

8/23/2006

Dear Candidate,

People Power is a bicycle advocacy organization in Santa Cruz County. To allow our members and the bicycling community at large to make an informed decision in November, we are distributing this 2-page questionnaire to candidates.

We will publish an analysis of your positions of bicycling and transportation issues in our newsletter that will reach at least 1,000 readers. The People Power Steering committee may endorse a candidate for a particular office. If we do so, we will inform the press and accept your sign for our downtown office.

We sincerely thank you for taking time to answer. We're sending this to you via paper and e-mail and welcome your response in either form. Please reply soon to the address above or email it to peoplepower@santacruzhub.org. Only questionnaires received by Tuesday, August 29th at 5PM will be included in our published results. Feel free to attach anything further you'd like us to know.

1. A. The county has expressed its support for a Rail Trail along the railway from Santa Cruz to Watsonville. Do you support this trail? If you support this trail, how do you envision creating it as soon as possible? How much do you think it will cost? Where will we get the money? How long will it take?

B. Do you support passenger train service between Santa Cruz and Pajaro?
If yes, what kind of service do you envision and what will you do to make it happen?
2. A. Do you support plans to widen Highway 1 between Santa Cruz and Watsonville?
What effect do you think widening the Highway would have on county land use and development? Would it reduce traffic congestion? If so, for how long?

B. Do you support the auxiliary lane project which would extend the current merge lane project out to Soquel? If not, what will you do to defeat this or other attempts to widen Highway 1?
3. For almost a decade now the city has planned to put in a bicycle connection from Broadway to Brommer. Do you support the city's latest plan for this connection?

Yes No Additional comments?

4. City residents are worried about more cars and more car trips generated by a potentially expanding University. What will you do to insure that there is not an exponential increase of cars and car trips related to University expansion?
5. Do you support bicycle boulevards as a traffic calming/bicycle advocacy measure?
(To make a bicycle boulevard, automobile traffic is blocked at strategic points while allowing bicycle and pedestrian traffic to go through—a good example is Bryant Street in Palo Alto.)
Would you support creating bicycle boulevards on Pine, King, or Cayuga Streets?
6. The city council has given staff direction to extend the river levee under Highway 1 to the Tannery Project. The bicycle portion of this project doesn't appear to be progressing quickly. What do you know about the current status of this project? If you are on city council, how would you work with staff to make sure that this and other projects are implemented in a timely manner?
7. The parking of private vehicles on public and residential arterial streets is considered a right by many drivers and business owners. Parked cars often compete with bicyclists for road space and the opening of a car door into a bicyclist's path can result in a serious and common traffic accident. Would you support the removal of on-street parking where it will facilitate a safer space for cyclists?
8. What steps would you take to promote bicycling and bicyclist's safety? What improvements are you prepared to champion? How?
9. How will people transport themselves in Santa Cruz twenty years from now in light of global warming and depletion of oil supplies (peak oil)? What policies and actions would you support to help the community face the consequences of climate change and decreased availability of fossil fuels?
10. How do you transport yourself?

Thank you for your time.