

Local Municipal Election Saanich BC

Posted by admin

Tuesday, 16 October 2018 21:56 - Last Updated Friday, 19 October 2018 11:17

I asked the Saanich Municipal 2018 candidates for Mayor and Councilors these two questions. Following the questions are their responses. Only the candidates listed here responded.

"I have two election questions for each of you that concern me. Note that I may publish your responses including no responses. 1 - Have you located a property to put forward for government funding for homeless people and if not do you intend to do so?

2 - What action will you take to synchronize traffic lights?"

Candidate Responses.....*****

UPDATE: Oct 18 2018 from Richard Atewll

Just received this response which I think is of interest:

Richard Atewll Thu, 18 Oct 10:20 PM cc richard@richardatwell.ca Re: Candidate Questions

Hello Jim,
Answers below:

On Mon, September 24, 2018 10:35 pm, jawight@gmail.com wrote:

> Hi,
>
> I have two election questions for each of you that concern me. Note that
> I may publish your responses including no responses.
>
> 1 - Have you located a property to put forward for government funding for
> homeless people and if not do you intend to do so?

Yes, back in June 2018 I identified the former Emily Carr Library as a surplus building that BC Housing could use for modular supportive housing

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that should be investigated.

The council vote was 2-4 with only myself and Karen Harper in favour with 3 councillors not bothering to show up.

As the vote was only to investigate and not to actually repurpose I felt the decision short sighted.

Given that BC Housing rejected the "scrap of land" that Saanich did offer, I feel that we have simply wasted months as a result of a bad decision:

<https://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/saanich-land-rejected-for-modular-housing-project-1.23461383>

> 2 - What action will you take to synchronize traffic lights?

>

>

> Jim

>

>

> Saanich BC

Saanich does not use computers to manage traffic volumes. The boxes have the rack space for the equipment but as yet, there has been no proposal to install the equipment and coordinate the lights.

I would like to pursue this if re-elected and hope that I can count on your vote.

--

Richard Atwell

Mayor of Saanich

October 20 is Election Day in Saanich.

Please visit our website for more info:

<http://unitedforsaanich.ca> *****

Trevor Barry 4 Saanich ☐ Mon☐, ☐ 15☐ ☐ Oct ☐ 11☐ :☐ 43☐ ☐ PM Candidate Questions Hey Jim, I anonymised you - and I have also published in my policy library:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zSLBI4JP8eeih-G4OuZ-1dkjle-PVkdDDIPRcxs0tFU/edit?usp=sharing>

cheers, let me know if the technical terms are too thick!

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On Fri, Oct 12, 2018 at 6:27 PM <jawight...> wrote:

Hi, I have two election questions for each of you that concern me. Note that I may publish your responses including no responses. 1 - Have you located a property to put forward for government funding for homeless people and if not do you intend to do so?

-- may #SmartSaanich Policy Platform calls for local government to take over ownership, control, responsibility, liability and jurisdiction over the following transportation assets and adjacent properties currently owned by the ministry of highways:

... Douglas, Blanshard, Vernon, Ravine, and relevant segment of McKenzie.

... If this were to happen, then the land that some of the "campers" used as "tent city2" following evacuation of the Regina Park encampment - the triangle between Esso and Ravine - could be used for TEMPORARY modular housing.

(and even if the transportation asset transfer doesn't happen, this could still be a workable site, with cooperation with MoTI).

[keeping in mind, that the long term future of that land must certainly include redesigning multi-modal rights-of-way, in alignment with BC Transit (or future #SmartGrowth/Transp Authority) current plans for future BRT and LRT near current "switch bridge" (including Regina Park as well)

2 - What action will you take to synchronize traffic lights? -- Traffic signals are capital assets that need replacement (or elements do) according to a fully costed and risk-assessed capital asset management plan. Moreover these risks and plans should contemplate future needs and threats, e.g. autonomous vehicles and other disruptive mode choices, e.g. impacts of changing climate conditions, respectively.

-- "Synchronisation" as some people call it requires dynamic algorithms coded into the phase controller, perhaps remotely monitored and directed, in order to ensure not only smooth performance in variable peak demand period circumstances, but also such ways that does not exacerbate other traffic/engineering infrastructure, way finding, traffic control, etc., issues; and indeed does not perversely induce vehicular modal behaviour externalities.

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Thus - in both cases, the only SMART way to move forward is to first digitise all our corporate knowledge (gosh I hope that has already happened, but the lack of transparency on these issues is 'frank'ly embarrassing) and then publish it all in an #OpenData format (another plank of my policy platform).

From there, we could leverage knowledge and power from Big Data companies such as Google, in order to determine exactly what the most economically efficient implemented changes could and should be. e.g. via expanding "victoria" environmental insights:
<https://insights.sustainability.google/places/ChIjCwGw3Ytzj1QR7Ui7HnTz6Dg/transportation>

Vernon Lord

Mon, 15 Oct 5:01 PM to Jim Wight Re: Candidate Questions

Jim,

1) I have not proposed a property location yet I do believe that finding a location for a camp is most important and needed. 2) I have not given that any thought at this time. Vernon Lord
Saanich Council

Benjamin For Saanich Sun, 14 Oct 1:49 PM Re: Candidate Questions

Posted by admin

Tuesday, 16 October 2018 21:56 - Last Updated Friday, 19 October 2018 11:17

Hello Jim,

1 - Have you located a property to put forward for government funding for homeless people and if not do you intend to do so? I have not found property as of yet, I am always up for suggestions, and yes I intend to find several properties to be used. I want to get community input before we build anything and way the pros and cons of each potential property.

2 - What action will you take to synchronize traffic lights?

I want council to instruct staff to find ways to improve traffic flow throughout the municipality but in particularly along out main corridors as this is an easy way to reduce CO2 from idling vehicles, as well, reduced congestion will encourage drivers to use the main corridors not residential roads making it safer for everyone.

Benjamin Allan Running for my family and yours <https://allanben22.wixsite.com/saanich2018>

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Teale Phelps

Sun ,

Bondaroff

14 Oct 1 44 PM Re: Candidate Questions

Jim,

Thank you very much for your email and questions. With respect to locating property to offer to the provincial government to take advantage of funding and other projects offered by other levels of government, I have proposed a number of possibilities. I am not currently on council, and as such am not aware of all of the different sites which may have been offered or considered. There ought to be acceptable Saanich land available, and if zoning is an impediment, we should re-zone. This is something that council should have done a year ago. There is plenty of Saanich land available, but even if this were not the case, a Council that was committed to being proactive on the issue would have found another solution. I proposed one: <https://www.saanichnews.com/letters/letter-innovative-policy-needed-to-tackle-housing-crisis/>

We could also partner with private land-owners, non-profits, and religious organizations to explore other land options.

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Regarding light synchronization, do you have a particular intersection in mind?

Thank you for your questions, Cheers,

Dr. Teale Phelps Bondaroff

Candidate for Saanich Council, 2018

www.teale.ca

778-678-8325

art@artpollard.ca Sat, 13 Oct 6:35 PM to RE: Candidate Questions

Hi Jim,

Thanks for the questions. Personally, I have not. We need to identify properties that are suitable for this.

I honestly, think it is the Provinces responsibility to do so with proper support by the Federal government.

Your second question is an engineering dept issue. I understand there is a technological

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advance that will allow that to occur.

I like the idea of better synchronizing the traffic flow. It has considerable merit.

Thank you for your query,

Yours sincerely,

Art

Elect Art Pollard, your independent voice for Saanich Council.

Ned Taylor | Fri, 12 Oct 3:42 PM to Re: Candidate Questions

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Hi Jim, Thank you for reaching out to me about these two important issues. I have provided my answers below:

1. When the tent city at Regina Park first formed, our provincial government offered to pay for modular housing, which could have been used to provide people living at tent city an option that could better suit their living needs. The District of Saanich was required to donate land that we own or lease for the province to provide that funding, which we did not do. I'm disappointed that our Saanich Councillors did not take advantage of this opportunity until a couple of weeks ago. If we had found suitable land to donate earlier, we would have been able to alleviate the situation, and modular housing could have already been under construction. You can see my full plan to address housing affordability here: <https://www.votened.org/housing>
2. It's crucial that our traffic lights are properly synchronized and timed so that we can ensure the best possible flow of traffic. I want to make our transportation system in Saanich and Greater Victoria work for all road-users. Part of doing this must include reducing traffic congestion.

Thank you again for getting in touch with me, if you'd like me to elaborate on any of these issues just let me know!

Take care,

Ned

--

Ned Taylor Candidate for Saanich Council & CRD 250-477-896

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Remember to vote on October 20th!

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[Click here for more information on voting](#)

Colin Plant Fri, 12 Oct 2018 : 5:57 PM to Re: Candidate Questions

Dear Jim

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Thank you for writing and asking these questions. Your second question is the first time I've been asked about synchronizing traffic lights.

- 1) Yes, several.
- 2) I would support this as part of our Active Transportation Plan which seeks to make transportation (both vehicular and human-powered) more efficient and safe. The situation especially on McKenzie needs attention and I would request staff do as much as possible to synchronize the lights.

If you'd like to discuss things further, please let me know.

Sincerely,

COLIN PLANT Saanich Councillor

Judy Brownoff Sat, 13 Oct

10:30 AM to Re: Candidate Questions

Hi Jim

1. We have. BC Housing has specific requirements ie must be already zoned. Then they evaluate the site for their needs. Unfortunately they turned down a site which was zoned and could have housed around 40 residents. There are Provincial lands in Saanich they could also look at.

2. The synchronizing of traffic lights in Saanich is always being looked at on major roads, but there are many issues, that may impact the flow. I did speak to Engineering and they continue to look at areas where improvement can happen.

Thanks for email.

Judy Brownoff

Fred Haynes Fri, 12 Oct 11:34 AM Re: reply: Candidate Questions

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Hello Jim

Thank you for your questions

1 - Have you located a property to put forward for government funding for homeless people and if not do you intend to do so? Yes.

2 - What action will you take to synchronize traffic lights? Take this up with staff.

Rebecca Mersereau Fri, 12 Oct
11:27 AM

Thank you for getting in touch! Re: Candidate Questions Hello, I'll do my best to get back to you personally as soon as I can - but I am getting a lot of emails at the moment! I'm also still trying to hold down a full-time job while running my election campaign for Saanich Council and the CRD. Fortunately October 20th is coming fast!

I have published some of my ideas for Saanich on the

[Vision](#)

page of my website, which may answer some of your questions. If you're interested in learning more about me and my qualifications for the role, please visit the

[About Me](#)

page.

Thank you very much for your interest in Saanich's future and my candidacy for a Council seat and CRD Director's chair.

--

Sincerely,

Rebecca Mersereau, *MSc, MPA Candidate*

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2018 Saanich Council & CRD Candidate

voterebecca.ca
