

QUESTIONS		The Chamber	CANDIDATES FOR CHAPEL HILL TOWN COUNCIL								CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR OF CHAPEL HILL		
			Erik Valera	Theodore Nollert	Amy Ryan	Melissa McCullough	Breckany Teal Eckhardt	Jon Mitchell	Renuka Soll	David Adams	Elizabeth Sharp	Jess Anderson	Adam Searing
Q1. Do you think Chapel Hill is growing too quickly?		No	No	No	No	No	No Response	No	No	Unsure	Response did not conform with instructions	No	Response did not conform with instructions
Q2. Chapel Hill has more than twice the number of jobs than it has workers, and 85% of jobs are filled by people who drive in from outside of Chapel Hill. Do you think that increasing the supply of housing in Chapel Hill is necessary to mediate the job and worker availability imbalance in the Town?		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Response did not conform with instructions	Yes	Response did not conform with instructions
Q3. Do you think increasing the supply of housing, and variety of types of housing, are key strategies for increasing housing affordability in Chapel Hill?		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Response did not conform with instructions	Yes	Response did not conform with instructions
Q4. Would you support a collaboration between Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Orange County, and The Chamber to fund a director of minority business success to connect Black, Latinx, and refugee-owned businesses to the resources to need to grow and/or start in Greater Chapel Hill-Carrboro?		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Response did not conform with instructions
Q5. Do you support the strategic use of incentives to attract new enterprises to Chapel Hill?		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Response did not conform with instructions	Yes	Response did not conform with instructions
Q6. Do you support allocating additional Town resources to improve the talent pipeline and address local skills gaps to meet employer needs?		Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Q7. Do you support increasing density in downtown Chapel Hill and along transit corridors?		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Unsure	Yes	Yes	
Q8. Will you allocate additional resources and prioritize improving the speed, responsiveness, and ease of use of business-facing municipal services such as permitting and inspections?		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Q9. Are you committed to actively seeking and incorporating the voice of local business in policy decisions and will you make affirmative efforts to increase business representation on Town boards and commissions?		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Q10. In general, do you believe that parking should be considered an element of public infrastructure (like roads, sidewalks, and transit) and that local government should play a role in creating and managing it?		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Q11. Do you support allocating the full value Downtown Special District Tax to the Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership?		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Unsure	No Response	Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Response did not conform with instructions
Q12. Do you support modifying the 2001 Water and Sewer Management, Planning, and Boundary Agreement to allow the extension of water and sewer down 15-501 to the Chatham County border to enable the development of multifamily housing along that transit corridor?		Yes	Yes	Yes	Unsure	No	No Response	Unsure	No	No	Response did not conform with instructions	Yes	Response did not conform with instructions
SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS	Erik Valera	Theodore Nollert	Amy Ryan	Melissa McCullough	Breckany Teal Eckhardt	Jon Mitchell	Renuka Soll	David Adams	Elizabeth Sharp	Jess Anderson	Adam Searing		
What is your vision for Chapel Hill's economy and what is one legislative change you would make to achieve it?	I envision promoting Chapel Hill to the world for being a multicultural, multilingual, business friendly environment with a rich quality of life. I support strengthening small business grant programs prioritizing minority led businesses.	A 12-month economy depends on getting more of our 44k commuters to live here. Legislative change: enable LIHTC developers to apply for approvals in January and receive an answer by mid-May. That would increase funding for affordable housing.	I'd keep the momentum going on building a 12-month downtown, using our edge in life sciences to bring new businesses, provide good jobs, and support retailers. Success will come from vision, partnership, and planning more than legislation.	I want us to diversify and re-localize our economy, so spent dollars will bounce around town instead of leaving. Legislatively, our new LUMO should make it easier to build incremental development by local businesses on smaller properties.	We must listen to our top representatives in local business, unions, and educational institutions to understand the best practices and plans for our economy. Sec. 5-122. should increase LEED from silver to Certified and ideally Energy Star Certified.	I'm running to implement the Complete Community framework, which is explicitly about economic competitiveness. It will make CH both more affordable and more vibrant, which ultimately helps local employers attract and retain workers and customers.	Chapel Hill needs to diversify its tax base and grow & support businesses. One way is to support small businesses by providing funding through a revolving loan fund and providing free seminars on best business practices to help them succeed.	Restore balance to residential versus commercial development. The Blue Hill goal was 60% residential, 40% commercial. We got all residential. Why? We should use our zoning power (and incentives) to increase commercial use in new developments.	Chapel Hill's economy depends on our marketability as a great place to live. To that end, every physical and legislative change we make in Chapel Hill must prioritize independent business and a diverse, connected community.	An economy that blends different-sized businesses, is powered by innovation and leverages UNC strengths. I'd develop job training programs with UNC, Durham Tech and CHCCS so residents could find local jobs and businesses could easily find talent.	We need to revitalize our downtown as a key component of economic development. I enthusiastically support continuing our effort to build more housing downtown like the the new 150 unit apartment project with over 3,000 square feet of new retail.		
What are 3 things you will do to make Chapel Hill a better place to grow and start a business?	1) Comprehensivley addressing housing affordability. 2) Strengthening partnerships with UNC to develop entrepreneurs and start up businesses. 3) Invest in developing our local talent.	1) Increase urban density (and thus consumers). 2) Increase ease of access (structured parking, walking/biking/ busing, wayfinding). 3) Encourage new events and more event coordination between the Town and the university (summer music festivals, Kenan events).	1) See Above. 2) Keep executing on Complete Community and our affordable housing policy, so more people can live here and work locally. 3) Encourage new developments to provide small/ affordable retail spaces for young businesses.	1) Create engaging civic spaces and sidewalk spaces in each business district (BD) so people want to hang out. 2) Attract more walkers and cyclists to BDs, as they spend more. 3) Create a facility for pop-ups to foster entrepreneurs.	1) Prioritize environmentally responsible and local developers. 2) Create traffic Infrastructure ahead of development and connect greenways. 3) Encourage dense housing to include bottom floor retail, local business, and event spaces.	1) Approve diverse housing and commercial development projects (see my Planning Commission voting record). 2) Make the development approval process more streamlined and predictable. 3) Rapidly increase greenway connectivity to downtown and elsewhere.	1) Support local businesses. Don't displace them needlessly. 2) Make it easy to access businesses by adding more bus stops, connecting trails to business centers, etc. 3) Use incentives to attract businesses to Chapel Hill.	1) Partner with local startups so they can stay in town. 2) Partner with the Chamber to address the current high rent situation that drives local business out of town. 3) Prioritize businesses who demonstrate a commitment to our community.	1) Create an online permitting "portal" to get new businesses off the ground. 2) Insist on development and transit design that is conducive to small business. 3) Fund the public services that make life in Chapel Hill attractive to employees and employers.	1) Simplify regulations, streamline permitting & inspections. 2) Quickly move forward on the downtown mobility & streetscape plan. 3) Support workforce/ affordable housing so businesses can attract/ find local talent.	1) Work with new federal funding to complete our N/S Bus Rapid Transit line. 2) Simplify business permitting. 3) Prioritize locally-owned businesses in our planning as we grow, especially downtown.		