

Pam Hemminger, Incumbent Mayor of Chapel Hill

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

Most important priorities: Rental housing, Affordable homeownership, Senior housing, Critical repairs
Top priorities, but not the most important: Mobile homes, Permanent housing for homeless

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

Much more money. We are developing a long term strategic plan that will require an investment strategy and to collaborate with all our partners (non-profits, neighboring jurisdictions, large employers, developers and the community) to maximize our impact and produce a significantly more units across a broad spectrum of income levels.

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

Yes. We see this as a highly effective option for helping produce the most units in our community. We have identified several town owned parcels that we will be exploring for future affordable housing development.

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. At the Town Council's directive, there are now regular meetings of our housing partners and management staff of each jurisdiction in Orange County including our Town Manager. Through this collaboration we hope to be proactive and maximize our opportunities as properties or funding options become available. We can also work together to set targets to develop or redevelop new affordable housing units.

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.

DHIC on Legion Road. The Town donated the land and worked with a known affordable housing developer to get the tax credits to make this project viable. The Town was able to increase its affordable housing stock for families and seniors with a lower than usual per unit subsidy that is on a transit corridor and close to shopping and parks.

6. Will you support a Town of Chapel Hill bond referendum that includes funding for affordable housing?

Yes. Yes, once we have a strategic plan with concrete goals and an investment plan in place. We will also be working with our partners to maximize our resources.

7. At this time, the task force assessing the American Legion Post property owned by the Town of Chapel Hill has not included recommendations for affordable housing. Would you support affordable housing being developed on a portion of the property?

No. The Town has discussed the amount of affordable housing in this area of town and the need for increased park space to provide recreation for all the residential growth on this side of town. We see better opportunities and a higher priority for other areas of town such Homestead Road, Plant Road and the Greene Tract.