

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

My vision for Bay St. Louis includes:

1. Total transparency and cooperation between and among the mayor and council. This includes a productive focus on growing and developing Bay St. Louis, constant reflection on ethical behavior, and representation of our citizens with respectful governance.
2. Completely updated and consistently honored codes that encourage investment in our community by businesses and residents alike.
3. Residential expansion with options for the young professionals, young families with children, empty nesters, retirees and the second home market. The result of which is a city with all available retail space filled and new retail establishments built to service our growing residential and tourism markets.

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

My first action will be to ask the council and the mayor to work together to identify our collective goals for the city over the next 4 years, so that we can measure our progress. This will help maintain a productive focus. I will give each the benefit of the doubt on issues that arise and listen respectfully to others’ opinions. I will keep my own counsel, do my own research, and then do what I think is right in a respectful way.

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

1. Increase tax revenues:
  - a. Revive and update the 2009 Comprehensive Plan for Bay St. Louis, which has well-thought guidance for maintenance of the city’s unique characteristics and development of retail and residential properties. We need to preserve the core of downtown’s charm and manage development on Highway 90 to maintain that “special” character throughout our commercial developments.
  - b. Engage economic development experts with the commercial and residential experience and connections needed for larger developments. If we don’t know how to work with the developers, firmly but fairly and expediently, we discourage their investment.

- c. Double efforts to capture unreported sales tax.
  - d. Invest in organizations that keep Bay St. Louis on the map for visitors. Tourism is a key to our success!
2. Encourage a reduction of expenses. As a CPA with 17 years in local government, my accounting and business experience will be useful in evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of city expenditures and maintenance practices.

**4. List three ways you would foster support of and communication with the city's appointed commissions (Planning and Zoning, Harbor and Historic Preservation).**

To foster a working relationship with the appointed commissions I would

- a) recommend participation in training and orientation for council and commissioners,
- b) stay abreast of commission agendas and attend commission meetings, and
- c) honor their recommendations unless unavoidable and only with a good explanation.

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

Again the 2009 Comprehensive Plan addresses the importance of preserving that unique character. The economic success of Bay St. Louis is directly tied to keeping it "A Place Apart."

Bay St. Louis has a close community that is normally open and welcoming to new businesses and residents. The recent disagreements about noise shows how important it is to have clear, enforced ordinances to keep us in peaceful co-existence with each other.

The city has a healthy population of volunteers that supports comradery with a purpose. Welcome information for new residents is important to bring them into the fold, so that they, too, feel a part of and support the betterment of the community.

As we grow, we must not be pulled into the allure of development at the expense of our beautiful trees, neighborhoods, beach front and waterways. Development cannot move forward if these are threatened, less we lose the very reason people want to be here.

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

We will have to work with through Amtrak and the Tourism Partnership to promote Bay St. Louis in New Orleans and beyond. Special excursions to Bay St. Louis may be a possibility, as well. A tasteful welcome and advertisements about the city should be installed on the trackside walls of the Depot.

It must be very easy to disembark and stay here. That means having a staffed information center, available car rental services and/or clear directions for walking to accommodation.

The Depot District must be in pristine condition, so the view from the train is enticing.

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

Marketing of the city could be done by an inside city department; however, the city relies on these outside organizations to promote our events, unique charm, and quality of life. Both the city and existing businesses benefit financially from their efforts. We should support those organizations that are effective in promoting Bay St. Louis.

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

If we wish to attract and keep the our youth, higher paid staff at Stennis Space Center, retirees with expendable income, and longer term vacationers, we must have more amenities than just the basics, including the accommodation of golf carts. Bay St. Louis must be a community of choice, because these populations have the wherewithal to stay or to leave as they choose.

**9. What is your position on the possibility of the Hancock County Sheriff's Department managing the BSL Police Department. State the advantages and/or disadvantages you foresee.**

Notwithstanding that we moved forward with hiring a Chief of Police when the question was on the table, this must be weighed heavily, because of the outspoken resistance of residents to the idea.

Advantages may include savings from streamlining of management and administrative positions and a consolidation of investigative efforts county-wide for more efficient operations.

Disadvantages include a potential diffusion of institutional knowledge about city business and its residents, a loss of self-determination on local law enforcement, and alienation of the residents from their police force.

We would have to evaluate further based on the facts, but consolidation of some of the services, such as the investigative department with less outward visibility, is something I would be willing to consider.

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

I support the safe, lawful use of golf carts in Bay St. Louis. They add to the charm and fun factor of being in the city. The draft golf cart ordinance is a good start in ensuring the safe operation of carts in our city. We have to establish our special slow-moving vehicle district through MDOT, as soon as possible.

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

Any of the forms of government can be effective as long as the mayor and council work in cooperation with each other and respect each other’s powers, duties and responsibilities. Elections cycles give us the chance to correct deviations.

In our mayor-council form, the mayor has executive power and the council has legislative authority. The mayor’s veto power is overridden by a 2/3 majority of council members. The council also may authorize the hiring of a city manager. The result would be that the mayor’s powers, other than that of figurehead, would be greatly diminished. Hiring of a city manager would increase costs but may ensure a continuity of administration for the city during election turnover. However, should we ever take this route, I would support evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of our current form and the advantages and disadvantages of a change to the council manager form of government.