

COGS Candidate Questionnaire

Instructions: Please fill out the information requested and return it by **May 4, 2022 midnight** via email to: info@cogsaz.net Upon receipt of your completed questionnaire, you will be contacted to schedule an appointment for an interview with the COGS Board of Directors..

Your complete and unedited responses will be posted on the informational COGS website for public review, along with those of the other candidates. Please keep your answers brief. However, if you need more space the box will expand to accommodate you. If needed, please continue on an additional page.

No.	Question	Response
1.	DEMOGRAPHICS	
1.a.	Name	Barry Graham
1.b.	Address	7842 E. Monterosa Street, Scottsdale
1.c.	Phone	602-740-2570
1.d.	Years living in Scottsdale	26
1.e.	When did you register to vote in Scottsdale? Have you failed to vote in any Scottsdale or General Election since you registered?	When I turned 18. I have voted in all elections.
1.f.	Have you been elected or appointed to City positions including City Task Forces, Boards, Committees or Commissions? If so, please list.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020-2022 – Served on Scottsdale Planning Commission • 2014-2020 – Served on Scottsdale Transportation Commission and served as Chairman • 2012-214 – Served on the Scottsdale Building Advisory Board of Appeals and served as Chairman
1.g.	Please list any Civic Activities or organizations you belong to.	AICPA (Certified Public Accountants), International Management Accountants (Phoenix Chapter), LD 8 Republicans,
1.h.	Education/Training	University of Massachusetts (MS) Accounting Boston University (BA) Economics, International Relations Chaparral High School Scottsdale Leadership Class 28 (2014)
1.i.	Current Occupation or Pre-Retirement	CPA for WP+D, an Arizona-based accounting and consulting firm
1.j.	Other personal information that you would like to share:	My wife owns and operates her psychology business in south Scottsdale
2.	CAMPAIGN INFORMATION	
2.a.	Address	8776 E. Shea Blvd. #106-212 Scottsdale, AZ 85260
2.b.	Phone	602-740-2570
2.c.	Fax	
2.d.	Web-site address**<i>important</i>**	BarryGrahamResidentsFirst.com
2.e.	E-Mail address	bsgraham@gmail.com

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2.f	Endorsements	<p>Councilmembers Kathy Littlefield and Betty Janik Kathy & Bill Howard Howard Myers Copper Phillips Gail Sikes BJ Gonzalez Jim O'Connor Joseph Chaplik Jan Dubauskas</p>
3.	Why have you decided to become a candidate for City Council?	<p>While I was serving on Planning Commission, I witnessed an erosion of resident trust. I decided to become a candidate to serve as someone responsive to residents.</p>
4.a	Identify 3 major issues facing the Council.	<p>1) Distrust in City Council 2) Acrimony among members 3) Retaining and hiring qualified staff</p>
4.b	Identify 3 major issues facing the City.	<p>1) Out-of-control development 2) Being more responsive to residents 3) Environmental: water shortages & heat island effect</p>
5.	If elected, what would you like to accomplish?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore trust to council by respecting resident feedback. • Improve development by expanding the 750-foot radius limit and enacting a request-to-speak system. • Ensure charter officers enact Council's vision
6.	<p>Are there matters that may come before the City Council in which you would have a Conflict of Interest?</p> <p>If yes, what would the conflicting issues be?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>I'm not in the development community, but as a member of the business community, it's possible that my accounting clients or others may require me to recuse myself</p>
7.	Identify citizen/city processes that you believe need to be:	
7.a.	Created	<p>Creation of a budget commission</p>
7.b.	Improved	<p>Council should revisit appointing Boards and commissions so that each CC member chooses one person.</p>

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7.c.	Reduced	Look at the procurmenet process if there are non-compete bids that shouldn't be.
7.d.	Eliminated	Go through the books and ensure boards, commissions, departments and programs haven't outlived their useful life.
8.	Please state your position and/or action on the following zoning and land use issues:	
8.a	What is your position on citywide rezoning requests, text amendments, and General Plan Amendments that significantly change land use or increase height and/or density, especially in proximity to low-scale residential neighborhoods?	Each project should be decided on a case-by-case basis.
8b	<p>Typically, zoning entitlements are granted based on a promise to build to a specified development plan, with defined stipulations, that presumably provides specific Public Benefit. Once granted, if the property is sold, the new owner does not have to build what was originally promised in exchange for the entitlements.</p> <p>Do you support Conditional Zoning approvals that have time limits for construction to begin and/or unless an amended project, the approved zoning would revert back to the original zoning?</p>	Yes, and I have voted for them on Planning Commission.
8.c	<p>Recently, Scottsdale Fashion Square redevelopment was granted significant increases in height, without the location(s) for the height increase being identified.</p> <p>What is your opinion of this type of open-ended provision?</p> <p>Scottsdale Fashion Square contributes about \$13 million and 7% of the sales tax collected in Scottsdale.</p> <p>What are your recommendations to maintain its viability and tax revenue stream?</p>	It's best for zoning and zoning requests to be clear and consistent. I generally oppose such open-ended requests because they can go sideways while avoiding expected scrutiny and deliberation.

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8.d	<p>In “The Outpost” project, rezoning case, Rural land was rezoned to commercial adjacent to residential large- lot Rural lands, against staff recommendations, breaking with a longstanding policy prohibiting such rezoning.</p> <p>What will be your position on similar future rezoning case?</p>	<p>I would need to learn more about this and similar projects.</p>
8.e.	<p>What is your position on the prompt and precise enforcement of the conditions and stipulations prescribed in a Conditional Use Permit?</p> <p>What is your position on the revocation of a Conditional Use Permit whose holder was not in compliance with all major CUP conditions and stipulations that negatively impact neighbors?</p>	<p>Enforcing such conditions and stipulations is simply good governance. And we should never take revocation off the table.</p>
8.f.	<p>Should the city government have any role in the increased housing costs that are resulting in essential city workers and young families not being able to live within city limit</p> <p>How would you describe the effects upon the city with the addition of numerous multi-family apartment complexes citywide and the rezoning of single-family parcels into multi-family parcels?.</p>	<p>Some argue that adding apartments will eventually reduce the prices. But we’ve already added record numbers of apartments and condos, yet prices keep skyrocketing.</p> <p>I agree with Councilwoman Janik when she said that Scottsdale can’t accommodate everyone who wants to live here. Because if we did, she pointed out, “Scottsdale will no longer be Scottsdale.”</p> <p>Creating workforce housing is a separate issue. That’s why when I was serving on the Planning Commission last year I successfully pushed the developer of The Miller to increase by 60% the number of reduced rental rate units dedicated to first-responders, teachers, and healthcare workers.</p>
8.g.	<p>Would you support a designated Entertainment District with its own unique Noise and Event Ordinances?</p>	<p>The intention would be to protect the surrounding residents and businesses from noise, crime, and other nuisances. But there are often unintended consequences and it may set an unwanted precedent for other areas.</p>

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8.h.	In your opinion will the new city Short Term Rental controls and fines improve the neighborhood experience?	The short answer is that they should. But I don't know how much because problems from the STR party-houses can spring up quickly and without notice.
8i	Should all new projects be required to meet Green Building standards or offered bonuses (i.e. increased height or density or other amended standards)?	The city should encourage greener standards that conserve resources and fight heat-island effects.
8.j	Up-zoning increases the intensity of land use and density. Under what conditions do you support Up-zoning?	Generally I do not favor upzonings. I may support up-zoning if several conditions are met, including: Compliance with the general plan, it's in-character with the surrounding area, and the benefits to residents and the City are compelling.
9.	<p>There are not enough Preserve tax funds remaining to allow acquisition of all the remaining land within the voter approved McDowell Sonoran Preserve Boundary.</p> <p>Should the city council determine if citizens want to complete the Preserve and if so how to pay for it?</p> <p>If not, how do you propose utilizing the remaining and future dedicated Preserve funds?</p>	I support maintenance and safeguarding the preserve from development and misuse. I opposed DDC and supported prop 420. If there are opportunities to add to it, we should look at them.
10.	Please state your position on city council Homeless policy and the current COS programs.	While homelessness can lead to increased crime and make people feel unsafe, it should be dealt with in a gentle manner. I plan to review our programs and their effectiveness.
10.a	<p>What is your vision for the city?</p> <p>What should Scottsdale look like in 10, 20, or 30 years from now?</p>	If we want to keep Scottsdale an attractive place that so many people and businesses want to move to, we must keep a low-profile, tourism city. Our visitors pay bed and sales taxes that fund our amenities and keep our taxes low—Tourism will dry up if the streets are gridlocked and vertical development has replaced all our desert views.

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10.b	What is your position on the merchants' proposed Construction Mitigation Plan ordinance that requires downtown projects to park their supplies and employee vehicles off public streets?	When I was on Planning Commission, I made the winning motion (6-1) to approve the Artisan with the added stipulation that it included a construction mitigation plan, which would be a first for Scottsdale
11.	Please state your position and/or	action on the following finance issues:
11.a	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic has taken a severe toll on Scottsdale's finances, businesses, and tourism industry. While an exact dollar figure is not yet available, we know it is in the millions.</p> <p>At the April 26th, 2022, city council meeting the Fiscal Report by the city treasurer outlined current financial status. What is your opinion on the current financial sustainability of our city?</p>	I would rely on the city treasurer as far as undering our financial health and how we can live within our means. I think structurally balancing the budget by not deferring maintenance is very important.
11.b	Do you support using taxpayer funds to subsidize or enter private-public partnerships for private sector investments such as buildings, stadiums, promoted events, etc.?	These should be determined case-by-case.
11.c	<p>At present, the City has awarded multimillion-dollar contracts to the Scottsdale Cultural Council and Experience Scottsdale without going through a bid process.</p> <p>Are you for or against continuing this practice and why?</p>	I favor competitive bids unless there's a compelling reason not to.
12.	Please state your position and/or	action on the following transportation questions:
12.a.	The Transportation Master Plan was approved by city council at the April hearing. What decisions in that document would you encourage to change in the future?	I served on the Transportation Commission for nearly 7 years and I am still processing and reviewing this one.

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12.b	<p>Within the Downtown area, the city has approved under-parked projects by charging in-lieu parking fees at the last rate approx. \$13,000/space which is under current value of \$50K to \$60K to construct.</p> <p>This fund was to be used to build public parking facilities in the future. Staff reported that funds have been used for non-garage funding and is too small an amount for land purchase or garage construction.</p> <p>How do you propose to deal with Downtown parking issues and the use of in-lieu parking fees?</p>	<p>We need to ensure there's adequate public parking, that projects are sufficiently parked, and that rules on the books are enforced.</p>
13.	<p>Please state your position and/or</p>	<p>action on the following questions:</p>
13.a.	<p>What steps would improve Public Safety to reduce impaired driver/pedestrian traffic deaths in our downtown?</p>	<p>I would look to public safety professionals for the recommendations.</p>
13.b.	<p>Residents citywide have expressed concern about the lack of responsiveness or fine enforcements by of the Code Enforcement department. Additionally, the COS Audit 2021 for that department summarized sub-standard performances.</p> <p>How would you improve this situation?</p>	<p>The city should increase the staff count.</p>
13.c.	<p>Do you believe that the mindset of your supporters and contributors is representative of Scottsdale residents' values and vision?</p> <p>If so, why?</p> <p>If not, why?</p>	<p>My supporters are very diverse and so is our city. I'm proud of the colationion we're building and how they reflect the city.</p>
14.	<p>Identify city services that you believe need to be:</p>	
14.a.	<p>Created</p>	
14.b.	<p>Improved</p>	

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14.c.	Reduced	
14.d.	Eliminated	
15	Identify city revenue sources that should be:	
15.a	Created	
15.b	Increased	
15.c.	Reduced	
15.d	Eliminated	
16.	Is there anything in your background that you would not like publicized on the front page of local newspapers?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please explain)
17.	Additional Comments:	Thanks COGS for all you do.

Signature  Date 5/4/22

Please type your name for your electronic signature.

Thank you for your time and careful consideration of each response.

Please email your completed questionnaire **by May 4, 2022 midnight** to: info@cogsaz.net

ALL completed candidate's questionnaires will be posted on the COGS website at www.cogsaz.net

Thank you for taking your valuable time to complete this questionnaire.

The COGS - Coalition of Greater Scottsdale — Board of Directors

Andrew Scheck, Jim Davis, Howard Myers, Marilyn Atkinson, Chris Schaffner, Stan

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Morganstern, Copper Phillips and Sonnie Kirtley