

# 2009 SPPACE QUESTIONNAIRE

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**Indian Trail City Council**

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

1. Jobs the economy and small business: It is obvious when reading our local ordinances that pertain to business/commercial; that they were not authored by anyone that had to meet a payroll or had to decide whether to pay the rent or the electric bill. I want these reviewed by people that know; not some bureaucrat. And how about enacting a few that actually help instead of hinder growth?
2. Municipal Security: We must have confidence in our emergency service providers, and we, as a community, must support them to the best of our fiscal ability to ensure that they have the most reliable tools available.

At this moment, I am going to speak to the ongoing debate about whether or not we should have our own police department. It is quite obvious that both sides are passionate about their opinions, but passion can be a dangerous thing if not tempered with logic.

While some may argue that this is a simple cost per capita decision, I would submit that when you call for 911, will the fact that your call is being responded to by the lowest cost responders make you feel secure?

What I have learned from my CERT (Citizens Emergency Response Team) training and my involvement with the FBI Citizens Academy is to maintain "Emotional Detachment." The conclusion I have come to is that we need an independent comprehensive nonbiased study. Having reviewed the UNCC study, there are some areas that were simply not addressed.

3. Green space & the environment: I have long dreamed of having our neighborhoods and adjoining municipalities connected by greenways, consisting of bike/pedestrian trails that are in turn connecting with the North Carolina Thread Trail and utilizing riparian buffers as an amenity; all being linked to a central hub that would be our "Municipal Park". There we could have an Amphitheatre with concerts in the park, fireworks and just some good ole American Fun. Being environmentally, conscious doesn't mean you can't enjoy your surroundings, it means that you need to be cognizant of your impact and this is very easily achieved by enlisting the help of experts, who I have had the opportunity to work with successfully in the past.

**2. Because of present economic realities, what changes do you propose to your town's policies and regulations?**

Revisit ordinances with a pro-business attitude.

**3. Do you believe your town should fund school capital costs, parks, roads, transit, police and fire protection needs for your town?**

Public Schools, Regional Parks, Public Roads, Mass Transit; No, everyone picks up the tab.  
Municipal Police and Fire; Yes.

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

No!

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

I believe in our case Union county it's a county problem. To penalize an individual industry is discriminatory at the very least.

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

Broaden our tax base with commercial growth. I'm not talking about fast food business but real significant job producing industry. This kind that could actually feed a family of four.

**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?**

Fire everyone in Raliegh. We've got the highest tax rate in the Southeast.

**6. 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 impact on economic development and housing affordability?**

Yes, as long as it was non-bias and done by a qualified professional that was well vetted. I've had enough feel good studies.