

City Council Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Roy Lindsay

Position Sought: 1 Ward: NW

1. Please describe why you are seeking the position of City Councilor.

Grants Pass is a wonderful community filled with energetic, compassionate and giving people. I want to do what I can to help continue the greatness that is Grants Pass and also help ensure that these difficult times do not diminish the character and beauty of this great area. There are significant challenges ahead, but with the entire community working together and addressing those challenges intelligently and with purpose, we can progress and succeed.

Government must be "Of the people, by the people and for the people". The economic future is uncertain. The role of government is to provide those goods and services that enhance the quality of life of the community and also, at the same time, provide security for all its citizens. There is a cost for government. The cost must be reasonable. Costs must be constrained within available resources and intelligently prioritized. The role of any elected official is to represent the citizens and provide quality leadership that can achieve the greatest value at a reasonable cost. Every one is a beneficiary of a successful government.

2. If elected do you have any specific things you would like to accomplish during your term on the City Council?

Long term funding stability for the city and county. For me, this is the great challenge for the next few years. With the loss of continued O&C payments to the county, there is an impact on city government as well. Inefficiencies abound when stable funding is allusive. Temporary and often costly short term measures do not help in the long term. Levy measures are unstable and do not provide the long term results that are desired. With the community working together to find a viable, correct and efficient solution, the benefits to Grants Pass can and should be profound.

3. Please provide us with a listing of your prior community and civic involvements in Grants Pass (or other communities).

Member of Rogue Valley Symphony Board of Directors - President
Member of Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors
Administration Committee - Concerts in the Park
Member of Rogue Music Theatre Board of Directors

Member of Boys & Girls Club of Rogue Valley Board of Directors
Rotarian
Member of Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors
Josephine County Sheriff's Advisory Council - Chair
Josephine County Civilian Financial Review Committee - Chair
Chamber of Commerce - Man of the Year - April 2008
Member of JOCO Long Term Finance Committee study group

4. Please tell us your understanding of the role of Economic Development and what you believe should occur with Economic Development during your term.

The economy appears to be teetering on the edge of a double dip recession. If that is the case, then as a councilor I intend to work with the other councilors to help respond to the impact of an economic pull back. Working with businesses, citizens and support organizations we can successfully work our way through the challenges that appear to be confronting us. Economic development is vital and an important activity for the health and well-being of the community. Encouraging businesses to expand and attracting new business needs to be done by professionals. Working with them and finding ways to accomplish successful approaches is paramount to realizing a vital and robust local economy.

5. What role you you believe Tourism promotion and the Tourism program should play in Grants Pass over the next four years?

Grants Pass has a rich history, magnificent resources and an environment that is attractive to visitors. I see a community that not only embraces each and every visitor making them feel quite welcome but also supports and encourages businesses to provide those services that attracts tourism. Tourism promotion is key to attracting visitors. If they don't know what we have to offer, they won't come. Taking advantage of every opportunity to promote the great area we live in is beneficial. It is best done by a concerted and well coordinated tourism promotional activity that captures the very best approaches to gaining recognition of the benefits of the area.

6. The decisions on the Urban Growth Boundary will be made in the next couple of years. Please tell us your understanding of the purpose, and your views on the extent (if any) that the Urban Grown Boundary should be expanded.

Urban Growth Boundary is a good management tool. It identifies those areas that the city can reasonably and with intelligence grow into as the city expands. It is a plan that identifies the various aspects of what will be required as growth occurs. It is important to identify those needs and requirements early so that adequate planning and direction of resources can be wisely applied to achieve satisfactory results. Without a plan, chaos is a possibility leading to poor decisions and less

than satisfactory results. The extent of the expansion needs to be determined logically and realistically.

7. What is your position on signage for local businesses (i.e. it should be extended, reduced, regulated, unregulated, etc.) and why?

Unregulated signage will lead to chaos and even ugliness. However, signage is very important for businesses and must be allowed to be reasonable and effective. Improper regulation of signage is unproductive and can lead to businesses not reaching their goals and even become unprofitable. The analysis of signage must begin for the point of view of what is effective, reasonable and at the same time attractive for the surroundings. Conditions change and technology changes as well. Signage regulations must be correct, reasonable and effective - otherwise the regulations are counter-productive.

8. The community survey annually asks about how citizens perceive growth and the impacts of growth on the community. Please describe for us your position on community growth.

Growth is going to happen unless the community does everything it can to completely stop it. But that is unrealistic. Nor can growth be controlled. Controlling growth means that the individuals and business have no say in where, when or how they expand. The key is "managed" growth. By managing growth certain aspects of expansion and growth can be confined to certain parameters in which growth will occur. Once those parameters are clearly established and are reasonable and correct, then growth will occur within the confines of the established standards. If the standards are realistic and correct, then there is great freedom to be expressed within those standards. This way growth can be somewhat anticipated and at the same time accommodated reasonably.

9. This City is actively evaluating parks and recreation plans. What is your position on the proposed park plan, and to what extent do you believe that parks should be directly funded by local taxing efforts.

The current parks and recreation plan is just that a plan. It is a compiled vision of what is projected to be requirements in the future as determined today. Those directions and evaluations will likely change in the future. For now, the plan stands as a sense of direction and is a vision of the future. The further out the timeline the more unclear the exact details become. But that is okay and is to be expected. What really counts is that there is a vision in place and a workable, realistic view of good things to come. The past history of Grants Pass clearly indicates that the public through donations, work and togetherness can achieve great things. When the time comes that it is determined that common sharing of resources through taxation is justifiable and reasonable, then a taxing effort may be put into place.

10. Please let us know your position on the funding of Public Safety (fire, police, building enforcement).

Public Safety is probably the highest priority of local government. Without it, chaos and fear abounds. Funding public safety is paramount. Certainly long term stable funding is most desirable. Long term funding stability accomplishes a great deal. Resources are not expended in coping with short term funding models. Also, longer term projects that are effective and economical can be planned, developed and executed when funding is reliable. Public Safety is paramount and must be of the highest priority in any planning, budgeting and operation of the city government.

11. Do you believe taxes and fees in Grants Pass are too high, too low, or about right, and to what extent do you believe these should be changed?

Asking this question is asking the wrong question and putting the cart before the horse. What really should be asked involves determining what are the needs, requirements and desires of the community. Each of these must then be explored, evaluated and prioritized intelligently and realistically. Once those programs/projects are clearly identified and resources clearly defined and determined, then the process of finding adequate resources begins. When resources can no longer be found to cover the prioritized list, then a re-examination of the prioritized list may be necessary. However, the resulting list must be confined to the available resources for those top activities and projects. This includes every department, activity and process. Obviously, some projects/activities cannot be funded. But that is necessary to understand in difficult times. This also requires a process that tries to find intelligent, positive and effective solutions to meeting those requirements.

12. In your opinion, what role does the downtown play in the future of Grants Pass?

Downtown Grants Pass plays a very important and vital part in the quality of life and well being of this community. Its uniqueness and attractiveness are an asset. The character and quality must be arduously preserved and even enhanced.

13. Please provide us with any other information you believe makes you the best candidate for the City Council.

My most recent experiences as Past-President of the Rogue Valley Symphony, Boys & Girls Club board, Josephine County Sheriff's Advisory Council Chair and Chamber of Commerce Board have provided me with a broad perspective of both the greatness and needs of this community. My past experiences as an Air Force Pilot, Asst. Budget Manager for a large non-profit organization, direct sales instructor and computer scientist have provided me with insights that enables me

to help define and thereby understand just what the problems really are. A well described problem can more easily be solved by selecting and implementing the right solution. Picking the solution and then defining the problem is counter-productive. I have served on many boards. The experience on these boards has provided me with the skills to be a team player to help achieve the best possible results for the organizations.