

2023 City of Spokane Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate for: Spokane City Council District 3

Name: Earl Moore

Professional licenses or other relevant professional experience.

I was a registered respiratory therapist at Deaconess for 35 years. During that time I served as the State President of The Respiratory Care Society of Washington. As a delegate for the American Association of Respiratory Care, I had the privilege of meeting with Senators and Representatives from our state in Washington, D.C. and participated in federal committee meetings related to healthcare avocation.

Find more information about the campaign:

www.earlmooreforspokane.com

Facebook: Earl Moore for Spokane City Council

Tell us about your plan for downtown’s recovery...

How will you boost commercial activity downtown?

Spokane needs a city council representative who has small businesses’ back, one that makes businesses easier to start, function, and grow in Spokane. I have canvassed over 4,000 doors this election cycle, consistently hearing from residents that they no longer feel comfortable going downtown due to safety concerns. This means that they spend their leisure spending and time away from downtown for more perceived “safe” areas within our region. To sustain a thriving flow of visitors to our downtown, our top priority should be enhancing its safety and security.

Additionally, implementing common-sense infrastructure upgrades can significantly boost commercial vitality downtown. This encompasses expanding sidewalk widths, increasing parking availability, and improving the accessibility of public transportation.

How will you ensure a vibrant downtown experience for people that live, work and visit?

A clean downtown is a vibrant downtown. To create a vibrant downtown experience, I will prioritize graffiti removal, litter control, landscaping, street cleaning, and snow removal. Along with the city’s continuous maintenance of some of these fields I will also be engaging the community through volunteer initiatives to encourage downtown’s upkeep. Additionally, I will always work to make public-private partnerships to pool resources and expertise, ensuring a thriving, attractive downtown for residents, workers, and visitors alike.

How will you support new housing development downtown, especially for “missing middle”?

The city plays a major role in improving or modifying the housing opportunities in Spokane. When council passes large impact fees or zoning regulations, the housing market suffers. The first solution for increasing housing attainability for the middle is to increase the amount of land zoned for higher-density housing. This allows people who cannot afford a larger house to start in a residence suitable for their financial needs and eventually move into larger properties in the future. We should also incentivize the

construction of various housing types, from ramblers to triplexes and apartments, to cater to the needs of all income levels in our community. This opens up more housing by creating turnover, making smaller or entry-level homes available for first-time buyers. As people move up the ladder, they free up their previous homes for others, increasing housing supply and diversity.

How will you address public safety in downtown Spokane?

Community safety means personally and legislatively supporting the police for being heroes in our community, while giving them the necessary resources to do good safely. I am endorsed by Sheriff John Nowels and the Spokane Police Guild because I am the only candidate in this race who knows a safe downtown Spokane is a thriving downtown Spokane and who will take action to enhance our law enforcement's ability to keep Spokane safe. Families should be able to spend their time and money downtown without fearing their car window is going to be broken.

What do you believe should be the City's role in addressing homelessness, mental illness and substance use on the streets of downtown Spokane?

I fully support funding facilities and services for people to get the help they need. We need to show the most vulnerable in our community love and compassion. But just like with our children, we need to show tough love sometimes to hold them accountable. The city's role should be compassionate towards those who are in this position with mental illness, substance abuse, and housing affordability, while making sure we hold them accountable for their actions so that they get better. No candidate by themselves is going to solve homelessness. However, when we take steps to improve the safety of downtown while easing restrictions on housing, we will already see the situation begin to ease. These common-sense policies on housing and safety, paired with an overall commitment from volunteer organizations and churches, are crucial.

Investing in a clean and safe downtown is essential to attracting new businesses as well as workers, visitors, and residents. Given the fragile state of downtown's revitalization, how should the City of Spokane prioritize funding downtown recovery in its budget?

Spokane's residents are already extremely burdened by high taxes with little to show for all the money they give to the government. Our city must be fiscal hawks, ensuring we allocate funds first to essential aspects like infrastructure and safety. Then, we must ascertain that the money spent effectively alleviates the issues. All too often, we see politicians throw money at a situation and claim it to be fixed without following up to verify its efficiency.

Is there any additional information you would like to share about your candidacy that you were unable to provide in the above responses?

I am endorsed by:
Spokane County Sheriff John Nowels
Spokane County Commissioner Mary Kunej
Spokane Police Guild
Spokane Association of Realtors
Associated Builders and Contractors
Spokane Home Builders Association
Associated General Contractors
Former U.S Attorney, Jim McDevitt
Pounders Jewelry

The Swinging Doors
Walkers Furniture

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