

## 2010 SPPACE Questionnaire

**GEORGE DUNLAP**

### **Candidates for the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners District 3**

- 1. What are the top three issues facing Mecklenburg County and how do you propose to address them?**

Three issues facing Mecklenburg County are Economic Development, Education and Community Safety. In an effort to address Economic Development, I have supported and continue to support business investment grants as a means of providing jobs in our community. After serving 13.5 on the School Board, I continue to support adequate funding for our schools, to ensure that our schools are strong institutions and lastly, we must continue to provide a safe community for all of our citizens, by continuing to adequately fund our criminal justice system.

- 2. In 2007, the North Carolina General Assembly authorized counties, subject to voter approval, the ability to impose an additional general fund revenue source (a .4% land transfer tax or a .25% sales tax). Do you support a .4% land transfer tax? Do you support a .25% sales tax? Please explain your answer.**

As an elected official, I have always maintained that no one entity should be responsible for providing the funding for our communities needs. I believe that the .25% sales tax would be the fairest means of generating additional revenue, if it becomes necessary.

- 3. It has recently been reported in the local media that Mecklenburg County faces an estimated budget shortfall of \$16 to \$60 million dollars in FY 2010-2011. How do you plan to address this issue?**

This shortfall remains a moving target as we approach the end of our physical year, I support the manager's current plan to reduce funding to many of the agencies that the county supports financially; however, I believe that it should be modified to address areas of the budget that could potentially negatively impact our public libraries and the services that we provide to our veterans.

- 4. Do you support Public-Private Partnerships for the construction of schools? Please explain your answer.**

I do support Public-Private Partnerships for school construction as a means of providing adequate space for our community's children and as a means of potentially making school facilities more readily available.

- 5. If the General Assembly authorized Mecklenburg County to hold a “Pennies for Progress” referendum similar to South Carolina’s, would you support putting the measure before voters? If yes, for what infrastructure projects (i.e. roads, schools, parks, libraries, courts, jails, etc.) would you advocate using the money?**

I would support putting the measure before the voters. If such a referendum would pass, prior to deciding how the funds should be spent, I would like to go through a process that would allow us to determine what the communities most pressing needs are and fund them accordingly. I personally think that roads are one of our community’s most pressing needs and one that is not currently funded by the county.

- 6. Are you in favor of the Mecklenburg County playing a role in incentivizing environmentally sustainable development? Please explain your answer.**

I support environmentally sustainable developments, however at present, my support for the county incentivizing development would be determined by how many jobs would be created and how the development helps our community grow or increases our tax base.