

1. What are your top three goals for the city in the next four years (term of office).

- First, reestablish a working, professional relationship among all elected officials based on decency and respect for each other and the community we serve.
- Second, continue our successful creation of a template for residential and commercial growth that includes a focus on quality of life features and the embrace of our creative economy using all available funding sources, including BP.
- Third, work toward full access and utilization of our natural assets that would include fulfilling the vision for a complete waterfront in and around the harbor using and leveraging available tideland grants.

2. How would you foster cooperation between the City Council and Mayor?

All elected officials need to fully understand what part of the governmental process that they perform and what part is not their jurisdiction. The Mississippi Municipal League provides training for elected officials aimed at enlightening them on the specifics of their statutory responsibility as it relates to different forms of government. I would encourage all to participate because it also builds the foundation for a functioning local team that respects different elected callings with no overlap or duplication of authoritative service.

3. What measures would you support to increase the city's revenue?

Increased revenues either come from the growth of tax base or an increase in tax rate. The preferred means is, of course, the growth of tax bases which include sales tax, gaming tax and ad valorem tax. The current growth in population indicates a demand for properties in Bay St Louis that translates into new property development and increased assessments that both attribute to a higher tax base. Commercial expansion increases the sales tax base so partnerships with the Chamber, Tourism, Port and Harbor and the Mississippi Development Authority are vital to attract and retain new business. "Success breeds success" and we are witnessing the manifestation of this adage in the consistent growth we are enjoying at all levels.

4. As the city grows, what should be the mayor's role in managing the enforcement of current city ordinances (ex: zoning), codes (ex: building codes) and possible future ordinances (ex: noise, golf cart, and vacation rentals)? (answer on next page)

Proper enforcement of all ordinances begins with having good ordinances that are themselves enforceable. Clear, concise guidelines translate well into laws that breed fairness and equal treatment of all that are affected by the particular code. It is the executive responsibility of the Mayor to hire, train and retain civil service professionals that are motivated by career opportunities specific to our local government with potential for growth and advancement. Content, career civil servants with proper experience tend to be the most effective, efficient managers of the city's business which is basically an enforcement and implementation of local law.

5. What are your ideas for preserving our community's unique character while supporting residential and business growth?

There are ways to protect and enhance the local heritage while continuing to grow. Historical Preservation Ordinances are an obvious attempt to protect architectural standards with guidelines that require compliance. Well-conceived zoning and land use regulations are also vital. A collective vision of the future is built upon an appreciation of our legacy where architecture reflects our culture.

6. What actions can the city take now to maximize benefits when it becomes a stop on the future Amtrak route?

The city needs to make the necessary platform improvements at the Depot that we have been awarded a matching grant to accomplish. Beyond that, we need to continue to support legislation that will support funding for the return of Amtrak service to the Coast. The Depot is ready for an immediate conversion to a full service rail terminal and the existing visitor's center will efficiently serve passengers as an introduction to local points of interest.

7. Should the city provide financial support to economic development organizations like the Hancock Chamber and Hancock County Tourism? Support your answer.

Yes, the Chamber of Commerce and Tourism are our premier and professional marketing partners. Supporting them financially is another way of leveraging local dollars to provide economic development services that we could only duplicate at much greater direct expense. Their track record of success provides further guarantee that the investment is worthwhile.

8. What importance do you place on proposed community amenities such as a swimming pool, additional bicycle paths and dog parks?

Any proposal for community amenities that directly reflect notable wishes of the public have to be considered positive additions. Communities that love their animals need dog parks; so, finding a means to the end becomes more of an obligation than just a consideration. The same holds true for bicycle paths when there is an abundance of cycling enthusiasts. Bay St Louis residents and public school students need and deserve access to a public swimming facility for competitive and recreational reasons.

9. What importance do you place on beautification in general and on the highway gateways coming into our city?

Beautification is one of the most fundamental statements of civic pride and standard. A beautiful, well-kept city reflects positively on every resident and business. Attractive, clean gateways are of tremendous importance because they usually present the “first impressions” that a visitor might have of the city in general. First impressions are lasting impressions and the need for them to be positive is of tremendous importance if our aim is to impress and attract.

10. The number of golf carts on city streets continues to grow. How should golf cart use be regulated?

Golf cart regulations need to include the description of areas appropriate for their use along with requirements that they be registered, insured and equipped with “road ready” features such as turn signals, headlights and seatbelts. Drivers of golf carts come under the same scrutiny as the drivers of any other vehicle. They have to be of age, licensed, not driving under the influence while retaining responsibility for the safety of all passengers.

11. As the city grows do you think it should consider changing its present form of government? Explain your answer. Note: *The “BSL Government Overview” page on our Serve BSL website contains information and resources that might be helpful in answering this question.*

No. I think the Mayor-Council form of government works if all officials truly understand it and respect the parameters of their statutory inclusion. Any form of government can be stressed when any of the officer’s desire to exercise authority outside of those prescribed parameters. For instance, our form of government has a distinct separation of powers between the executive and

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legislative branches for a reason. Any attempt by lawmakers to be involved in the daily operations or management of the city is not allowed by statute because of the confusion and dissension it creates at the employee level. The single chain of command prescribed by law works best.