

**JIM MONAHAN
2009 CAMPAIGN
RE-ELECTION TO VENTURA CITY COUNCIL**

**DOWNTOWN VENTURA PARTNERS
2009 VENTURA CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

- 1. AGGRESSIVE PANHANDLING AND VAGRANCY HAVE PROFOUNDLY DETRIMENTAL AFFECTS ON DOWNTOWN VENTURA’S ECONOMIC VITALITY, SAFETY AND QUALITY OF LIFE. WHAT SPECIFIC STEPS WILL YOU PROPOSE TO ENSURE LAWS REGARDING THESE BEHAVIORS ARE ENFORCED, AND HOW WOULD YOU FUND IT?**
 - a. The City needs to increase the foot patrol in downtown Ventura and enforce the vagrancy laws. Hopefully from the ½ cent sales tax.
 - b. Re-open the police storefront in downtown, preferably inside the parking structure.

- 2. WILL YOU SUPPORT THE CITY’S CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE DOWNTOWN PROPERTY-BASED BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT? WHY OR WHY NOT?**
 - a. Yes. I made the Motion at a City Council meeting to approve the resolution to start the “Property-based Business Improvement District” and it passed with a unanimous vote.

- 3. ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF BUILDING OTHER PARKING STRUCTURES IN DOWNTOWN? AND, IF SO, WHERE WOULD YOU SUGGEST THEY BE LOCATED AND HOW WOULD YOU FUND IT?**
 - a. Yes, and have been for many, many years. The location should be the original proposed site on City property behind Jonathans next to Candlelight and the old American Legion.

- 4. WHAT’S YOUR POSITION ON THE ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS PROHIBITING DRUG DEALING IN OUR DOWNTOWN? AND HOW WOULD YOU FUND ENHANCED ENFORCEMENT?**
 - a. Drug dealing is illegal throughout the City and should be enforced downtown the same as the rest of the City; we need more cops.

- 5. WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE “SLEEPING IN CARS” PILOT PROGRAM?**
 - a. We should not change our current Ordinance. We need to give the Police the tools they need to enforce the law. Sleeping in cars should only be allowed on Faith-based properties, with a conditional use permit, without any fee.

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6. WOULD YOU SUPPORT THE FUNDING OF POLICE FOOT AND BIKE PATROLS IN DOWNTOWN AND ON THE PROMENADE? AND IF SO, HOW WOULD YOU FUND THEM?

A. YES. WITH THE 1/2C SALES TAX.

7. WHAT SPECIFIC ACTIONS WOULD YOU PROPOSE TO ENCOURAGE NEW RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS THE RELOCATION OF NEW BUSINESSES TO DOWNTOWN?

A. SPEED UP THE PROCESS OF PERMITTING AND LOWER FEES.

8. DO YOU THINK LARGE-SCALE EVENTS PREVIOUSLY FULLY FUNDED BY THE CITY, SUCH AS ARTWALK AND THE HOLIDAY STREET FAIR, SHOULD BE RESTORED? AND IF SO, HOW WOULD YOU FUND THEM?

A. YES. BY OUR GENERAL FUND

9. WITH THE STATE RAIDING MUNICIPAL COFFERS, HOW WILL IT IMPACT DOWNTOWN OPERATIONS THAT ARE CURRENTLY FUNDED BY THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY? WHAT WILL YOU DO TO FUND THOSE OPERATIONS ONCE OUR LOCAL FUNDING IS DEPLETED?

A. RE-START THE SAME PROJECT AREAS.

10. WOULD YOU SUPPORT THE CITY OR THE COUNTY PURCHASING THE FAIRGROUNDS FROM THE STATE? AND IF SO, HOW COULD IT BE DONE?

A. NO. THE SEASIDE PARK WILL REMAIN AS IS EVEN IF THE FAIR DECIDES TO MOVE. IT HAS BEEN TRIED BEFORE AND FAILED IN COURT. I AM A MEMBER OF THE VENTURA COUNTY FAIR BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF FAIRGROUND IMPROVEMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT.

11. ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF LIMITING “BIG BOX” STORES (LIKE WALMART, IKEA, ETC.) THROUGHOUT THE CITY, PER THE BALLOT MEASURE?

A. YES

12. WHAT SPECIFIC ACTIONS WOULD YOU RECOMMEND TO STREAMLINE THE PLANNING PROCESS?

A. LET THE PLANNING DIRECTOR, JEFF LAMBERT , DO HIS JOB. I AM SURE THE PROCESS IS GOING TO IMPROVE.