2008 POWAY CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE Q & A

HOWARD COLLINS

ISSUE	YES/NO	CANDIDATE COMMENT
1. WHY RUNNING: Why did you decide to run for a seat on Poway City Council? Also, what is your vision for Poway's future?	----	I am running to bring new points of view to city issues. I have the knowledge and long time volunteer experience in health/safety issues, civic education, economic development and business advocacy. My vision for Poway is maintaining our quality of life through a financially stable city with full citizen involvement.
2. TOP ISSUES: What do you think are the top 4 issues in Poway?	----	1. Wal-Mart expansion plans 2. Location of affordable housing 3. Water conservation 4. City infrastructure maintenance and upgrades
3. WAL-MART EXPANSION: If elected, will you vote to approve Wal-Mart's proposed expansion (to approximately 200,000 sq. ft.) at its current site?	NO	Based on the information I have, the expansion does not meet the following criteria: 1. There is not overwhelming demand for it. 2. Does Poway need it? 3. Will the majority of Poway residents use it? 4. The expansion will not create or add great value to Poway or its citizens.
4. AFFORDABLE HOUSING: Do you think there is an over-concentration of AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMPLEXES in the core area of South Poway? If so, what will you do to change this trend if you are elected?	YES	Our fair share of affordable housing is defined by SANDAG. Any change requires moral courage and political leadership to challenge the SANDAG affordable housing mandate and placement of affordable housing in the City of Poway.

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5. <u>CITY BUDGET:</u> What are your proposals to keep the City of Poway's budget in check -- while also maintaining Poway's 'CITY IN THE COUNTRY' atmosphere as much as possible?	----	<u>FIRST</u>: Have a conservative city operations budget that will maintain our quality of life. <u>SECOND</u>: Downsize or consolidate city sponsored events. <u>THIRD</u>: Consider fees or fee increases for some city services There would be no cuts in public safety and emergency responder services.
6. <u>EMPTY STOREFRONTS:</u> To what do you attribute the ongoing glut of empty storefronts along Poway Road? Also, if elected, what would you propose to fix this?	----	The longtime, ongoing conventional City Hall view is that economic forces and demand will dictate the business viability of the Poway Road corridor. I would work with the Economic Development Office, Poway Chamber of Commerce and Poway Road businesses to modernize locations and recruit new businesses.
7. <u>UNANIMOUS VOTES:</u> The vast majority of city council votes are unanimous. Why do you think this is? Also, if elected, will you be willing to vote in the minority if you conclude that is the right thing to do for Poway and its residents?	**YES**	Majority votes can be a result of "group think" with no individual perspective on the issue. Also, if council members challenged some city staff recommendations, voting patterns would be different.
8. <u>LIVE BROADCASTS:</u> Poway is the only North County city without LIVE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS ON CABLE and/or LIVE WEBSTREAMING. This was a campaign promise made in 2004 and again in 2006. If elected, will you work to make this happen as soon as possible?	**YES**	I would need three votes. If costs aren't prohibitive, I always advocate open, inclusive accountable city government. Live televised meetings are a good final step.
9. <u>SOUTH POWAY ISSUES:</u> Most City Council Members and candidates are North Poway residents. If elected, what will you do to ensure that vital South Poway issues are not short-changed?	----	This is another ongoing community concern that requires city council/political leadership. This North-South divide is very counter-productive to the stewardship and governance of Poway. If elected, I will represent all of Poway.

CANDIDATE Q&A FORMS FOR ALL POWAY CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES CAN BE FOUND ON THE SOUTH POWAY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION WEBSITE: www.SouthPowayResidents.com