



## **NORTH CHARLESTON CANDIDATE SURVEY**

**NAME:** Dan Gregory  
**OFFICE SEEKING:** North Charleston City Council, District 7  
**WEBSITE:** DanGregoryforNC7.com  
**EMAIL:** dangregoryfornc7@gmail.com

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### **PRIORITIES: What are your top three priorities and why?**

- 1. Affordable Housing:** We are at a crisis point. We must act now with changes in regulations that will help create more affordable housing at all levels of income.
- 2. Violent Crime:** We have to try a multiprong approach to work with our youth for diversion, but we also have to have the backbone to do what is truly needed and focus our law enforcement resources towards combatting crime trends wherever that leads us.
- 3. Traffic Congestion:** This is a growing major issue that needs better solutions studied now. We need to use smart growth principals. Support Public Transit.

### **GROWTH: Charleston is experiencing overdevelopment that is pushing people into North Charleston. What is your plan to accommodate growth while keeping neighborhoods intact in North Charleston?**

North Charleston should work better with organizations to build more affordable housing. There needs to be additional funding through the City of North Charleston that can then be recycled for future builds as we receive funds back from properties being sold. We need to keep older neighborhoods in tact through refurbishment funding. This is one of the ways that will help combat the effects of outright gentrification in the south end of the city. These programs need to be a “hands up” for under-resourced neighborhoods and not an outright “hand out” by city government for it to be sustainable.

### **SAFETY: North Charleston has been ranked one of the nation’s most violent cities in recent years. While the crime rate has come down, what will you do as a**

NOTE: Answers for each question were limited to 100 words. Answers were provided by the candidate in response to a survey by the Charleston City Paper. Candidates who did not return surveys were not considered for an editorial endorsement.



**city council member to make the city safer for families?**

Our police need better funding and more direction from the city council through the mayor down to the chief to be more effective in combating violent crime with more specialized teams utilizing

the Police Crime Analysis Unit for better crime data to use in that regard. Until we analyze this crime data, we are spinning our wheels and wasting resources to combat this violent crime in our city. On the other hand, our children and youth need more programs for mentoring and support for their needs and we need to better support community groups that help in that regard.

**COMMUNITY: If you had an extra \$100 million to spend over five years to make North Charleston a stronger community, what one thing would you invest in and why?**

I believe we will need to invest more in the Low Country Rapid Transit Project. This project has received funding, but it needs funding that will be allotted to complete this system in the near future. I chose this project to fund due to it better solving multiple issues which will make us even stronger as a community. This will allow residents the mobility needed to go to work, better access to affordable housing that will build near the system, alleviate some traffic congestion as well as help with employment by locating more jobs along the system's route.