

## Fairfax City Citizens for Smarter Growth Questions for 2020 Mayoral and City Council Candidates

1. What prompted you to run for office? What do you see as the number one issue, and what makes you uniquely qualified to address it?
  2. What is your vision for the area in Old Town bounded by Old Lee Highway, Layton Hall Drive, University Drive and North Street? What additions to the Old Town activity center would you like to see?
  3. What is your vision for Northfax both east and west and their relationship to each other?
  4. What is the next activity center we should develop a small area plan for? Explain your answer.
  5. Capstone and Paul VI are prime examples of significant projects that were controversial yet received City of Fairfax approval recently. How did you vote on these applications or how would you have voted? What were or would have been the reasons for your vote?
  6. Attracting quality retail and commercial development is challenging and is likely to become more so as more employment and shopping opportunities move online in the wake of the coronavirus crisis. In light of these challenges, what is your plan for attracting mixed-use development in Old Town, Northfax and other City activity centers?
  7. City concern for affordable housing began in 2013 when the owner of Layton Hall Apartments sought, and obtained, permission for redevelopment that would have resulted in demolition of 110 low-cost, family-friendly apartment units. Since then the city has talked and talked about adding affordable housing, but done almost nothing:
    - Oak Knolls Apartments: 110 affordable units demolished.
    - Received \$825,000 from The Enclave and Mount Vineyard for an Affordable Housing Trust Fund: Not yet spent.
    - Approved Fairfax Gateway and Scout on the Circle with commitments for 24<sup>1</sup> and 48<sup>2</sup>, and affordable units, respectively: None yet ready for occupancy.
    - Approved Paul VI redevelopment with no commitments for affordable housing.
    - No affordable housing zoning ordinance has been adopted: Mired in multiple work sessions.
- A. How will you ensure the city turns this trend around in the next two years?
- B. Will you approve:
- a. The affordable housing zoning ordinance?
  - b. Fairfax Presbyterian Church affordable townhouse project?

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<sup>1</sup> 24 units affordable to households with income not more than 60% area median income (AMI)

<sup>2</sup> 20 units affordable at 60% AMI and 24 at 80% AMI

- c. Use of the West Drive property yard for affordable housing?
  - C. What should the city do with the \$825,000 affordable housing trust fund?
  - D. What other measures would you support that ensure that people who work in the city (including city staff, teachers, fire fighters, police officers, health care workers) can afford to live in the city?
- 8. CUE annual ridership is now roughly 600,000, down from 645,000 in 2018. Improving bus service can relieve traffic congestion, help city businesses retain employees who use and depend on transit, connect more Mason students and staff to the city and its businesses, and reduce pollution. What are your ideas about improving bus service and increasing ridership?