

COGS Candidate Questionnaire

Instructions: Please fill out the information requested and return it by **May 4, 2020** via email to: **cogspc1@gmail.com**. Upon receipt of your completed questionnaire, you may be contacted to schedule an appointment for an interview with the COGS Political Committee.

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	Suzanne Klapp
1.b.	Address	12475 N. 133 rd Place
1.c.	Phone	602-750-0207
1.d.	Years in Scottsdale	22
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 No
1.f.	Have you been elected or appointed to City positions including City Task Forces, Boards, Committees or Commissions? If so, please list.	City Council's Districts Task Force City Council
1.g.	Please list any Civic Activities or organizations you belong to.	Board – RPTA Board – MAG Transportation Policy Committee Valley Leadership member DUET – volunteer for respite visits Age Friendly Scottsdale Working Group – City, agencies, other non-profits Neighbors Helping Neighbors Committee – Scottsdale Mountain Community Association
1.h.	Education/Training	BA – English/Journalism – University of Evansville (IN) MBA – Southern Methodist University (TX)
1.i.	Current Occupation or Pre-Retirement	City Councilwoman Retired retail business owner – 20 years in Scottsdale
1.j.	Other personal information that you would like to share:	
2.	Campaign Information	
2.a.	Address	12475 N. 133 rd Place

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2.b.	Phone	602-750-0207
2.c.	Fax	None
2.d.	Web-site address	suzanneklapp.com
2.e.	E-Mail address	suzanne@suzanneklapp.com
2.f.	Endorsements	Mayor Jim Lane, County Supervisor Bill Gates, Phoenix Councilman Sal DiCiccio, Phoenix Councilman Jim Waring,
3.	Why have you decided to become a candidate for City Cu?	I am a candidate for Mayor. After 12 years of service on the City Council, I have gained deep experience and have demonstrated my ability to work with everyone and get results on numerous issues important to residents and businesses. I also enjoy the work of the Council.
4.a	Identify 3 major issues facing the Council.	1) Drastic revenue reductions 2) Cutbacks of services and programs 3) The General Plan
4.b	Identify 3 major issues facing the City.	1) Loss of tourism and retail business 2) Regaining confidence from residents and businesses 3) Protecting the health and safety of everyone in the city
5.	If elected, what would you like to accomplish?	1) Steer financial decisions toward a responsible and sustainable budget 2) Gain voter approval on an updated General Plan in 2021 3) Bring more collaboration and consensus among council members 4) Continue to keep taxes low and cut costs and maintain the highest priority city services 5) Support first responders for high level of safety and health
6.	Are there matters that may come before the City Council in which you would have a Conflict of Interest? If yes, what would the conflicting issues be?	X No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
7.	Identify citizen/city processes that you believe need to be:	
7.a.	Created	

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7.b.	Improved	
7.c.	Reduced	
7.d.	Eliminated	
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 case stands on its own, and I will make decisions on the overall community good.
8b	<p>Typically, zoning entitlements are granted based on a promise to build to a specified development plan, with defined stipulations, that presumably provides some benefit to the city. 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>Would you support conditioning zoning change approvals on building exactly what was promised, and if it wasn't, the zoning would revert back to the original restrictions?</p> <p>If not, how would you hold the property owner, and any subsequent owners, to the plan promised in order to get the change?</p>	I favor development agreements that must go with the land regardless of changes in ownership. A new owner would then be bound by the agreement or must come back to the Council with a request for a change.

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t	<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 SFS's viability and tax revenue stream?</p>	<p>On a large development such as Fashion Square, there needs to be flexibility on internal locations for various heights.</p> <p>Several years ago the Council granted the same flexibility for planned development on the HonorHealth campus in downtown.</p> <p>SFS is one of the most successful shopping centers in Macerich's portfolio. The mixed use and diversification of development on the entire property will allow increased tax revenue because of addition of high-end restaurants, a hotel and office building. Management has great marketing planning and should over the long term be able to be one of the most popular shopping centers in the valley with a good tax revenue stream. I recommend letting the property owners do what they do best, following market trends and overall financial sustainability.</p>
8.d	<p>In "The Outpost" project, rezoning case, rural land was rezoned to commercial adjacent to resident large lot rural lands, against staff recommendations, breaking with a longstanding policy prohibiting such rezoning.</p> <p>What impact do you believe this action had and will on similar future rezoning cases?</p>	<p>As I recall this case, the adjacent land owners were not opposed to the re-zoning and the staff did recommend the re-zoning after it was approved by the planning commission.</p> <p>This was a major general plan amendment re-zoning case, which required a super majority to pass. Any similar cases that might come forward would require the same super majority vote. That is why we have the major general plan process in place.</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>I believe it is code enforcement responsibility to enforce the CUP by citing a property owner and making sure that the conditions and stipulations are followed. There is usually a warning to give the property owner time for compliance. Property owners tend to comply.</p> <p>.</p> <p>If a property owner refuses to comply, then the city has certain procedures in place to force compliance. This was the case in the recent flagrant non-compliance at BLK Live. If the owner had not finally folded, I would have agreed to revoke the CUP.</p>

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8.f.	<p>Identify any impacts (good and bad) upon the city with the addition of numerous multi-family/apartment complexes citywide and the continued rezoning of single-family parcels into multi-family parcels.</p> <p>How do you think the changing demographics of our residents will impact future demand for housing types?</p> <p>How will it impact what you believe the majority of residents want their city to be?</p>	<p>Multifamily housing is being built to fill increasing market demand. There has not been a trend toward less demand; in fact, the vacancy rate in available units is very low. Many older residents are selling larger homes and moving into multi-family housing, by choice, to be nearer to services and avoid typical home maintenance. Scottsdale has the highest percentage of its residents over the age of 65 in the country. This kind of lock-and-leave lifestyle is popular and is projected to continue to be attractive. With the addition of the preserve, 1/3 of the city's land is now protected from development and single housing inventory is low. More people want to live in Scottsdale, and they often find multi-family units more available and appealing. Also, in recent years, more people want to have their funds more liquid or they may not be able to put a down payment on a home. In both cases, renting is a better option.</p> <p>Recent surveys of residents indicate that a majority are fine with a good supply of apartments and condominiums as choices.</p>
8.g.	<p>Would you support a designated Entertainment District with its own unique Noise and Event Ordinances?</p> <p>What should be done to protect adjacent neighborhoods?</p>	<p>I don't think a separate District is necessary. Events are held all over the downtown area, and the Special Events Ordinance serves all these areas well. I worked diligently with other Council member to pass the Special Events Ordinance, which specifies requirements for special events and puts a limit on the number of events a business or organization can hold in a year.</p> <p>A large part of the entertainment district is proposed for redevelopment. I have spoken to business owners who plan to improve and beautify the area and appeal to a more affluent demographic. They do not want noisy frat-type parties. They understand they must work with surrounding neighbors to ease noise concerns.</p>
8.h.	<p>Scottsdale is currently reviewing the existing noise ordinance. What changes, if any, would you recommend to the existing allowable noise levels and ordinance?</p>	<p>I agree that we need to be able to measure base levels that are not picked up by current decibel meters. An acceptable base level could be added to the noise ordinance, if there are meters that can measure this component.</p>

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8.i	<p>Currently, all rural land parcels, regardless of size are in a single category of "Rural", allowing a five-acre zoning to be rezoned to one-acre parcels with only a Minor General Plan Amendment (simply majority of council needed).</p> <p>Do you support a change to the General Plan Update to create the 2 Rural zoning categories-</p> <p>1] parcels of 1 to less than 5 acres</p> <p>2] parcels of 5 acres or more,</p> <p>requiring a MAJOR General Plan Amendment and super majority vote to subdivide a 5 acre or greater parcel? Why or why not?</p>	<p>No. This does not qualify as a major general plan amendment. The parcel size is too small and has little impact on the greater part of Scottsdale. A Major General Plan Amendment is for larger parcels (above 10 acres in airpark, downtown and south Scottsdale and above 15 acres in neighborhoods in east and north Scottsdale.)</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.</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>	<p>Citizens should be asked if they want remaining and future funds used to maintain the Preserve. If they don't, then the city should end the tax and whatever funds remains after debt is paid should be returned to the taxpayers.</p>
10.	<p>Please state your position and/or action on the General Plan:</p>	
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>	<p>Scottsdale is a mature city that will continue to be known for its beauty, arts and cultural activities, diverse and healthy economy, unique neighborhoods, public amenities, open space, world class city services, and preservation of the desert and mountains.</p> <p>10 years – improved traffic flow and expanded use of technology to control infrastructure. Baby boomers will be selling homes as they move into their 80's. Increased housing should be available for their specific needs.</p> <p>20 years – Nearing build out</p> <p>30 years – Built out</p>
10.b	<p>How should the city grow to remain desirable and become and remain sustainable?</p>	<p>There are few thousand acres of open land left in the city. Some is held by the state, some by the city, and the rest by private property owners. Most development will be in-fill projects.</p>

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10.c	<p>Scottsdale voters have not approved an updated General Plan since 2001.</p> <p>Why do you believe the prior updates have failed?</p>	<p>We could not get agreement on the vision language in the plan.</p> <p>Not enough communication about the plan to increase awareness and understanding.</p>
10.d	<p>The city council, in a study session, shelved the Citizens' Task Force 2012-2014 draft update and did not submit it to the voters.</p> <p>They approved the 2001 GP plus the required AZ state elements without a public vote to be used during a new draft 2035 attempt.</p> <p>In 2020 one member from specific city council-appointed boards and commissions were selected for a General Plan Review Committee who are meeting online.</p> <p>What recommendation do you have for the success of this 2035 final draft? What do you project will be its weaknesses?</p>	<p>Right now the committee is meeting by the Zoom application, which does not allow immediate citizen input. Input can be received by email and by posting on the city website.</p> <p>As soon as the process can be opened up safely, meetings must be held in public, with proper social distancing and with opportunity for testimony.</p> <p>I have not heard the preliminary meetings to know any potential weaknesses, but there must be fair exchange of ideas and everyone must be heard. The plan will only be successful if there is adequate effort put into finding consensus.</p> <p>As each part of the plan is completed, the city council should be updated and given a chance for questions and suggestions.</p>
11.	<p align="center">Please state your position and/or action on the following finance issues:</p>	
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>What ideas do you have to:</p> <p>1] restructure the city budget with respect to budget cuts or other financial stop gaps?</p> <p>2] revive our economy, business, and tourism amidst pandemic fears?</p> <p>3] support small businesses as they struggle to re-open?</p> <p>4] create a sustainable budget?</p>	<p>Reduce projected revenues in 2020-2021 by 15-20%. Once I have further information on tax revenue receipts for April, I may adjust this number.</p> <p>Do not give planned salary increases in 2020-2021 fiscal year.</p> <p>Eliminate open full time and part time positions, except for jobs needed in essential areas.</p> <p>Eliminate contract people and consultants.</p> <p>Evaluate and cut some programs and services.</p> <p>Allow increased work from home time for appropriate positions to eliminate facility costs</p> <p>Evaluate reducing hours at some city facilities</p> <p>Identify and sell city land (not in the preserve) to free up funds.</p> <p>Promote Scottsdale as a safe and vibrant community</p> <p>Work with tourism businesses (hotels, resorts, etc.) to encourage visitors to return</p> <p>Continue the new Small Business Assistance Program run by our Economic Development Department and do outreach to the businesses who are working with the program.</p>

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11.b	<p>Do you support using taxpayer funds to subsidize or enter private-public partnerships for private sector investments such as buildings, stadiums, promoted events, etc.?</p>	<p>I don't believe in subsidies. If the city enters into a public-private partnership, the city must receive enough value in the arrangement that monies would not be considered a gift. The baseball stadium improvements are being paid with the city's portion of tourism funds, as agreed by the voters. I approve taxpayer funds to help pay for some signature events, such as Gold Palette ArtWalks in the Arts District.</p>
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>	<p>I believe the Council should discuss both organizations and their operations with a vote on whether contracts should go out for bid to other qualified operators.</p> <p>After many years, it is appropriate to open the process, if the city can be assured that any potential new operators will maintain our standards at a reduced cost and better outcomes..</p>
12.	<p>Please state your position and/or action on the following transportation questions:</p>	
12.a	<p>What solutions would you have for the current traffic congestion problems occurring throughout the City (types of mass transit, traffic control devices, etc.)?</p>	<p>When the citizens passed the small transportation tax in 2018, the money is now being used to design and complete projects all over the city to improve traffic flow, These projects should be completed and we will see improvements and reduction in congestion. I do not favor light rail or the modern streetcar as they are too expensive and would service a very small percentage of our residents.</p>
12.b	<p>Within the Downtown area, the city has charged in-lieu parking fees when a developer had not provided enough real parking spaces. These phantom spaces have been used repeatedly instead of actual parking availability. It was generally assumed these fees would be used at some point to build a parking facility. However, that apparently was not the case, as the city cannot account for these funds as they were not placed into a separate budget line or fund.</p> <p>How do you propose to deal with Downtown parking issues and the use of in-lieu parking fees?</p>	<p>I am told that the city can account for the money that has been paid into in-lieu parking. The city can provide details on parking structures and spaces that have been added with the in-lieu monies, and they have money still available in a separate account.</p> <p>I have been a leading advocate for providing more downtown parking, by the use of whatever fees are available and monies paid by downtown developers. I supported money being earmarked from the sale of land at Museum Square for public parking spaces to be built by the developer as part of the project. I also believe there should be guest parking provide by multi-family developments and hotels in the area.</p>
13.	<p>Please state your position and/or 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 requested a Council meeting to discuss adopting an ordinance Prohibiting use of an electronic device for talking or texting while driving. I agreed to wait for the legislature to meet on the issue. Fortunately, such a law was passed in the middle of last year (effective 1/1/21), so we did not have to enact an ordinance in Scottsdale.an ordinance in Scottsdale.</p>

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13.b	Residents citywide have expressed concern about the lack of responsiveness or fine enforcements by of the Code Enforcement department. How would you improve this situation?	According to a recent city report, average code inspection response time is less than a day. About 96% of cases are resolved through voluntary compliance. Cases take about two weeks to close. The only improvement needed would be to assure that the department remains adequately staffed.
13.c	Do you believe that the mindset of your supporters and contributors is representative of Scottsdale residents' values and vision? If so, why? If not, why?	Yes. Survey results by the city indicate that a large majority of residents are happy with the direction the city is heading.
14.	Identify city services that you believe need to be:	
14.a	Created	We need to provide adult day care services, through fees and a third party provider, as soon as we can get a facility built by the Granite Reef Center.
14.b	Improved	Use smaller vehicles for trolley routes.
14.c	Reduced	Reduce the number of trolley routes, based on ridership.
14.d	Eliminated	
15	Identify city revenue sources that should be:	
15.a	Created	After a financial analysis to assure that it would pay for itself, bring ambulance service in-house to work in tandem with fire and emergency service. Ambulance service would be provided on a fee basis.
15.b	Increased	Increase revenue from business and economic activity.
15.c	Reduced	Reduce fees for use of exercise equipment at the senior centers.
15.d	Eliminated	I just voted to eliminate library fines.

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16.	Is there anything in your background that you would not like publicized on the front page of local newspapers?	X No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please explain)
17.	Additional Comments:	

Signature _____ Suzanne Klapp _____

Date 5/3/2020 _____

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, 2020 to: cogspc1@gmail.com

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