

## Questions for City Council Candidates May 2009

**Open government** What are your ideas for making city government open and accountable?

**Growth** What city in the U.S. has done a good job of managing growth? What impresses you the most about that city's management plan? What are your ideas for managing growth in Rapid City?

**City-County Cooperation** What are your ideas about working with the Pennington County Commission to ensure the best possible growth practices and stewardship of the land and resources we share with the county? How can the historic divisions between the two bodies be overcome?

**Recycling** How can the city improve its recycling program? Would you support a city tax on plastic bags used to carry purchases from store to car?

**Energy** How can the city conserve energy and shift to renewable sources of energy? Does the city have an energy management plan and to what extent do you support it?

**Water** How can the city protect the creek and the aquifers from pollution? What can the city do to conserve water? How will the city address EPA requirements to control drainage into Rapid Creek?

**Floodplain** What is your view on construction in the 500-year floodplain? How can we provide more parking for Civic Center events without paving more of the floodplain?

**Ducks** How should the city control the overpopulation of ducks and geese in the parks?

**Non-discrimination** How would you improve city relationships with the Native American community? How would you support the work of the Human Relations Committee?

**Education** How would you work cooperatively with public and private schools in the city?

**Health** Would you support a city tax on beverages containing sugar?

**Arts** Is the city doing enough to support the arts, culture, and historic preservation? What more needs to be done?

**Streets** Are you satisfied with the condition of city streets? Ideas for improvement?

**Transportation** What ideas do you have for promoting the use of public transportation? How can the city be more friendly toward cyclists and pedestrians?

**Taxation** Do you support the use of TIFs to increase sales tax revenue? Would you support an increase in property taxes if the city needs revenue to provide public services? Would you consider removing the sales tax on food?

**Wages** How will you encourage businesses to pay wages that can sustain a family in this city?

**Accomplishments** (for candidates running for re-election) What are the city issues you have proudly and successfully promoted?

**Other** What other comments would you like to make?

