

2009 SPPACE QUESTIONNAIRE

Patrick Cannon
Charlotte City Council At-Large

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

- Economy – I would concentrate on business development, job creation, and business retention.
- Public Safety – I would address a “growth” to safeguard neighborhoods / businesses given we only have 1,640 sworn officers to serve approximately 900,000 people.
- Roads/Transportation – Through proper budgeting and planning I would meet these needs.

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. Everyone should pay their fair share. My answer nor record hasn't changed in the twelve years that I've gotten this question.

3. How do you believe Charlotte should fund school capital costs, parks, roads, transit, police and fire protection needs for the city?

They should be funded through the appropriate governing entity and revenue source they are getting it through whether it's bonds, the general fund, or half-cent fees or other related fees.

Should purchasers of new homes be responsible for funding these services for the entire city?

No.

Do you believe that these types of proposals are a fair way to pay for required services to existing taxpayers?

The fair way is to have roundtable dialogue to determine the best possible solution to address the needs.

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

Voluntary density bonuses and other incentives would be an idea. However, I'd ask Mayor and Council to appoint a Public/Private Taskforce; a designee from the Housing Trust Fund, Housing Partnership, Charlotte Housing Authority, REBIC, the Chamber of Commerce and the Charlotte Regional Partnership to visit the issue and make recommendations.

- 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?**

Typically what happens is that added expense is passed on to the renter/dweller of the space or unit which causes a move. Based upon measured impact findings on the cause and effect of these policies, I would support revisiting those policies such that we don't lose residents or businesses.

- 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?**

By setting forth true expectations, making it clear and concise to achieve the desired outcome. If the City Manager/staff isn't given concise direction, you run the risk of not receiving a variety of solutions to meet necessary goal(s). I would be clear and direct to control the flow of business.

- 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?**

Absolutely.