideas as well as resources.

5. What's one example of an affordable housing program or development that you think worked well. Please explain why you think that was successful and how you will support more of these successes in the future.

The collaboration with CASA will provide much needed housing to Carrboro and Chapel Hill, it is effective when lending institutions, local government and non-profits work together. It is successful because resources are being pooled together for a greater good within our community. Strong collaborative processes can go a long way in increasing affordable housing in Orange County.

6. What are your ideas for ensuring that the new Town of Carrboro Affordable Housing Advisory Commission will be effective?

This is a very diverse group of community members with solid expertise in this area, some have their own stories about affordable housing experiences in Carrboro. This Commission will be most effective if their recommendations are well received by the Board of Aldermen and the community. We do not want to continue to "kick this can down the road." An inventory of town-owned land and property that could be used for affordable housing is a great start.