

Beaches Watch 2019 Duval Candidate Questions

Candidate Name: Darren A Mason Sr

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1. Interlocal Agreement:

a. What is your opinion of the interlocal agreements between Jacksonville and the three beaches municipalities?

b. Are there any changes to the agreements you would suggest?

The agreements should be treated as living documents; constantly measured to adjust to ensure effectiveness and equitability.

2. Mayport Village:

a. What is your vision for the future of Mayport Village?

b. What is your plan for bringing your vision to reality?

I would like to see this community grow from community members and their vision. Utilizing area businesses to develop a strong community-based partnership.

c. Are you willing to vote for additional funding for dock construction and/or development costs at the Village of Mayport?

Capital improvements should be planned and incorporated into the city's budget. I would support ideas that provide clear goals that develop local economy while including preservation and support to all of our diverse communities.

3. Penman Road: Penman Road is a heavily utilized roadway by all the beaches communities and has a myriad of problems 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 would encourage and support area initiatives that work to correct and to mitigate these conditions.

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 St Johns Riverkeeper has suggested the implementation of a Chief Resiliency Officer, I support this plan of action.

5. Resiliency:

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

I would help to pass a bill created to provide a fact based strategic solution with a future thinking focus.

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

Yes.

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

I will hold town halls.

7. Beach Visitors: Spring and Summer holidays, especially July 4th, bring a great 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?

Our current existing City resources should be used in concert with a JTA partnership to develop a walkable vision underpinning visitor development while reducing our carbon and human impact.

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.