**Greater Pensacola Chamber**

**2020 Candidate Questionnaire**

**Pensacola City Council**

**Business Climate / Regulations Issues**

1. Rate the regulatory climate for business in Pensacola. Is it Good/Fair/Bad? Explain. **Being a professor at Pensacola State College I would certainly welcome the input of Pensacola business owners as to the regulatory climate in Pensacola and work with them to insure they are able to grow their businesses and the City of Pensacola.**
2. Provide any examples of how regulations have affected the life of city residents or businesses in a positive or negative way. **Regulations can have both positive and negative effects, what is important is that the citizenry is aware of regulations and that they have a say in their enactment and, if necessary, elimination.**
3. Name the top 3 specific city ordinances/regulations you would like to see eliminated. Explain why they should be eliminated. **I believe no ordinance should be eliminated or enacted without robust discussion and transparency. The citizens of Pensacola should be aware of what their government if doing before it is done. I would guarantee an open line of communication with my constituents.**
4. What can the city do to facilitate a more livable downtown environment that also attracts and caters to the interests of visitors? **I believe a more livable, walkable, and bikeable city that has catered to the residents of uptown, midtown, and downtown will naturally attract more visitors.**
5. What is your strategy to leverage the county’s interest in regards to state and federal funding opportunities? **I believe that the city’s, county’s, and state’s interests are all aligned in that they seek to improve the lives of their residents. By making Pensacola a better place to live we will naturally attract new visitor and new businesses. I will be available. I will listen. I will do my best to make that happen.**

**Economic Development Issues**

1. What role should city government take in attracting new businesses to the city? **The City should focus on improving the lives of its residents through infrastructure improvements, public safety, walkability, et cetera**
2. Which industries should the City of Pensacola should concentrate its business development/growth efforts? Be specific.
3. What should the city do with excess properties that it owns? Which properties should take priority? Do you believe certain city parks could be considered excess property?
4. What is your vision for Pensacola’s waterfront properties (i.e. Port of Pensacola, Community Maritime Park, Bruce Beach, Bayview Park)?
5. Tourism is an integral part of Pensacola’s economy. What are the top 3 ways that the city can add value for the Pensacola business community with respect to rebuilding tourism and nurturing a positive tourist experience in Pensacola post COVID-19?
6. What is your vision for the various commerce parks or potential sites throughout our community?
7. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, what do you believe the city did well and what could they have done better? Please be specific.

**Operations / Infrastructure Issues**

1. What do you consider to be the number one infrastructure concern for the City of Pensacola going forward, and how do you propose to address that concern?
2. Do you believe the city allocates sufficient resources for infrastructure projects? How would you prioritize these projects and fund them?
3. Do you see any overlap or duplication of services between the county and the city? If so, what services, and how could these services be consolidated?
4. There have been a number of joint government meetings over the past few years. What is your opinion of these meetings? What types of cooperative meetings would you like to see moving forward?
5. What would you change about the relationship between the Mayor’s Office and City Council (i.e. should the Mayor attend all city council meetings, etc.)?
6. What would your Five-Year Plan for the City of Pensacola look like?
7. What are your plans to increase affordable housing opportunities for city residents?

**Sheriff’s Race**

1. What would you say is the biggest public safety concern in Escambia County?
2. Do you feel the crime rate has increased or decreased in Escambia County? Why or Why not?
3. What new safety measures could be implemented to make Escambia County a safer place to live? Be specific.

**School Board**

1. Do you feel the quality of education is increasing or decreasing in the Escambia County Public Schools? Why or Why Not?
2. Do you feel students have adequate access to resources and educational assistance in Escambia County? If no, what can be done to ensure they do?
3. What have we learned during the COVID-19 educational transition that we can take forward to provide high quality education from a distance?
4. What needs to be done to ensure every family is connected to their student’s educational experience?
5. What do you consider to be the number one educational concern for the County going forward, and how do you propose to address that concern?
6. What are the top three or four qualities or characteristics you are looking for in the appointed superintendent?

**ECUA**

1. How would you rate the water quality in Escambia County?

Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor

1. What can be done to improve the water quality in Escambia County?
2. What is your vision for recycling?