



NORTH CHARLESTON CANDIDATE SURVEY

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PRIORITIES: What are your top three priorities and why?

1. A smooth transition in leadership from the Keith Summey era. This is not to be taken for granted. Our city saw governance breakdowns in the early Nineties as the long, Mayor John Bourne era ended. This must be avoided. Municipal services must be maintained and even improved.
2. Fiscal stability. All good things flow from financial strength and accountability. We must ensure that our city's financial health is sustained.
3. Improving the quality of life for all North Charleston's residents. This is a vital part of maintaining our city's vitality, diversity, and economic stability.

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?

The pursuit of affordable housing and gentrification are constantly altering the dynamics of growth throughout Regional Charleston. North Charleston is the epicenter of the region. We must continue to encourage regional plans for affordable housing – and sharper zoning and planning initiatives to preserve the city's established neighborhoods as those neighborhoods desire to be protected against the pressures of gentrification.

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

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.



mayor to make the city safer for families?

As the former NCPD Police Chief, I am uniquely qualified to address this issue. North Charleston does not even rank in the top 20 communities in South Carolina in violent crime rates. That aside, public safety will always be our priority. But we must not only address crime but the reasons behind the crimes. This leads to addressing the socioeconomic issues that lead people to commit crimes. This includes better jobs, education, and recreation opportunities. We must continue the initiatives of customized neighborhood policing, better pay, and training for police officers, among other technology-based tactics.

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?

Improving the quality of life for all North Charleston residents is vital to building a stronger community. I would:

1. Build grocery stores in conjunction with a corporate partner to eliminate food deserts in the city.
2. Improve (rebuild) those community centers and recreational facilities throughout the city in need of repair.
3. Partner with development partners to build affordable housing options throughout North Charleston
4. Invest in small business incubator programs and initiatives.
5. Begin the North Charleston Neighborhood Improvement fund to repair and refurbish dilapidated homes and neighborhoods for our residents.