

Beaches Watch
2019 Duval Candidate Questions

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1. Interlocal Agreement:
 - a. What is your opinion of the interlocal agreement between Jacksonville and the three beaches municipalities?
I believe, that it is an excellent agreement and that it is working well. As there is no time established for periodic review, perhaps we may want to revisit the agreement every five or ten years. Perhaps it is worth a discussion.
 - b. Are there any changes to the agreements you would suggest?
No changes at this time.

2. Mayport Village:
 - a. What is your vision for the future of Mayport Village?
I see it as a destination, with mixed use development, and a working attractive waterfront.
 - b. What is your plan for bringing your vision to reality?
Continue to support helping fund, work with beaches officials.
 - c. Are you willing to vote for additional funding for dock construction and/or development costs in the Village of Mayport?
Absolutely. I support the funding for dock construction. And, I have already voted for the \$50,000 to draft a Master Plan.

3. Penman Road: Penman Road is a heavily utilized roadway by all the beaches communities and has a myriad of problem from traffic flow to pedestrian and bicycle safety. What is your plan to ensure that adequate planning and resources are dedicated to Penman Road?
I recognize that the Beaches Watch is advocating planning for Penman Road improvements, and I am willing to support funding to improve it.

4. Dredging the St. Johns River: Both the St. Johns Riverkeeper and U.S Army Corps of Engineers have stated that dredging the St. Johns River will increase storm surge and flooding at the beaches and Jacksonville without a mitigation plan in place. What mitigation plan, if any, would you support to protect the beaches communities and Jacksonville?
The dredging has begun with initial funding from the state and Federal government. I have asked the Jacksonville Port Authority to provide a quarterly report to each city council member on the status of the water quality including any changes in the salinity or pollution of the water. They are providing such a report.
I believe we must be prepared for endangerment to our river, and support adequate funds for mitigation. These funds must come from various sources including the port.

5. Resiliency:

- a. How would you support the beaches communities in their efforts to address resiliency and sea level rise?

The city of Jacksonville has two important resiliency studies presently underway. Both are due to be completed by June 30, 2019. This report should provide recommendations of any and all technology and engineering expertise to immediately address the resiliency issue as well as the sea level rise.

Currently the Jacksonville Public Works Department recognizes current methods that are available including raising the height of our bulkheads, adding new pumps, perhaps changing standards and regulations for development, replacing and removal of septic tanks, among others.

I believe in climate change. I also know that 100 year events like our recent hurricanes, Matthew and Irma can cause much severe water damage, and rising seas. We still must be prepared for other causes as well.

- b. Would you support City of Jacksonville Continued funding of beach renourishment as, as a result of disaster, City of Jacksonville funding of dune restoration?

I have already supported funding (as this is my first term on the council) for beach renourishment as well as Dune restoration. I will continue to do so as needed.

When I served in the legislature (12 years), I supported, and we received beach renourishment funds from the state and federal governments. This occurred on a regular basis.

6. What, if anything, would you do to improve the City of Jacksonville's communication and relationship with the beaches municipalities?

It is important that the City of Jacksonville always has strong and open communication with the beaches municipalities. Our relationship with the beaches, and the county's success in continuing to improve our quality of life should always be healthy and sustained.

7. Beach Visitors: Spring and Summer holidays, especially July 4th, bring far greater number of people to the Beaches, straining the resources of all three communities. What suggestions do you have for Jacksonville to assist the communities in shouldering that burden?

We should and do assist, as our success as a city can be no stronger than our success as a team.

8. July 4th Fireworks: Will you support continued funding assistance of \$25,000 by the City of Jacksonville for the July 4th Fireworks at Jacksonville Beach?

Yes. I have supported the \$25,000 funding since I was elected to the City Council.

9. Other Issues: What other specific issues that affect the beach communities top your priority list?

I would like to see our Jacksonville Beaches Pier be enhanced and better utilized. My family and I enjoy fishing on the pier, and I think it can be a tourist destination similar to other great piers around the state.