

Mary Martin: Answers to the DBIA all candidates.

1. Public transit and transportation issues are one of the most important issues we have in the city of Surrey. My priority for transit would be the development of linking our town centers with at grade light rail, supporting the new funding for TransLink so that they can provide more services to our region, and making sure that we can provide options for our commuters to get around Surrey as well as other parts of the region.

2. Surrey has the highest population of children and youth in the Province. Our role as Council is making sure that this population has the infrastructure to support their needs. Providing them a good education, providing them with amenities like recreation centers, libraries, pools, youth parks, and other services for which they can be active, participatory and allow them to grow in a safe community.

3. We have many areas particularly through our Parks and Recreation programs at all of our Rec centers. Activities such as the Youth forum, allowing our youth to actually participate and give us feedback so that we may create services and activities they would like to have within the city. We have built many state of the arts facilities across the city for our young and growing community. Our festivals, such as Fusion, Winterfest, Canada Day celebrations, movie under the stars, Surrey Children's festival to name a few have provided our youth with much needed fun and activities. They can also be great learning tools. We also have formed a youth advisory committee who are instrumental to involving youth.

4. We have an extensive public consultation process in fact over 38 groups that is used in every decision made for our community. Being out in our community and meeting with the public is very important to me, being able to speak with one on one. I have an open door policy where I make myself available anytime. The city also provides needed information to the public by our now award winning website and publishing through the newspapers.

5. 6. 7. I have combined these answers to your questions as I would be repeating myself. We must be very proud of our beautiful signature Library. I am really looking forward to moving the city hall into the downtown area for a number of reasons. Not only will it provide a fabulous public space, a space for arts, children, families to enjoy but will be an iconic building. I whole heartedly support the creation of a Performing Arts center and I also believe we need a hotel/convention center as the city downtown core grows. We have the most comprehensive construction program in the city's history and I am so looking forward to the opening of the new Senior's center at Chuck Bailey Rec center and to the expansion of SFU. \$850 million dollars has been or will be in the near future invested in new construction and projects still in the planning stages. Downtown Surrey will be the place to live, work and play. I see it has a vibrant, economically stable, family oriented city center. It's also crucially important that we keep our taxes low.

8. Making sure that we continue to develop our community policing stations, having our volunteers on the street, being very proactive in our housing initiatives. Our Crime Reduction strategy has shown that crimes are down and the strategy is working. I want to maintain the vision of our council to keep our streets safe and our businesses free of crime.

9. As Chair of Parks Recreation and Arts committee over the last number of years I have appreciated more and more how it is important to have the facilities in place for not only our children, our youth and

our seniors to have access to. This is part of our crime reduction strategy but also how you build upon a healthy community. A healthy, fit and happy family is crucial to their success. And what's vitally important to our community is the exposure to our arts. We have so many talented and creative arts people in our city that I have been honored to meet and see their wears. So my focus will be to build a performing arts center, making sure that our recreation center is a viable center for all and I am sure that our seniors are going to love their new space at Chuck Bailey as it will meet their needs to have an active and social presence.

10. I will always support a public consultation when it comes to important decisions made. Whether that includes the moving and more importantly replacing a Rec center. We know that in the long range plan for North Surrey Rec Center is to replace the arenas. However no location has been identified at this time. So for the next while it will remain as is and we look to see how the redevelopment in the city center takes place and will assess in the near future the needs of the community. I want to see a vibrant and growing community in the downtown core and that will mean better access to sports services. As I mentioned before our children and youth and seniors are my primary focus on what services the city can provide them with the best opportunities for programs.

11. There a number of priorities that I want to focus on over the next three years. Safe streets, developing a vibrant and inclusive town center, advocating for a better transit system where all of our town centers can connect, completion of two new swimming pools, one in Guildford and one in Grandview Heights, developing at grade light rail across the King George Boulevard, making sure that we have job creation so that our families have a safe, happy place to live and work, preserving our parks and green spaces, advocating for a community court as I have seen first hand in New York how effective and successful they are. All the while keeping our tax dollars low and making sure that we are all accountable for our decisions. Maybe more than five!

I so appreciate the DBIA for giving this opportunity to answers these questions and to know how much I love my city and the citizens that reside in our city.