

# 2009 SPPACE QUESTIONNAIRE

Jane Bott Childrey  
Charlotte City Council District 6

1. **What are the top three issues our community needs to address? How would you propose to tackle these issues?**

Job Creation, Road funding, Community Safety. Work with City EDC, State and Federal Agencies, as well as, the Chamber of Commerce to help small businesses with sustainability, growth, and entrepreneurship as a way to encourage local hiring. As well as, continue to recruit companies to Charlotte. City has 4 proposed measures for roads: ½ cent sales tax increase, 100% increase in Vehicle Registration Fee, mileage tax, and toll roads. Toll road only viable option that allows choice use rather than mandated expense since it would only be in one lane on several Hwys. Option only if guaranteed large % of money collected stays in Charlotte w/out loopholes to use money for anything other than Charlotte transportation. Community Safety is vital to economic development. Keeping officers in the community and encouraging relationships and trust between community and CMPD.

2. **Do you support the adoption and use of transfer taxes and/or impact fees as a way to overcome budget shortfalls? Why or why not?**

No. We need to work within our budget and trying to cripple an already beleaguered industry will cause our economy to stay weak longer.

3. **How do you believe Charlotte should fund school capital costs, parks, roads, transit, police and fire protection needs for the city? Should purchasers of new homes be responsible for funding these services for the entire city? Do you believe that these types of proposals are a fair way to pay for required services to existing taxpayers?**

Mecklenburg County Taxes pays for schools capital costs and parks. Highway trust fund is designed to pay for state roads. Plan to help build stronger relationship with Raleigh and explore toll road option which allows choice by the tax payer to use the lane or not. This should pay for our transit needs. Fire and Police are a city taxpayer expense as part of public safety and vital to every citizen. Purchasers of new homes should not fund the entire cost of these services.

4. **How would you encourage our community's economic growth while including a variety of housing types and prices?**

The city has several programs to encourage developers to build workforce housing , affordable and mixed income housing. I will continue to support these programs.

5. **Recently adopted ordinances and policies have increased development costs and as a result will increase prices for office, industrial and retail space, as well as housing. What could be done to lower development costs in order to prevent families and businesses from relocating across county lines?**

Development costs could be reduced by streamlining the permitting and rezoning process. The longer the process takes, the more expensive which means the more money a developer has to take out of a project or raise the cost per sq. ft. and the more

money the staff spends. Try working real hard with the city staff to emphasize the impact they have on a projects success and the quicker it moves through, the more money the developer can leave in the project. As well as, a completed project produces income whether in property taxes or sales/income tax from retail sales and jobs.

6. **Charlotte's City Council sets priorities but staff controls work flow. How would you ensure that staff remains, per city code, focused on Council goals and provides a wide variety of solutions to address Council's priorities?**

As a councilwoman, it is imperative to be solution oriented and when we see projects are singularly focused and additional options are not raised, to raise them. Follow up, Follow up, Follow up. Also imperative to not brow beat city staff but create a strong partnership.

7. **Would you support a cost/benefit analysis for existing and proposed land use regulations in order to ensure that the purported benefits outweigh their negative impacts on economic development and housing affordability?**

I would listen to all sides and then determine what would be in the best interest of the city.