

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

If elected Mayor, my top three goals for my first year in office include:

- We will create and transparently implement a balanced budget that is centered around fiscally responsible growth that insures long term financial stability for our city.
- We will bring open communication, practicality and a common sense spending approach that provides the highest level of services to our citizens at the most affordable cost.
- We will work together with all community stakeholders to create and implement a strategic plan for our city that focuses on increasing revenue through economic development in our residential community, retail business sector, industrial sector, and tourism. We will continue to invest in expanding our infrastructure improvements to our waterfront communities and throughout Bay Saint Louis.

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

The current relationship between the Mayor and City Council is in desperate need of repair, and our community suffers as a result of this dysfunction. As your current Councilman at Large, I have witnessed firsthand the vitally important role that the Mayor must play in serving as a liaison between our citizens and our council. Communication must be open, honest, and frequent amongst government leaders and our citizens that we represent. Every citizen deserves a voice in city government and the Mayor is responsible for insuring that voice is heard.

The Mayor should have a solid relationship with the city council and recognize the vitally important role he or she has in providing the council with accurate, reliable information to make the most informed decisions in the best interest of our city. Information should be readily accessible to our council and to our citizens. I will absolutely insure that we operate in a transparent, open manner.

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

Increasing revenue is a multi-fold approach in my plan, making Bay Saint Louis attractive and reducing operational cost:

- I intend to increase revenue by making Bay Saint Louis the place that people choose to live, work, do business, play and pray. We will work hard to recruit new citizens to our beautiful community, and ensure that doing business with the City of Bay Saint Louis is a pleasurable

and productive experience that sets a new standard of doing business along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. We will make city services easily accessible and fully responsive to our citizens' needs. Commercially, we will invest in our Highway 90 and Highway 603 corridors to promote growth of new business in our city, as we work to give our existing businesses a voice that has for years been unheard. We have to continue supporting the small businesses in our area that graciously choose to operate in our city and contribute to our tax base, as they are truly the ones that make Bay Saint Louis a place apart.

- I will work with the Hancock County Board of Supervisors to implement commercial and residential incentive plans to promote development and redevelopment throughout the city. I will work with the Hancock County Port & Harbor Commission in their strategic plan to develop our residential, commercial and industrial tax base.
- In terms of reducing costs, as I have done as your Councilman at Large for the last four years, I intend to continue to identify and eliminate inefficient practices in city hall. We will be good stewards of tax payer dollars and capitalize on the great resources we have in our current employees. I will hold myself and my staff accountable for providing the highest level of service to our citizens, and ensure that we all have the training and tools necessary to get the job done.
- We have to view tax increases as a last resort. We must take pause before passing along an additional tax burden to our citizens and exhaust all other remedies to address the financial shortfalls of the city.

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)?

The Mayor, as the executive branch of government, has the sole responsibility for carrying out the ordinances and orders of the city council in a legal and ethical manner. I will do so in a professional, thorough and efficient manner as well. I will ensure the appropriate policies and procedures are in place to prevent fraud, waste and abuse of city resources. I will ensure staff members charged with the responsibility of enforcing ordinances and regulations are qualified and have the necessary training, equipment, and legal support to do so fairly and equitably.

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

I understand and love that Bay Saint Louis, as A Place Apart, represents a melting pot of culture and style unparalleled by any other coast city. I will work to ensure our downtown area and historical district are intact by fairly enforcing city ordinances designed to uphold our commitment to historical preservation.

I will work to maintain the attractiveness of our downtown area, while working to enhance the attractiveness of our Highway 90 and Highway 603 corridors, thereby maximizing commercial property space in these areas. I will place emphasis on the fair and consistent enforcement of our city's site plan ordinance which includes specifications relative to lighting, landscaping signage. I will address the issue of blighted buildings which will serve to increase home values and improve the aesthetics of our city.

In addition, we have to return to being that small town that promotes an atmosphere of community involvement. I will explore no-cost options for entertainment, such as family friendly events that provide entertainment for our youth. There was a time when we had concerts in the park and we welcomed families with their ice chests to a huge community cookout. We have to get back to using our green spaces to their fullest potential and making it an event not to be missed. As a community, we owe it to our teenagers to provide safe, entertaining youth activities that can play a very important role in shaping them into responsible young adults. The goal being to invest in our youth today, so that they are able to return to Bay Saint Louis and establish themselves as leaders of our community in the future.

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

I will work to pursue opening retail establishments in the unleased space of the historic train depot, to include retail souvenir shops, a coffee shop, a welcome center, and other relevant businesses. I will support and promote the development of businesses on Depot Row and work to attract different types of businesses in this area.

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

I support any organization that provides measurable benefit to the economic development of Bay Saint Louis, as tourism and hospitality certainly increase revenue and are the cornerstone for

making Bay Saint Louis a place apart. However, I feel that as a Mayor and City Council, we must work to ensure we are seeing a return on our investment in such organizations, given the current financial shortfalls of the city.

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

I believe all proposed community amenities are worth investigating, keeping in mind each proposed amenity should be thoroughly evaluated in terms of costs, both from a present and future perspective. I believe the city should invest in projects that support the clear mission and vision as stated in our strategic plan. I am committed to exploring and recruiting additional safe and engaging opportunities for our children to spend their free time. Examples include a Y.M.C.A. facility, additional youth sports programs, literacy enhancement efforts, and summer work and volunteer opportunities. If elected Mayor, I believe it is my job to listen to you and allow citizens to drive the need and demand for these amenities. We must locate or dedicate funding to support any initiative chosen by our citizens, and explore opportunities for grant funded initiatives for our existing gym and parks.

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

I am committed to enhancing the beautification efforts of our city, as I believe physical attractiveness is the first step to the recruitment of new citizens and businesses to our community. I will work to ensure our dilapidated sign ordinance and the site plan ordinance for commercial properties are enforced fairly and consistently. I will work with the Board of Supervisors and the Sheriff's Office to explore possibilities relative to the usage of an inmate work crew to assist current staff with beautification efforts in our city.

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

I believe the city's position on golf carts being driven on our streets should revolve around safety and legality. I will work to ensure the City of Bay Saint Louis is represented in working with the state legislature to pass legislation that ensures safe golf cart usage. I will provide clear communication regarding expectations relative to golf cart usage.

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.*

Prior to 1977, the City of Bay Saint Louis was under the Commission form of government. A referendum was held prior to the 1977 election, and our community chose to change to the Mayor-Council form of government starting with the 1977 election. We have continued to operate under this form of government since that time.

I truly believe that any form of government will be successful with the right people elected to office, and no form of government will be successful with the wrong people elected to office. Therefore, our efforts should concentrate on making the best choice on election day. I stand ready to work under whatever form of government chosen by our citizens.