

1. Describe the current housing situation in our community. What are the main drivers of affordability challenges (property taxes, development types, lack of land, etc.)?

We are in dire need of an expansion of housing supply for low to mid income community members. Prices in the current housing market are significantly inflated by developers buying lower cost properties and flipping them at higher prices as well as high wealth individuals moving into the area who are willing and able to pay increasingly higher prices for housing, and the expansion of student housing into residential spaces outside of the university campus.

This high inflation environment is made worse by the fact that there is not a lot of land for developing additional housing supply. So we see reduced housing inventory available to community members with less access to financial resources. The result is that low and mid income populations have nowhere to call home within our community. This changes the demographics within our community and threatens the vibrancy of our diversity as a community.

2. What is the most important role of an elected official/local government in ensuring all community members can afford housing?

Listening to needs and being able to articulate them, understanding what is within the influence of local government and using available resources to prioritize funding and policies that support affordable housing.

Outside of what is within direct influence, local government officials can also collaborate with local housing providers, and others to address affordable housing needs.

3. What is your prior experience in creating and promoting affordable housing?

Based on my experience engaging in the community, I was aware of the need for additional affordable housing. I have actively worked to address this issue while serving on the Carrboro Town Council, being a liaison to the Affordable Housing Advisory Commission, Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness, the Community Home Trust Board as well as being in community and conversation with IFC, CEF, Empowerment and other local housing providers who are doing the critical boots on the ground work.

4. In order of priority, what are three specific policy or funding initiatives related to affordable housing that you will support if (re-)elected?

- Support and advocate for an increase for the Affordable Housing Special Revenue Fund
- Ensure that the foundation is more stable for affordable housing during the Comprehensive Plan process as it relates to zoning and
- Support the recommendations of the AHAC as they provide recommendations to council about critical home repairs and other affordable housing projects.

5. How would you create affordable housing for individuals 30% AMI and below?

This is housing for our extremely low income community members and would be about \$19,000 for an individual and about \$27,000 for a family of four in Orange County. I would start with engaging local elected officials to activate land use policies that would allow for this housing. I would also work with community leaders and developers to identify funding sources for the effort. In considering suitable land for this housing, we must keep in mind critical factors, such as proximity to public transit which enable people with low access to financial resources to engage in the community as well as minimizing environmental impacts.

6. Our community has seen growing polarization on arguments for increased housing density weighed against environmental impacts. What is your position on this discussion?

As I set policy and make decisions, I consider the environmental implications of every choice.

I will continue to address environmental justice by advocating for affordable compact, dense communities and promoting zoning policies to support that type of development.

7. How would you implement systemic solutions to inequitable property taxes in our community?

Decisions on property tax allocations occur at the county and state level. As a member of the Carrboro Town Council, I would certainly advocate for equitable tax allocations as the Carrboro Town Council did recently for our Northside neighbors.

8. How do you view affordable housing as a racial equity issue?

The impact of generations of racial inequity which restricted access to wealth building vehicles means that people of color are more likely to experience negative housing impacts and face higher rates of evictions and homelessness. A racial equity lens (race does not determine outcomes) needs to be applied to all housing policies in order to ensure more equitable outcomes.

Please answer the following questions with Yes or No

9. Will you support a new bond for affordable housing within the next two years?

Yes or No In Carrboro, we have raised taxes recently to support a dedicated revenue stream for affordable housing and to support our Storm water utility fund so I am not sure what the constituency's support of a bond would be where there is already a high tax rate.

10. Are you willing to dedicate at least 15% of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds toward affordable housing?

Yes or No Yes

11. Do you support building affordable housing for people 30% AMI or below on the Greene Tract? (Town of Chapel Hill and Carrboro candidates only).

Yes or No Yes

12. Do you support building affordable housing for people 30% AMI or below on the former American Legion Property? (Town of Chapel Hill candidates only).

Yes or No