

COGS Candidate Questionnaire

Instructions: Please fill out the information requested and return it by [3/23/24 via email to:copperphillips@cox.net](mailto:copperphillips@cox.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	Robert (Bob) Lettieri
1.b.	Home Address	8921 N. 87th Court
1.c.	Phone	602-316-5962
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?	1998
1.f.	Have you been elected or appointed to City positions including City Task Forces, Boards, Committees or Commissions? If so, please list.	No
1.g.	Please list any Civic Activities or organizations you belong to.	
1.h.	Education/Training	MBA Finance ASU, MS accounting/Economics FDU. BS Accounting Saint John's University
1.i.	Current Occupation or Pre-Retirement	Fractional CFO for Three clients
1.j.	Other personal information that you would like to share:	
2.	CAMPAIGN INFORMATION	
2.a.	Address	8921 N. 87th Court
2.b.	Phone	602-316-5962
2.c.	Fax	
2.d.	Web-site address**<u>important</u>*	Bob4citycouncil.com
2.e.	E-Mail address	boblettieri@outlook.com
2.f.	Endorsements	Currently considering endorsements

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3.	Why have you decided to become a candidate for City Council?	I am running for Scottsdale City Council because as a 25-year resident, I have the very same concerns that you, my neighbors, and the people of Scottsdale have. I want to represent you and respond to the concerns of the people of Scottsdale by bringing my C-Level managerial experience to our city's government.
4.a.	Identify 3 major issues facing the Council.	Credibility, Budget overruns and rezoning
4.b.	Identify 3 major issues facing the City.	increased traffic congestion, density, wasteful City spending and rising crime.
5.	If elected, what would you like to accomplish?	I will bring my skills as a CFO to analyze the budget and make recommendations for those who don't have the experience or confidence to voice their views. I have an eye toward the future, and I am not shy about recommending strategic moves and initiatives to ensure the financial health of our city. I will be your advocate for growth and will preserve our quality of life while also bringing economic growth and sustainability to the City of Scottsdale. Most important, you will have someone who will listen and act upon your concerns.
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>	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO!
7.	Identify citizen/city processes that you believe need to be:	
7.a.	Created	A scorecard or index on Mayor and city council voting record matched against the residents' preferences.
7.b.	Improved	Transparency regarding budget overruns. Allocate more funding to law enforcement.
7.c.	Reduced	The size of city staff

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7.d.	Eliminated	Superfluous services.
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 single family residential neighborhoods?	Hold the line on current Codes and Ordinances. Doing so would significantly reduce the number of rezoning amendments that change land use, increase height and cause density, especially in proximity to single family residential neighborhoods.
8.b	Conditional Zoning approvals currently do not have time limits for construction to begin and/or unless the project is amended. Should the approved conditional zoning revert back to the original zoning after a specified time period? Please provide the rational for your position.	To start with, Conditional Zoning approvals should be the exceptions and not the rule. Conditional zoning approvals should have a practical time limit. Unless a time limit is imposed the original intent of the project can become compromised and require additional variances. the approved conditional zoning should revert to the original zoning after a specified time.
8.c	<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. Another project being proposed is to rezone Rural lands from R-190 (5 acre) to R1-43 (1 acre) for a gated development which prohibits horses, adjacent to rural horse operations and stables.</p> <p>What will be your position on these and similar future rezoning cases?</p>	In general, I am opposed to projects that increase density. I would carefully evaluate the infrastructure planning to support building on one acre vs five. A project that increases development by 5x in a rural area should address the environmental impact and ensure preservation.

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8.d.	If a Conditional Use Permit holder is not in compliance with ALL of the major CUP conditions and stipulations, how should the city respond?	Enforce compliance.
8.e.	Should the city government have any role in the unaffordable housing costs that are resulting in essential city workers and young families not being able to live within city limits?	NO. There is more affordable housing in reasonably commuting distances from Scottsdale.
8.f.	How would you describe the effects upon the city with the addition of numerous multi-family apartment complexes citywide and the rezoning of any parcels into multi-use (apartments plus small business complex) parcels? Please discuss positive and negative impacts such as housing costs, tourism, traffic congestion, parking, Look and feel of the Scottsdale, etc.	As a Scottsdale resident I am concerned about density, traffic congestion, and rising crime. My concern is that my quality of life will continue to deteriorate. Why? Because the current City Government allows rezoning that leads to increased urbanization and allows complete disregard for our concerns about multistory apartment buildings. If urbanization has a positive economic benefit, why isn't our tax decreasing.
8.g.	Would you support a designated Bar/Entertainment District with its own unique Noise and Event Ordinances? Please explain why or why not.	NO. I believe it would cause a deterioration of the appeal of OLD Town Scottsdale.
8.h.	<p>Do you support complete control of short term rentals reverting back to cities? The legislature has refused to hear any of the proposed bills to restrict STRs in this session.</p> <p>Do you have solutions to share regarding the neighborhood impact of some short term rentals?</p>	<p>Yes, it's a local issue that cities should control, because it directly affects residents of the city.</p> <p>Limit the number of occupants.</p>

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8.i.	<p>Should all new projects be required to meet Green Building standards? Should bonuses (increased height, density, etc.) be offered if Green Building standards are met?</p> <p>Should such bonuses be given as a matter of routine or to truly exceptional additions to projects that outweigh the value of the bonuses?</p>	<p>Yes, to meeting Standards.</p> <p>No, Standards should be adhered to maintain sustainable growth.</p> <p>No, in this context I see bonuses as an incentive to compromise standards.</p>
8.j.	<p>Up-zoning increases the intensity of land use and density. Under what conditions do you support Up-zoning?</p>	<p>Only those that would improve our quality of live and enrich our community.</p>
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. Please state your position on ending the current sales tax or extending it at the same or a different rate and for what period of years. Why or why not?</p>	<p>I would support the issuance of a bond not a tax to acquisition of all the remaining land within the voter approved McDowell Sonoran Preserve Boundary.</p>
10.	<p>Please explain your position on these city issues:</p>	
10.a.	<p>What is your vision for the city? What should Scottsdale look like in 10, 20, or 30 years from now?</p>	<p>We need an eye toward the future, and I will be not shy about recommending strategic moves and initiatives to ensure our city remains fiscally healthy and our property values high. As your advocate for sensible growth and fiscal accountability, we will preserve our quality of life and Scottsdale will continue to be the jewel of the Southwest. As your next City Councilman, I'll continue to listen to you and together, we'll change Scottsdale for the better.</p>
10.b.	<p>What is your position on the location of the new bond-funded parking garage in the Downtown area? Please explain why you have chosen the location you chose.</p>	<p>I don't have sufficient information to address this question</p>

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11.a.	<p>1. The concept of Fiscal Sustainability involves managing the annual operating budget by balancing income with expenses.</p> <p>Do you identify any of the city decisions as creating a negative impact on long-term fiscal sustainability?</p> <p>2. Focus your opinions on the city infrastructure, such as roads, city owned facilities, water and sewer, and public services, i.e., public safety, emergency response, communications. Do you support using bond funds on any of the above expenses? Why or why not?</p> <p>3. There are thousands of approved apartments in the pipeline. Please describe how you think these developments will impact the city's operating budget. Please include facts to support your position.</p>	<p>1. As a CFO, I was responsible for the fiscal health of multiple companies throughout my career. My responsibilities included ensuring revenues and expenses stayed in balance, analyzing financial data, and attesting to the accuracy of the data.</p> <p>The City of Scottsdale has a \$2 billion annual budget. Serving you on Council, I will bring my skills as a CFO to analyze the budget, hold the bureaucracy accountable and make sure that our taxes are spent wisely.</p> <p>2. Maintenance of the city's infrastructure should be in the city's budget. Infrastructure Expansion and improvement projects should be funded by issuing Bond to fund the project.</p> <p>3. If the projected tax revenue from the thousands of approved apartments in the pipeline doesn't exceed the cost of services needed for safety and maintaining our quality of life then the growth is not sustainable. My basis is that the current budget doesn't provide for cost increases based on the excepted increase in population from the thousands of approved apartments in the pipeline.</p>
11.b.	<p>Currently, the city allocates funds for events that are not within the City of Scottsdale, e.g., Final Four that is held in Glendale. What is your position on continuing such funding and why/why not?</p>	<p>I would not support funding events held in other cities unless I have verifiable evidence that it is Scottsdale's best interest E.G. How much revenue does Scottsdale receive from events like the Super Bowl that is held in Glendale vs. the expense in providing service.</p>
12.	<p>Please state your position and/or action on the following transportation questions:</p>	
12.a.	<p>The Transportation Master Plan was approved by city council at the April 2022 hearing. What decisions in that document would you encourage to change in the future?</p>	<p>In February, I submitted a citizen's petition with the support of hundreds of residents, to remove 6 roads from the list of roads being reclassified for car lane removal. In March, the city responded with a decision that No roads will be removed from the list. I would encourage first in the future.</p>

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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 \$50,000-\$60,000 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 dealing with Downtown parking issues and the use of in-lieu parking fees?</p>	<p>Because the funds have been redirected Consider increasing the in-lieu parking fees to match the current construction costs of parking spaces. This would provide a more substantial pool of funds for future parking infrastructure projects.</p> <p>Promote alternative transportation options such as public transit and carpooling to reduce the demand for parking spaces. Encourage employers to implement commuter benefits programs and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure.</p>
14.	Identify city services that you believe need to be:	
14.a.	Created, Oversight committee comprised of subject matter experts who are independent and objective.	
14.b.	Improved	
	Funding for the police and fire departments	
14.c.	Reduced	
	Budget overruns	
14.d.	Eliminated	
15	Identify city revenue sources that should be:	
15.a	Cre special assessments on property owners within specific districts to fund improvements or services that directly benefit those properties.	
15.b.	Increased	

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15.c.	Reduced Sales tax applies at the same rate to all purchases, regardless of the buyer's income level. This means that low-income individuals spend a larger proportion of their income on taxable goods and services compared to high-income individuals. As a result, sales tax takes a larger percentage of income from lower-income households, making it regressive.	
15.d.	Eliminated	
16.	Other city issues/perspectives you would like to share a position on?	
17.	Additional Comments:	

Robert Lettieri

April 3, 2024

Signature _____ Date _____

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 March 23, 2024, to: copperphillips@cox.net**

ALL completed candidate's questionnaires will be posted on the COGS website at

<https://coalitionofgreatercottsdale.org>

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 Morganstern, Cathy McKeever, Copper Phillips, and Sonnie Kirtley