

COPP Forum

Scottsdale City Council Candidate Questionnaire

Instructions: Please fill out the information requested and return it by July 1, 2008. Your unedited responses will be compiled with those of other candidates. Please keep your answers brief. However, if you need more space the response box will expand to accommodate you. If needed, please continue on an additional page.

No.	Question	Response
1.	Demographics	
1a.	Name	Lisa Borowsky
1b.	Address	7373 E. Doubletree Ranch Road, Suite 200, Scottsdale
1c.	Phone	480.991.3656
1d.	Years in Scottsdale	33
1e.	When did you register to vote in Scottsdale? Have you failed to vote in any Scottsdale or General Election in the past 5 years?	1994 Yes
1f.	Elected or Appointed Positions	N/A
1g.	Civic Activities	District 8 P.C., regularly involved in charity organizations/events, active in state legislative activities on behalf of both personal and professional interests.
1h.	Education (include graduation dates)	B.S.-Arizona State University J.D.-St. John's University, School of Law
1j.	Occupation	Attorney
1k.	Other personal information that you would like to share?	
2.	Campaign Information	
2a.	Address	Above
2b.	Phone	
2c.	Fax	480.609.5145
2d.	Web-site address	www.lisaborowsky.com
2e.	E-Mail address	lisa@lisaborowsky.com
2f.	Chair	Lisa Johnson Stone
2g.	Major sources of funds:	Fundraising
2h.	Endorsements	
3.	Why are you a candidate for City Council?	To make the Council more open and responsive to our citizens; to increase citizen participation in the process; to ensure fairness for everyone in the business community; to protect Scottsdale's unique place as Arizona's premier city.

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4.	Identify the major issues facing the Council.	Openness, fairness in business, transportation planning, citizen involvement.
5.	If elected, what would you like to accomplish?	More openness for all, fewer hurdles for small business owners, common sense transportation planning
6.	Are there matters that may come before the City Council in which you would have a Conflict of Interest? What type of issues would these be?	I don't think so. It is always possible such an issue will arise at which point I will recuse myself. HOA that I represent may have an issue come before the City Council.
7.	Are there any citizen/city processes that need to be changed? Describe.	The bureaucratic and red tape tangle now confronting business owners must be streamlined. We are discouraging rather than encouraging entrepreneurs and innovative business development. The Council has to stop retreating into Executive Sessions that exclude the public.
8.	What is/was your position on the following issues and what did/would you do to support your position?	
8a.	Growth and rezonings that increase density.	Some density increases in appropriate areas may be justified, especially if it saves valuable open space.
8b.	With increasingly taller buildings planned in communities to our east, south and west, Scottsdale is being pressured to follow suit. Do you feel it is appropriate to modify Scottsdale's building height restrictions in favor of taller buildings? If so, why do you believe that would be proper, and in what parts of the city and to what height limits should modifications be proposed. Comment specifically on downtown and the Airpark.	Some height modifications may be justified both downtown and at the Airpark if they benefit Scottsdale citizens universally and if we are certain the infrastructure to support them is in place, particularly traffic considerations. Increasing height simply because other cities are doing so makes little sense to me. We have to protect the lifestyle we so value here in Scottsdale – trying to go taller and bigger than adjoining cities does not accomplish that goal.
8c.	Code Enforcement: Is it a problem and, if so, how would you solve it.	We need to review ordinances being abused or that are out of date so they benefit, rather than hinder, our citizens.

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8d.	<p>There has been much debate over whether Westworld should remain primarily an equestrian-event oriented facility or should become more of a regional exhibition center. What type of event facility do you believe Westworld should be and how does the 80 acres the city purchased north of Bell Road factor into that? Should the city keep or sell the 80 acres?</p>	<p>Since the majority of the land at Westworld is on a public purpose lease from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and is in a flood retention area, most of Westworld will always be equestrian-event oriented. The acreage north of Bell and the other land adjacent to Westworld should be used expand the multipurpose capacity. The 80 acres should not be sold off if the funds can be found to keep it.</p>
8f.	<p>Do you support using taxpayer funds in any amount to subsidize private sector investments? If so, please describe. If not, do you believe the city should be barred by a city ordinance from using taxpayer funds to subsidize private sector investments? If so, please describe.</p>	<p>In general, I do not believe taxpayers should subsidize private sector businesses. However, incentives or subsidies might be justified, in extremely limited situations, if the business/enterprise they support provides well paying, long-term jobs for Scottsdale citizens.</p> <p>Appropriate leadership on the Council and listening to our citizen's desires and concerns would negate the necessity for even more regulations.</p>
8g.	<p>Do you believe it is in the city's best interest to enter into a long-term agreement the Barrett-Jackson Auto Auction? Why do you think that despite many years of attempting to come to a long-term agreement the city and Barrett-Jackson have not been able to do so?</p>	<p>Barrett-Jackson brings visitors and revenues to Scottsdale. Proper leadership from the Council should have resolved this situation without delay or significant taxpayer contributions.</p>
8h.	<p>Condemnation: Include in your response your willingness to utilize condemnation, if necessary, to acquire land for the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, or other public good.</p>	<p>Condemnation must be a last resort in any endeavor. Again, visionary leadership should avoid this necessity in nearly all cases. A bigger issue facing completion of the Preserve is the \$1 billion plus price tag. While I strongly support completion of the preserve we must keep economic reality in the forefront of our decision-making.</p>

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8i.	<p>Preservation: Are you committed to acquiring all the land within the voter approved Preserve Boundary? Do you support the proposed Desert Discovery Center at the Gateway to the Preserve, Thompson Peak Parkway north of Bell Road? Why or why not? How do you think its capital costs should be financed? Its operational costs? Do you think it is an appropriate location for a large, open-air arts venue? Why or why not?</p>	<p>YES.</p> <p>YES.</p> <p>A balance of private-public funds.</p> <p>Operational costs should be funded through operational revenue.</p> <p>Yes, if it can be designed to fit in an unobtrusive manner and complement the DDC financially and operationally.</p>
8j.	<p>Traffic: Do you believe the Transportation Master Plan solved any of the city's transportation issues? If so, what part of the TMP do you support? What part do you not support?</p>	<p>No. It ignored citizen input, does not protect business owners along transportation routes and focuses too much on big ticket items at the expense of practical common sense solutions. Synchronized traffic lights, bus/trolley pullout lanes and right turn lanes at our busiest intersections would be a better start.</p>
8k.	<p>Do you favor light rail or other form of high capacity transit for Scottsdale? If so, what kind and where? Will you support the City Council's resolution that prior to adoption of a plan for light rail transit anywhere in Scottsdale it shall be put to a non-binding public vote to allow Scottsdale voters to voice their opinion? Do you support the expenditure of \$50,000 annually to join the Valley Metro Rail Study Group?</p>	<p>No. There is currently no practical route for light rail not destructive to the business owners along the route. Expanding our existing bus and trolley system is a more practical and less expensive alternative. Greater citizen input in planning and decision-making is always a good idea.</p>

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8l.	Much has been written and stated recently about a morale problem among city employees. Do you believe a morale problem exists, and if so, how can it be remedied?	By electing council members who are committed to open and honest government
9.	Services – Identify City functions that need to be:	
9a.	Created	Ombudsman for small businesses
9b.	Improved	Citizen Boards and Commissions; top employee review process
9c.	Reduced	
8d.	Eliminated	All functions should be reviewed periodically by the City manager/staff. They should make recommendations on functions/programs which could be eliminated. This should be a part of the budgeting process.
10.	Identify City revenue sources that should be:	
10a.	Created	
10b.	Increased	(Or maintained...) Sales taxes should increase as a result of attracting and maintaining businesses, including tourism.
10c.	Reduced	All revenue sources should be reviewed regularly to protect Scottsdale taxpayers.
10d.	Eliminated	Tax on Groceries
11.	Is there anything in your background that you would not like publicized on the front page of local newspapers?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
12.	Would like to receive a copy of the compiled results?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Signature Lisa M. Borowsky

June 30, 2008

Please type your name for your electronic signature.

Date