

Tom Stevens, Incumbent Mayor of Hillsborough

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

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

Important, but lower priorities: Mobile homes

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

Slightly more money. I would like to see more resources put into affordable housing, coming from both public and private sources.

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

Yes. If there's land available that would be suitable, and is otherwise not going to be used, making it available for affordable housing developers seems like a very good use of resources.

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. A lot of effort goes into coordinating housing policies and resources, but higher levels of effectiveness could be obtained, particularly for getting homeless into stable housing.

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.

Our local habitat built 50+ houses in Hillsborough, not only making homes available but contributing to the transformation of a neighborhood. We are continuing to support their efforts in a new project in Waterstone.

6. As the Town of Hillsborough continues to experience growth, what policies or tools can the Town employ to ensure that housing does not become out of reach for households at or below median income?

The town continues to encourage and support organizations that help people acquire and retain housing (such as Habitat, CASA, Empowerment), requires developers of major residential projects to in some way contribute to affordable housing, and has passed ordinances that foster a variety of housing types.