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Page 1: District 10 Candidate Questionnaire

Q1 What is the name of the RNO where you live?

Congress Park Neighbors, Inc

Q2 Are you a member? **Yes**

Q3 How many of their meetings have you attended in the last year?

Four

Q4 What in your opinion is the role of an RNO?

RNOs are a vital part of the fabric of the city and play a key role in the ongoing effort to make cities a great place to live and work, and they also serve as the vital voice and conduit between neighbors, the city and businesses. We need our RNOs to be assertive with the city and developers with all matters that affect their respective neighborhoods.

We also need RNOS to work with neighbors and businesses for changes and improvements such as neighborhood safety, environmental concerns, beautification, neighborhood character preservation and social activities to unite neighbors.

District 10 Candidate Questionnaire

Q5 What are your strategies for engaging with residents in district 10?

The number one strategy is to help all of district 10's rich diversity feel represented and have a connection to local government, as starts at the local level. This representation starts with being approachable, relatable and very responsive -- and that comes from energy, passion and love for the district. My campaign's plan is to make district 10 a model for civic engagement for not just Denver, but the whole country.

The way to make district 10 a model for civic engagement starts with my experience in these regards for bringing people together and inspiring community by leading by example. My 18 years of community organizing experience includes the Cherry Creek Arts Festival, appointments to the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness by Governor's Ritter and Hickenlooper, then on to the Denver Commission on Cultural Affairs, to my current appointments as a Commissioner to the Denver Commission on Aging and the Parks and Rec Advisory Board. I also currently serve on the Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods Board of Directors.

As part of my plan to make district 10 a model for civic engagement, personal wellness and health are key parts of my campaign -- as they are part of my life -- again, leading by example. Coloradoans are known for their adventure spirit and healthy lifestyles, and I want to actively put wellness activities in front of our residents. My father instilled fitness in our lives at a young age at our many Air Force Base gyms, which is much like Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" campaign to get young people involved with fitness at a young age. I met my husband playing volleyball and continue playing competitively year-round, as well as practicing yoga and weight training.

We need proven, passionate, active, local and community leadership to engage with the residents of district 10.

Q6 Bus Rapid Transit or BRT is currently being designed along Colfax and commercial property owners are proposing new eight story building heights and deeper lots to make building profitable. How would you respond to rezoning of residential properties to create larger commercial property assemblages and buildings?

This is one of the biggest issues at hand, and that's the proposal by one organization to rezone Colfax uniformly to U-MX-8; it is currently U-MS with varying heights. Upon meeting with PUMA (Progressive Urban Management Associates) their data-driven recommendation is that this is not needed within the next 20 years. Their recommendations include adaptive reuse incentives to maintain historic buildings, and other elements that would accommodate approximately 7,500 new residential units, 3,500 of which would be within two blocks of Colfax between downtown and Colorado Blvd. I am in full support of opposing this rezoning, and I've also received similar agreement from others within CHUN (Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods) — but CHUN has not officially weighed in on this issue.

I strongly believe we need to keep Colfax Avenue a true "Main Street USA" type of street with lower scale / approachable buildings no more than five stories on East Colfax. We need to build on the 'crunchy' and authentic character of Colfax for cafes, neon, tattoo parlors, bars, etc – as well as adding as much greenery and public art as possible – all of which builds on the already authentic culture of Colfax.

District 10 Candidate Questionnaire

Q7 Congress Park Neighbors conducted a survey within the last year that found a large majority of residents support protecting our neighborhood character. Tell us what strategies you might employ to assist us in this matter?

My plan to help support Congress Park's neighborhood is to initiate a request to establish a conservation overlay – as private individuals or groups cannot initiate these efforts with the city. I've enjoyed the progress by Vicki Eppler, Rodney Allen and Eleni Sarris presented at CPN meetings, but it's perhaps time to escalate this with city council, not to mention with neighbors.

I also appreciate the efforts presented at a CPN meeting by discoverdenver.co -- the citywide building survey focused on identifying the buildings that help tell Denver's story neighborhood by neighborhood -- as well as presentations by Historic Denver's Annie Levinsky. I will help build a coalition not only with the aforementioned organizations but with the plans in motion with the city's Community Planning and Development's Neighborhood Planning Initiative plan for the "East Central Area Plan", not to mention CPN's already known and well-documented neighborhood plans that have already taken place. The other plans that come into play are Denverright, Denver Moves Transit Plan, and the "Game Plan" from the Parks and Rec Department based on 2018's ballot measure 2A, which means \$46M for parks and nature.

Preserving neighborhood character is one my primary campaign platforms; we only have one history to pass along to future generations. Since October 2000, I have lived in Congress Park and worked in Cherry Creek North, and my first home was the Rivera Apartments at 1273 Cook Street, built in the 1932. I have personally witnessed the transformation of Cherry Creek North and am beginning to see signs of evolution in Congress Park. It is my greatest desire to preserve the character of ALL Denver neighborhoods in Denver, as all neighborhoods collectively contribute to our city's character and soul. It would be the city's epic loss for future generations to lose historic elements that comprise Denver.

We currently own a home at the Blueprint Condominiums at Madison and Colfax (1488 Madison), which has its own interesting history, per Jeanne Robb, not to mention our condo building's namesake and zoning history with regards to Denver's Blueprint plans.

*Sidenote: I did research with Parks and Rec staff regarding the longtime request for a sidewalk around Congress Park, especially along the southern 8th Avenue border, and it is slated to be built in 2020.

Q8 Congress Park has a very low vacancy rate, 1% or less, for rentals. Rents are rising. We have a low inventory of low income housing. What would your strategy be to provide more low income housing throughout the city?

Denver has a deficit of 128,000 affordable homes in Denver – we must build more homes – and we have 20,000 sitting vacant because people cannot afford them. We must work do better with incentivizing and holding developers to build more affordable homes with various levels of AMI's, and we must be innovative with filling the vacancies.

Innovative solutions for filling vacancies include the non-profit Sunshine Homeshare, helping older adults find and share the many single-family homes in district 10 (as loneliness is another issue with our older adult populations.) We also have the LIVE Denver (lower income voucher equity) program to help fill the gap between what's being charged and what families can afford.

The city should invest more in land trusts, which involve nonprofits buying parcels of land or homes and selling or renting the homes – the nonprofit retains ownership of the land, but collaborative ownership helps control costs.

I would also work to increase the amount of grants to low-income seniors and the disabled for property tax, rent and heat, to help people age in place and keep their homes.

District 10 Candidate Questionnaire

Q9 The City Charter of the City and County of Denver assigns responsibility for land use to City Council. The 2010 Zoning Code update assigned unilateral, blanket responsibility for all use decisions for Park OS-A zoning to the Executive Director of Parks and Recreation, a non-elected appointee. Would you support an ordinance moving OS-A zoning from the Executive Director of Parks and Rec back to City Council?

Pass

Q10 Do you support Initiative 300 - The Right To Survive?

No

Q11 Do you support initiative 301 - decriminalizing the use and possession of psilocybin also known as magic mushrooms?

Yes

Q12 Do you support the Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation resolution passed in February to delay the adoption of the of Denveright and The Game Plan until after the election and all newly elected are seated?

**No,
Pass**

Q13 Have you accepted a donation of \$1000 or more from a registered lobbyist during this campaign?

No