

Downtown Surrey BIA
Questions for Council Candidates 2018

Becky Zhou

1. What makes you think you are qualified to run as councillor?
I am a successful business person knows what a balance sheet is and I Am able to comprehend profits and losses. I am able to prepare a budget and monitor projects throughout a fiscal year. As well I am a people-oriented person, as well as being a good listener. Making decisions and working as part of a team comes naturally to me.
2. What skills do you bring to Council if you are elected?
As a top 1% Realtor my experience in getting and retaining clients is done through hard work, marketing, financial discipline, and negotiations. All of these skills are transferable in running a business or being a business leader. Making decisions around Real Estate, construction and land use is also knowledge that I have that should also be considered in helping run a city. Life skills I have retained make me an advocate for crime reduction and public safety.
3. In your opinion, what do you think is the most positive thing that has happened in Surrey recently that makes you proud to live in here? Even after tragedy in my life the People of Surrey have come out to support me in so many ways and from far and wide amongst the different ethnic communities that live in our great city.
4. Are you committed to a strong City Centre and the creation of a vibrant Downtown core? What is your strategy and commitment to business - arts – culture – technology and community in Downtown Surrey?
Building a downtown city core is very important to the mindset of or people and the businesses it serves. Having arts, culture, and technology companies that will settle their business there is important for the entire region. Job growth brings stability to our community. Because of where we sit in the region showing companies the benefits of setting up business here should be showcased here and abroad. By promoting and showcasing Surrey Downtown hub As Surrey is advantage of downtown hub with a lot lower cost of land and operation cost, for major company , and with so close to the 2 USA Border, Surrey Port, And a lot of industrial used for large company to grow.
5. The Downtown Surrey Business Improvement Association had advocated for the past five years for a professionally managed purpose-built shelter in Surrey. What is your commitment to have this project move forward?
A short term shelter is important to keep people safe for a short period of time. Keeping our communities safe is the most important item in my point of view. Keeping our parks available for family and community use is very important for building an inclusive society, therefore the use of short term and long term facilities should be of the utmost of importance.
6. What do you see as the top five issues facing Surrey?
Crime, housing affordability, transit and transportation, homelessness and Opiod crisis.

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7. We know there is always a debate between perception and reality. Everyone wants a safe place to live and do business. What is your strategy to deal with the root causes of crime?
No call to small for the Police to look at everything that is a criminal issue. Crime starts with small things and can lead into larger and more violent crime. More police on the streets, having the same amount of Police per capita as Vancouver should be implemented right away. Having a public and Private oversight board on Policing matters is important for public perception as well as transparency in the Police force.

8. Do you support child care space in private developments?
Yes, we need as much affordable child care spaces that will be close to families so that we don't lose skilled work force due to family concerns in raising their children. Keeping accessible space for families to have their children being taken care of close to home is the most useful for time and transportation for the family.

9. How should requests for decreased amenity space in new residential or mixed-use developments (both indoor and outdoor) be addressed by the City?
I am unsure of this question. If you are asking if developers should give back for the building area of which they are developing then the answer is yes. If a new development is a great place to live for people then it will also make the property more valuable, so this is common sense to me.

10. The temporary modular housing is scheduled to be removed from the locations in Downtown Surrey in two years. Do you support the City's housing strategy that moves people from the current temporary housing into supportive housing throughout the City? If not, what is your solution?
This is a very tough situation, most of these people are not going to want to move, what do we do with them if they decide they will stay in the downtown core and move into tents again? Truly it might come down to tough love, if we are finding people using drugs and being saved from First responders repeatedly, these people should go to treatment centres for rehabilitation.
If some would like to move to other parts of the city that have no drug addiction uses then this is a viable solution. Of course this is good situation for those people, some of them need care, and or have mental health issues so being displaced from the criminal aspect and be prayed upon by the crime in that community. This is a good first step for a healthier living situation were proper care and attention can go towards being a contributor into society.

11. How would you make Council decisions more transparent?
With the issues concerning was passed and the proposed modular housing decisions , Perhaps even LRT were moved forward without Public consultations. These should have web-based platforms for people to have input into decisions, as well as public consultations via downhill

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meetings or through Business Associations speaking directly to council. All things voted on should be shown how they were voted on and by who passed or rejected what votes.

12. What do you think is the priority for public transit South of the Fraser? What do you support?
Skytrain should be the major concern for the South of the Fraser region. Having an intercity link system will only slow down the goods and services moving on the streets. It might make sense to have a line down King George as it is wide enough and could move people efficiently. But again the public was obviously not consulted enough from the backlash we are hearing in the city and region shows this to be true. I think a good hard second look at these projects and feasibility should be the first thing elected officials should look at.