

Councilmember Mark Wallach

Do you support consideration of a reduced affordable housing impact fee as an element of the solution for encouraging middle income housing development?

No (This is ridiculous; if impact fees were eliminated entirely, this would have absolutely no impact on the creation of middle-income housing. Does anyone believe that in such an event a developer would reprice a townhouse he can sell for \$1.5MM to \$600k to create middle-income housing? If someone wants to have a serious conversation about the difficulties in creating middle-income housing, that would be constructive, but suggesting that the barrier between middle-income pricing and market rate pricing are our inclusionary housing fees is absurd on its face.)

If elected, would you make streamlining and expediting our planning review and permitting processes a top three priority for next year's City Council policy agenda?

No (I would certainly look at it, but a top three priority? Over economic vitality, homelessness, public safety and many more? Come on.)

Aaron Stone

Do you support prohibiting the distribution of food and other resources for our unhoused population outside of the Day Services Center?

No, Food is a human right. It is an undue burden to force people to migrate to North Boulder to eat.

Prioritizing access to services for unhoused individuals who have ties to the Boulder community?

Yes, Boulder cannot afford to give services to everyone. We must prioritize people who are here long term.

Strict enforcement of the ban on “rough sleeping” in our public spaces?

I think we need to have a campground away from the mall where people can rotate in/out on a temporary basis. Showers and Laundry need to be provided while mental health assistance is being offered. We need to continue the ban on rough sleeping on bike paths and in areas where the general public might perceive safety concerns.

Prioritization of the allocation of funding for the homeless solutions within the current financial resources?

Yes, the homeless problem ties directly into downtown revitalization. The Tgthr shelter has closed down, there is no longer a street outreach team and the Allroads shelter has lost 20 beds due to budget cuts. We must fund these programs

Please share any additional perspective on Boulder’s response to homelessness.

I've spoken to people at Allroads, Tgthr and unsheltered people on the street asking them about the problems they face. We are dealing with human beings who have problems. We must prioritize treatment and housing solutions. Forcing them to continuously move around without giving them solutions to their problems is not enabling them to recover.

Crime Fighting

We need to have better training for police officers. Currently ongoing lawsuits stem from our law enforcement not understanding the constitutional rights of citizens. A good option to address this is to bring in Auditors who are well versed in basic civil rights. I support the Reimagine plan as its goal is to make policing less reactive and more community engaged. I support tougher penalties on violent crime. Although, setting these penalties is beyond the reach of the city council.

Minimum Wage: Did you vote for the 2025 minimum wage increase or how would you have voted on that matter? Do you support further escalating increases in Boulder's minimum wage beyond the current 2025 rate? With local control over the tipped wage credit, would you support an increase in the tipped wage credit?

Yes, costs are high on both employers and workers. I do want to lower operating costs for businesses but not at the expense of workers. Minimum wage already does not provide workers with the ability to live in our community. The tipped wage credit could be used to abuse workers. I do not support it.

Housing Development: The DRCOG 2024 study on housing needs states that Boulder will need an additional 10,700 housing units over the next 10 years to prevent rent and home prices from dramatically increasing. If elected to city council, would you commit to pursuing that housing goal? Do you support consideration of a reduced affordable housing impact fee as an element of the solution for encouraging middle income housing development?

A number of Boulder city council members advocate for the construction of thousands of new homes to meet demand. I do not. If Boulder constructs thousands of new homes it will no longer be Boulder. We might as well call ourselves San Jose. In the discussion of affordable housing the question I haven't seen anyone on city council ask is, "How many people do we want to house in Boulder in the future?" Currently we have about 107,000. Do we want 120,000, 150,000, 200,000, more? I think we need to face that question head on before we continue what we're currently doing: building unlimited housing, without a long term plan, wherever a developer can find a building or two to demolish.

The demand for housing will never abate until Boulder is so built out, dense, heavily trafficked, and ugly that no new people want to move here. I'd like to cap development to a fixed number of housing units instead of allowing the revulsion of newcomers to determine what that number is, because then it's too late. What I propose is a radical reprioritization. Let's increase the percentage of affordable units developers have to build. Right now it's 15%. Let's start by raising it to, say, 40%. If developers continue to build we'll gradually increase the percentage until new builds cease, then we'll lower it a bit. This will give us more affordable housing while keeping the total number of new builds manageable. Allowing developers to call the shots, as they currently do, is clearly not the way to provide more affordable housing.

In addition to my proposal above, I advocate a reduction in the onerous regulations governing Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) as a means to infill Boulder with more affordable homes. Right now a homeowner has to install a fire suppression system at a

cost approaching \$20,000 in order to qualify for an ADU license. I propose we eliminate this ridiculous regulation as a means of creating more affordable homes.

The City of Boulder's planning review and permitting processes are often criticized as being overly lengthy and onerous. If elected, would you make streamlining and expediting our planning review and permitting processes a top three priority for next year's City Council policy agenda?

Yes. Everything from installing a hot water heater, a deck, or a home addition are all difficult processes to go through. In addition, they encumber the owners with high costs. Property improvements should be encouraged by the city, not hampered.

Would you support permit fee reductions as a business recruitment or retention strategy? Do you believe it's important to continue to sustain a strong economy, which could include the potential for increasing job growth in Boulder? Do you support tax incentives as a tool for recruiting new businesses to Boulder?

Yes. Costs for businesses are already too high. If we want tax revenue from these businesses, we should lower their total cost of operations. Our economy must remain strong. This could include tax incentives as well.

Do you support the proposal for considering special taxation authorities — including downtown development authorities and metro districts — as urban renewal tools?

It depends. Special taxation authorities such as downtown development authorities and metro districts can be useful tools for the renewal of areas when they help revitalize neighborhoods and fund infrastructure. However, I have concerns about how the costs are structured. If the burden is passed directly to small businesses or residents, these tools can do more harm than good. I would support their use only with strong guardrails to ensure transparency, accountability, and a fair balance of who pays and who benefits.

Did you vote for/would you have voted for closing the section of West Pearl Street (between 9th and 11th Streets) to car traffic?

I don't recall voting on this myself; however, I do enjoy having more dedicated areas in the mall where cars are not permitted. I support this.

Do you support passage of the Boulder County Mental Health Tax?

Yes. Mental health issues are one of the primary contributors to homelessness. While I generally do not support new taxes, if we really care about the vitality of our city, we need to address this issue head-on.

Do you support the passage of the Community, Culture, Resilience, Safety Tax?

As I understand, this is an extension of a current tax, not a new one. It funds critical infrastructure that we need, including fire, police, and community centers. I support this.

RACHEL ROSE ISAACSON

Prioritizing access to services for unhoused individuals who have ties to the Boulder community?

Yes (as suggested by the Clutch report).

Strict enforcement of the ban on “rough sleeping” in our public spaces?

Depends on if shelter is full or not.

Please share any additional perspective on Boulder’s response to homelessness.

With federal housing vouchers dwindling and our city’s budget deficit, it's essential to allocate resources where they can have the most significant impact. I believe that the Clutch report accomplishes both compassion and pragmatism. I appreciate the suggestion that we centralize our resources to improve service delivery and that we are focused on local chronically unhoused residents, while offering short-term aid to transients so that our current support systems are less overwhelmed by those who are incoming/passing through. I also believe we need humane alternative places for folks to go if the shelter is full.

Simultaneously, we need to be thinking about preventing homelessness by fixing barriers that leave “affordable” units empty, prioritizing organizations such as EFFA in our budget decisions, increasing reasonable protections for renters, and incentivizing rent stability through strategies such as developing a rental registry so the city can track trends and providing a “fair renting guideline” based on local economic data with a program to incentivize “fair rent” pledges from landlords with benefits like tax credits, grants, or permit streamlining.

Housing Development: The DRCOG 2024 study on housing needs states that Boulder will need an additional 10,700 housing units over the next 10 years to prevent rent and home prices from dramatically increasing. If elected to city council, would you commit to pursuing that housing goal?

Yes. Meeting this need is essential to stabilize rents, protect affordability for working people, and ensure that our teachers, first responders, and young families can continue to call Boulder home. At the same time, I believe we must be intentional about how we add housing.

Do you support consideration of a reduced affordable housing impact fee as an element of the solution for encouraging middle-income housing development?

Depends on how we would address the trade-off.

Please provide any other efforts you want to share on Boulder's efforts to reduce criminal activity.

I believe Boulder should address crime by taking a balanced, evidence-based approach that improves safety. In Boulder, many crime metrics have gone down since 2023: violent crime, property crime, and motor vehicle theft have all seen declines. But it's not uniform everywhere; some local hotspots or categories are still problematic. I believe in ensuring a visible and responsive public safety presence, especially in areas where residents and businesses have expressed concern. Ultimately, my goal is to build a safer Boulder through collaboration, transparency, and equity—making sure we address immediate safety needs while also tackling issues (like substance abuse disorders) that can drive crime in the first place.

Minimum Wage: Did you vote for the 2025 minimum wage increase or how would you have voted on that matter?

No (with respect to the initial 2024 agreement).

Do you support further escalating increases in Boulder's minimum wage beyond the current 2025 rate?

No (with respect to the initial 2024 agreement).

MONTSERRAT PALACIOS

Please share any additional perspective on Boulder's response to homelessness.

Funding for homeless solutions must be prioritized within current resources, and shelters should reserve space for those facing urgent circumstances. We should also coordinate with surrounding counties and Denver to direct transient populations to areas with available resources.

NICOLE SPEER

Strict enforcement of the ban on “rough sleeping” in our public spaces.

My response depends on what “strict enforcement” means.

Prioritization of the allocation of funding for homeless solutions within the current financial resources.

My response depends on what is being proposed to be deprioritized or defunded.

Please share any additional perspective on Boulder’s response to homelessness.

We’ve been strictly enforcing bans on public camping and noticing that ticketing and encampment removals alone don’t solve homelessness. If people had stable alternatives, they wouldn’t be camped along creeks or in public spaces. Expecting rough sleeping to end solely by telling someone they can’t be somewhere is like closing a trailhead and expecting all the hikers to disappear. People reroute—they don’t vanish.

I support evidence-based approaches to end rough sleeping that expand housing access, reduce harm, and uphold dignity, like we are pursuing in our revised homelessness strategy. We need policy that reflects reality and provides pathways out of crisis.

Please provide any other efforts you want to share on Boulder’s efforts to reduce criminal activity.

Crime has declined during my time on Council, and Boulder’s rates remain well below state and national averages. The Reimagine Policing Plan’s proactive strategies—like co-response and community engagement—are working. Crime isn’t gone, and enforcement alone isn’t enough. We must activate public spaces, invest in prevention, and address root causes like housing instability, economic precarity, and substance use.

Minimum Wage:

In 2024, the Council voted unanimously to raise the minimum wage by 8% each year for three years (2025, 2026, and 2027). These annual increases are approximately 4–5% above the typical state-level annual increase.

As part of the compromise that led to this unanimous vote, the Council agreed to check in on the minimum wage in three years, when we would have data on the impact of these increases. I will honor that timeline and the three years of community engagement it took to reach unanimous passage of our local minimum wage ordinance. I will not support reopening the conversation before 2027. However, if a majority of Council wishes to reopen the conversation earlier than agreed upon, I would advocate for further escalations.

Do you support consideration of a reduced affordable housing impact fee as an element of the solution for encouraging middle-income housing development ?

It depends on how we are defining “middle income.”

The DRCOG assessment shows Boulder’s biggest shortfall in units is those affordable to people making below 60% of the Area Median Income. Our impact fees help fund housing in that range. Reducing those fees to support middle-income development means shifting resources from the housing we need most. If we go that route, we need a clear plan to meet the deeper affordability gap. I can’t support changes that undermine our ability to build the bulk of the housing we need. I am eager to see the results of the DRCOG Regional Housing Strategy, which will have recommendations on evidence-based strategies to increase both low- and middle-income housing.

Permitting and Development Review: The City of Boulder’s planning review and permitting processes are often criticized as being overly lengthy and onerous. If elected, would you make streamlining and expediting our planning review and permitting processes a top-three priority for next year’s City Council policy agenda?

Maybe. I’ve supported permitting reform and additional steps to make it faster and more predictable. Practically, I can’t commit to ranking anything as a top-three priority without knowing what 2026 holds. Our local economy is unstable at best. Just in the past eight months, we’ve seen major shifts in inflation, federal funding, and growing job losses. Streamlining is important, but it may not be the most urgent issue we face next year. Also, the Council committed to finishing the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan (BVCP) update by the end of 2026. Adding significant work to the Planning and Development Services department would likely require a tradeoff with the BVCP completion date.

Do you support tax incentives as a tool for recruiting new businesses to Boulder?

It depends. I have supported fee reductions and tax incentives as tools to recruit and retain values-aligned businesses (e.g., the Sundance Film Festival). I would not support these strategies to recruit businesses that do not align with Boulder’s values (e.g., detention facilities).

LAUREN FOLKERTS

Please share any additional perspective on Boulder's response to homelessness.

Complex issues deserve thoughtful discussion, not simplistic yes/no framing that fuels division. For instance, punishing people for sharing food neither addresses homelessness nor honors the core mission of many faith groups who see compassion as a calling.

Boulder should fully fund and implement the evidence-based strategies outlined in our recent Homelessness Strategy update, which emphasizes diversion, rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, and stronger regional collaboration. This is one of the areas where our choices can most directly improve lives and strengthen our community. When people are stably housed, we see reduced pressure on emergency services and greater economic activity in our downtown core, benefits that ripple out to every Boulder resident and business. I am deeply committed to addressing this issue with compassion, pragmatism, and persistence until we see real, lasting progress.

Please provide any other efforts you want to share on Boulder's efforts to reduce criminal activity.

In recent years, Boulder has made real progress by focusing on holistic problem-solving, crime prevention, and community partnership. That makes it frustrating to see these yes/no questions that oversimplify complex challenges. Reducing public safety to polarizing choices makes it harder to identify and pursue thoughtful solutions. It's also important to note that City Council does not control sentencing; those policies are set at the state level. Locally, our police department is now fully staffed for the first time in years, strengthening both community trust and responsiveness.

Boulder has made important changes in policing: establishing a Police Oversight Panel, expanding co-response and alternative responder teams, publishing use-of-force statistics, and working with Spanish-speaking and disabled community members to make traffic stops safer. But we cannot be complacent. We must continually evaluate and adapt our strategies. That means supporting and investing in our officers with the training and tools to respond appropriately in dangerous situations. At the same time, our police department must remain accountable, equitable, and committed to truly serving every member of our community. I deeply appreciate the work the department has done and remain committed to supporting them while collaborating to improve safety and trust across Boulder.

MATT BENJAMIN

Homelessness Response

Prohibiting distribution of food/resources outside the Day Services Center?

Yes. Centralizing outreach and supplies at the Day Services Center ensures consistency, safety, and connections to services. Dispersed handouts, while well-intentioned, often make it harder to link people to housing, case management, or health support. With that said, I would like us to phase the centralization of this work. A number of folks have become dependent on resources being distributed in an array of areas, so I want us to be sensitive to how we migrate this work to the Day Service Center.

Prioritizing services for unhoused individuals with Boulder ties?

Yes. We have limited resources, and prioritizing those with existing connections to Boulder helps us better serve residents while also respecting regional responsibility.

Strict enforcement of the ban on rough sleeping in our public places?

Yes, with balance. Public spaces must remain safe and accessible, and our new Homelessness Strategy makes clear that enforcement is tied directly to services and outcomes. Enforcement cannot stand alone—it must be paired with shelter, outreach, and housing exits. I do not support ticketing and jailing people if they are rough sleeping during extreme weather events and the shelter is full.

Prioritization of funding for homeless solutions within current resources?

Yes. Boulder faces a constrained budget, so we must focus existing dollars where they deliver the greatest impact—rapid resolution, housing, and prevention—while pushing the county and state to do their part.

Additional homelessness perspective

Boulder’s updated Homelessness Strategy, informed by Clutch Consulting, sets us on a path toward “functional zero” unsheltered homelessness. It balances compassion with accountability: expanding rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, and diversion, while clarifying boundaries around camping in public spaces. We need to push harder on data transparency, regional coordination, and behavioral health gaps. Success depends on coupling services with enforcement, prevention with housing supply, and city leadership with county/state partnership.

Crime Fighting

Do you support full implementation of the Reimagine Policing Plan, including the proposed increase in police officers?

Yes. I voted in support of the Reimagine Policing Plan. It balances accountability, equity, and the resources we need to meet community expectations. Adding officers is necessary—we're only now approaching full staffing after years of shortages. With more officers, we can restore neighborhood patrols, expand community policing, and improve response times, while also investing in alternative response models like CIRT that address behavioral health crises without defaulting to law enforcement

Reducing crime requires a holistic approach. That means investing in housing and services for vulnerable populations, advancing our Core Arterial Network and Vision Zero to keep streets safe, and maintaining strong partnerships and holding the County accountable on behavioral health and diversion programs. Public safety must also include wildfire mitigation, flood protection, and resilient infrastructure. True safety is more than just crime; it's about making Boulder a community where people feel secure in their homes, neighborhoods, and public spaces.

Minimum Wage

Did you vote for the 2025 minimum wage increase?

Yes. I supported the 2025 minimum wage increase and led the efforts to craft the compromise that phased in 8% annual increases over three years. It was one of the most consequential decisions of this Council, and I was proud to help balance justice for workers with the sustainability of our small businesses.

Do you support further escalating increases beyond the 2025 rate?

Not at this time. We need to evaluate the impacts of this increase—both positive and negative—before committing to additional escalations. Many small and micro-businesses (restaurants, childcare providers, nonprofits) operate on razor-thin margins, and we must avoid unintentionally harming the very workers we're trying to help. I will fight to protect the jobs our workers depend on, which means helping to keep our small businesses open.

With local control over the tipped wage credit, would you support an increase in the tipped wage credit?

Yes, with conditions. I support adjusting the tipped wage credit to a percentage of the minimum wage rather than a fixed number, provided no worker earns less than they did in the previous year. Any change must be data-driven and shaped by robust engagement with restaurant workers and owners alike.

Would you commit to pursuing the DRCOG housing goal of 10,700 units in 10 years?

Yes. But we are unlikely to create that many units over the next 10 years. Boulder must do its part to meet regional housing needs, but only if we are meeting our local housing needs first. That scale of growth is ambitious but necessary if we want to avoid further rent spikes, reduce in-commuting, and allow teachers, nurses, and working families to live here. I support this goal, paired with smart land-use reforms, streamlined permitting, and regional partnerships. My housing priority is centered on meeting our local needs of missing middle housing that can keep working families, teachers, and first responders in our community.

Do you support consideration of a reduced affordable housing impact fee to encourage middle-income housing?

Yes. Our current inclusionary housing ordinance unintentionally penalizes middle-income development. With the new Middle-Income Housing Tax Credit at the state level, Boulder must align our policies to actually produce this “missing middle” housing. Adjusting the fee structure, or creating flexibility for projects targeted at middle-income families, is a necessary step.

Housing supply is one of Boulder’s greatest challenges, and we must take bold but pragmatic steps. That means leveraging city-owned land, incentivizing ADUs, duplexes, and townhomes, and preparing Area 3 for annexation. By revising outdated policies and prioritizing middle-income homes, we can meet our housing goals while protecting Boulder’s character and values.

Permitting and Development Review

Yes. Streamlining and expediting our planning and permitting process has been a top priority for me during my 4 years on council, and must continue to be a top priority for Council. Time is literally money in development—every month of delay adds costs that ultimately make homes less affordable and projects less feasible.

Over the past four years, I’ve consistently pushed to modernize our land use code and remove unnecessary barriers. We’ve made progress by eliminating outdated reviews like Use Review for restaurants and simplifying some housing approvals, but Boulder’s process is still too slow and too complicated.

If re-elected, I will make a full rewrite of Title IV (our building and land use code) a Council priority. Instead of pouring years of staff time into untangling our messy ball of fishing line, let’s just start anew with a clean slate. This is about more than efficiency—it’s about aligning our regulations with community values, encouraging the right kind of housing,

supporting local businesses, and, perhaps most importantly, giving future generations and community leaders a clean slate from which to build this community for their needs. A clearer, faster process will help Boulder meet its housing goals, reduce costs, and keep our economy resilient.

Economic Vitality

Would you support permit fee reductions as a business recruitment or retention strategy?

Yes. Boulder's permitting process has historically been slow, expensive, and unpredictable. Fee reductions, paired with streamlined approvals, can help small and local businesses open and thrive. We've already eliminated unnecessary Use Reviews for restaurants, and I support continuing to lower barriers that stifle entrepreneurship.

Do you support tax incentives to recruit new businesses?

Yes, with conditions. Incentives should be targeted, transparent, and tied to community benefits—such as local hiring, workforce housing, or reinvestment in our downtown. I don't believe in blanket subsidies, but well-designed incentives can help attract employers who align with Boulder's values and strengthen our long-term economy.

Special Taxation Authorities

Yes. I support considering special taxation authorities like a Downtown Development Authority or metro districts as potential urban renewal tools. Boulder is facing serious economic headwinds—office vacancies around 30%, a flat revenue outlook, and mounting infrastructure needs. Tools like these could provide dedicated resources to revitalize key areas, support small businesses, and strengthen our downtown vitality.

That said, these tools must be designed carefully. They should be transparent, equitably structured, and paired with strong community engagement so residents understand where the dollars are going. I would only support them if they clearly deliver public benefit, not just private gain.

West Pearl Street Closure

No. I did not vote to permanently close that section to cars. During COVID, it was a great idea for West Pearl to be closed to cars and open to people. Once out of the crisis of the pandemic and seeing our local businesses are struggling to rebound to pre-COVID revenues, we need to avoid rocking the boat too hard. I believe in balancing the needs of businesses, access, livability, and pedestrian space. While I support creative public space and pedestrian-first design in certain contexts, this particular proposal raised real

economic and access concerns for downtown businesses and residents. I have and will continue to support looking at how we can temporarily pedestrianize West Pearl for special events, which activate those spaces in ways that draw people to spend more time and money downtown.

Boulder County Mental Health Tax

Yes, but with conditions. I support the passage of the Boulder County Mental Health Tax. Boulder is facing a clear gap in behavioral health services—especially in crisis response, transitional care, and long-term treatment. We see these gaps play out in our homelessness strategy, in our criminal justice system, and in the strain on first responders.

That being said, this tax was poorly designed, there was virtually no outreach to stakeholders, and frankly, this tax is totally inadequate to tackle the transformational needs in our area. I would normally vote no on any tax that fails on so many levels, but the criticality of the need is so great that it outweighs the structural deficiencies and poor governance that this tax is grounded in.

In order to gain trust and foster any hopes of the county renewing or asking for a bigger tax, we need to see some strong commitments from the county to do better. We need the county to not make the same mistakes and broken trust that stemmed from the “Affordable Housing” 1B tax measure. We need cities to inform the county of the needs, not the other way around. We need money to flow into the cities and organizations where the issues are most pressing, and not have the county assume it knows how to address the needs. We need the county to clearly define and commit to a stakeholder working group that will have the authority to distribute funds based on need. And most of all, this tax lacks any real metric from which we can measure success. Taxpayers need to know that \$15 million per year is being spent well and meeting community needs.

Community, Culture, Resilience, and Safety Tax

Yes. This is not a new tax, but an extension of an existing tax. I support the passage of the Community, Culture, Resilience, and Safety (CCRS) Tax. This measure is essential to keeping Boulder’s core services and facilities strong. It funds capital needs like fire stations, police facilities, cultural spaces, Rec Centers, and critical infrastructure—all of which directly affect public safety and quality of life.

Without this dedicated revenue, Boulder risks falling further behind on our \$380 million capital maintenance backlog. The CCRS tax ensures we can maintain and modernize the facilities that keep our community safe, resilient, and vibrant—while also supporting arts and culture that are central to Boulder’s identity.

For me, this tax isn't just about dollars; it's about protecting what we value most: safe neighborhoods, strong emergency response, and the cultural vitality that makes Boulder unique.

ROB KAPLAN

Please share any additional perspective on Boulder's response to homelessness.

I have seen firsthand a lack of coordination and communication among the many city, county, state, and nonprofit organizations working to address this crisis. I want to explore creating a centralized, HIPAA-compliant regional data hub that reduces redundancies, minimizes competition for funding, and provides a data-driven platform to connect individuals with the care and services they need. If we are going to fund a homelessness response, it must have structure, benchmarks, transparency, and accountability.

MAXWELL LORD

Homelessness Response: Do you support the following elements of Boulder's homelessness response:

Prohibiting the distribution of food and other resources for our unhoused population outside of the Day Services Center?

I actually do think that decentralizing services from the bandshell would have a positive impact, but flat out prohibiting other than the day services center would limit in place non profits and faith based outreach.

Strict enforcement of the ban on "rough sleeping" in our public spaces?

Strict enforcement is impossible when the jails are full and we have no reserve beds.

Please share any additional perspective on Boulder's response to homelessness.

Homelessness is a multidimensional issue, and requires multidimensional solutions. I think that spending money on consultants is a waste when we have a wealth of resources and information in our non profits and community members. An emphasis on diversion demonstrates an impoverished understanding of the problem, and ignores the chronic homeless population which is the actual issue. Of course, a triage is necessary, but did we need to hire someone to tell us that?

Do you support full implementation of the Reimagine Policing Plan, including the plan's proposed increase in police officers? Do you support increasing penalties, including the reinstatement of felony charges for drug and property crimes? Please provide any other efforts you want to share on Boulder's efforts to reduce criminal activity.

When the jail is full, and we have limited mental health resources, more police, and harsher sentences are meaningless. It is already illegal to smoke meth in the bandshell, there is a police station a block away, and how effective are "laws" at solving this problem? Laws are meaningless without infrastructure to support them, and expecting harsher sentencing to be meaningful to an addict (once again) demonstrates a misunderstanding of the problem at hand. We have plenty of police, and crime still happens.

Addressing drug crimes with police is like addressing lung cancer with chemotherapy, sure, there is a time it becomes necessary, but a more effective method would be convincing people not to smoke.

Did you vote for the 2025 minimum wage increase or how would you have voted on that matter? Do you support further escalating increases in Boulder's minimum wage beyond the current 2025 rate? With local control over the tipped wage credit, would you support an increase in the tipped wage credit?

The verbiage used around the tipped wage credit can be misleading, so in an effort to be clear, I do not think we should allow businesses to pay tipped workers less.

The DRCOG 2024 study on housing needs states that Boulder will need an additional 10,700 housing units over the next 10 years to prevent rent and home prices from dramatically increasing. If elected to city council, would you commit to pursuing that housing goal?

Do you support consideration of a reduced affordable housing impact fee as an element of the solution for encouraging middle income housing development (yes/no)

While, in general, I think the city needs to reduce fees and streamline the building process, a \$15 sq/ft fee is an effective way to address additions.

The City of Boulder's planning review and permitting processes are often criticized as being overly lengthy and onerous. If elected, would you make streamlining and expediting our planning review and permitting processes a top three priority for next year's City Council policy agenda?

I am a builder in town, and trust me, the planning review and permitting process is destroying our city. It is absolutely one of my top priorities.

Do you support tax incentives as a tool for recruiting new businesses to Boulder

Progressive failing to care for the working class, and small businesses, contributed in no small way towards our countries march into fascism.

Do you support the proposal for considering special taxation authorities - including downtown development authority, metro districts - as urban renewal tools?

I do think quasi governments for certain districts is a brilliant idea, let people put their money where their mouth is. I also think Tax Increment Financing is not the same as free money, and we should be wary of leaning too heavily on it.

Do you support passage of the Boulder County Mental Health Tax ?

Its good but its not enough

JENNY ROBINS

Do you support further escalating increases in Boulder's minimum wage beyond the current 2025 rate?

No answer. Need to know how this current raise in MW is affecting our community. Do we have business loss? Are people finding it easier to live here? Need clear outcomes to decide.

Housing Development: The DRCOG 2024 study on housing needs states that Boulder will need an additional 10,700 housing units over the next 10 years to prevent rent and home prices from dramatically increasing. If elected to city council, would you commit to pursuing that housing goal ?

No answer. Need to understand how this affects our environment and infrastructure. We are below level of service across the board. We need to plan for taking care of our current residents while we discuss the DRCOG recommendations.