Bend City Council
Candidate Questionnaire

Deadline for submission: 5:00PM PDT, October 4, 2024

The City of Bend has a vibrant business community, comprised of small, medium and large businesses. As a City Council member, you will play a crucial role in supporting and fostering its growth through the policies you adopt.

To help Chamber members understand your stance on business-related issues and Chamber priorities, we kindly request your responses to the following questions. **Please limit your answers to 250 words per question.**

Completed questionnaires will be posted on the Bend Chamber website in PDF format for both Chamber members and the general public to view.

Bend Chamber Priorities and Policy Principles

Whether reviewing local city and county ordinances or weighing in on legislative proposals in Salem, the Chamber has an active and effective advocacy program.

We are a 501(c6) organization and engage in direct advocacy at all levels of government. Our guiding policy principles, set by the Chamber Board of Directors, include:

● Re-build a state where businesses thrive in our community and ensure sustainable funding sources absent additional impacts on businesses

● Increase the supply of attainable housing, prioritizing workforce housing at 80-120 percent AMI

● Promote economic vitality, workforce development and innovation for a vibrant business community

● Support for transportation and infrastructure projects to alleviate traffic congestion and plan for future growth

● Increase access to affordable, high-quality childcare; and ensure adequate funding for K-12 public education

● Advocate for a thoughtful balance between environmental sustainability and economic health

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Please provide your name and answer the questions under each of the categories.

First / Last name*

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Economic Development & Small Business Support

1. What specific strategies do you propose to attract and retain businesses in Bend?*

The second largest employer in Bend is St Charles. They own more than 40% of the market giving them governing control of the healthcare business in Bend. St Charles is a great Hospital, But they need competition. Bringing a competing health care system to Bend would give new options to our citizens, it would also give Health care workers a way to vote with their feet instead of resorting to picketing. I believe this will improve working conditions for health care workers, as well as improving the quality of treatment for patients.

2. How do you plan to incorporate business issues into the biennial Council Goals?*

By imparting to my fellow council members how important our businesses are to our community
How difficult it is to be an entrepreneur
And how vital it is to be aware of profit margins and overhead when sizing up a company

Workforce Housing & Growth

1. What specific policies do you propose to accelerate housing development for Bend's workforce?*

City Council and the Planning commision have been full steam ahead for ultra high income housing developments, and state subsidized low income developments for the last decade. They have left the middle class behind. We are losing the middle class in Bend. We need to focus on freeing up builders to construct middle income housing.

2.How do you plan to encourage development in the Central District, specifically mixed use commercial and residential development?*

Im a big believer in incentivizing the change we want to see. if we want to see central district mixed use development, then creating a streamlined process with decreased fees will encourage that.

Regulatory Environment

How would you streamline bureaucracy and reduce regulatory burdens to make it easier for businesses to operate in Bend?*

 To the maximum possible. Businesses are the lifeblood of our community. We simply cannot survive without them. Making sure they can grow is crucial to our city thriving. As a business owner, I know how challenging it is to start and grow a business, and government should encourage growth, not hinder it.