



Please return to rlovell@hrra.com by 5:00pm on
Wednesday, September 19, 2016

Candidate Name: Brian Bass

Occupation: Construction Inspector

Position Desired: Mayor

City: Suffolk

Incumbent: Yes No If Yes, Year Elected: _____

Other Publicly Elected Positions Held: _____

Campaign Name: friendsofbrianbassformayor

Campaign Address: 1009 W.Washington St. Suffolk, Va. 23434

Email Address: friendsofbrianbassformayor@gmail.com Phone #: _____

Website: brianbassformayor.com

Please feel free to attach additional comments or materials if adequate space is not provided for your answer.

Interviews will be scheduled for selected candidates after we receive and review your completed questionnaire.

1. Do you own your home? If so, approximately how long have you been a homeowner in this locality?

Yes, for approximately 24 years.

2. Do you now or have you ever owned rental property: Yes No

3. Please list any REALTORS® who provided you support and/or are actively working on your campaign.

a.

b.

c.

4. If you are elected, what will be your top three (3) priorities and why are these your priorities?

I would encourage more involvement in our school system by encouraging the City Council and School Board to work together for full funding, career days, involvement by City Council, and City staff (not just ribbon cutting and graduation).

I would work on maintaining full staffing in all departments by being informed on any shortfalls addressing the importance to be fully staffed.

Infrastructure will be maintained on a proactive approach, not reactive. By addressing routine maintenance issues this would help sustain infrastructure for longevity and avoid failure of systems that cost more in the long term.

5. What specific strategies/plans do you have to improve transportation in the Hampton Roads region from within your role in Suffolk city government?

This is an issue that the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) is working to find beneficial ways to improve roadway traffic and infrastructure. I am aware of the issues and will support what is best for the area.



State of
Transportation 2016 F

From a recent Suffolk News Herald article: “While it is the duty of the School Board to develop a capital improvements plan that addresses its needs, the particular set of challenges Suffolk faces in the coming years are a result of — and will impinge upon — the city’s development priorities and policies, and those factors are functions of decisions made at City Hall. Therefore, it would be to everyone’s benefit if City Council were to work directly with the School Board to begin considering the school system’s construction needs for the medium and long terms. A good place to start that conversation would be in the joint task force those two bodies set up to explore opportunities to save tax dollars.” What are your thoughts about this issue?

The following is a guideline I use to process information and make decisions.

1. Get the facts.
2. Weigh all the facts then come to a decision.
3. Once a decision is reached, ACT!
4. Write out and answer the following questions:

- a. What is the problem?
- b. What are the causes of the problem?
- c. What are the possible solutions?
- d. What is the best possible solution?

I think everyone should be working together to form the best solution for long term growth that focuses on all aspects of local government.

6. What is Suffolk's participation in the Community Rating System of the National Flood Insurance Program? What will you do to improve the amount of flood insurance discounts in that program for Portsmouth homeowners?

I would work to ensure flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reward community actions that meet the three goals of the CRS, which are: (1) reduce flood damage to insurable property; (2) strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the NFIP; and (3) encourage a comprehensive approach to floodplain management.

7. The [Hampton Roads Planning District Commission shows a population](#) estimate for Suffolk on July 1, 2015 of 94,426. The 25 year annualized growth rate for Suffolk has been 2.23%. If that rate is maintained for the next 25 years, the population projection for Suffolk in 2040 may be about 164,500 (grow by about 70,000). What is your vision for how Suffolk will deal with this growth?

My vision is to ensure the City uses the smart growth vision.

The City of Suffolk has a smart growth vision in place committed to becoming a quality community by choice, not by chance. Therefore, Suffolk has established Smart Growth as a priority. Smart Growth means using comprehensive planning to guide, design, develop, revitalize, and build communities for all that: 1) have a unique sense of community and place; 2) preserve and enhance valuable natural and cultural resources; 3) equitably distribute the cost and benefits of development; 4) expand the range of transportation, employment, and housing choices in a fiscally responsible manner; 5) value long-range,

regional considerations of sustainability over short term incremental geographically isolated actions; and
6) promote public health and healthy communities.

8. Do you agree that the competition for economic development and job growth is not between states or individual cities or counties but rather between regions because companies recognize that their employees may work in one locality and live, shop and play in another? If so, what do you think is the biggest barrier to the individual localities located in Hampton Roads in working together for regional economic development? What would you do to help overcome that barrier?

Yes, I agree. The biggest barrier is regional traffic congestion and infrastructure development. I would look to use every resource available to solve this issue, with the help of members of the HRTPO there will be a solution and the City's smart growth vision.

9. The Economic Activity in Hampton Roads is largely dependent on the military/government employment/spending. Is that desirable? If yes, what will you do to enhance growth in Suffolk? If no, what specific plans/strategies will you promote to enhance a more diversified economy for Suffolk and Hampton Roads?

By using the best information available about Suffolk's physical environment, both developed and undeveloped, intelligent decisions can regarding the future growth, redevelopment and revitalization of our city. As part of the City's comprehensive planning efforts, the City of Suffolk's Geographic Information System is a database tool that can be used for informed planning analysis and decision-making that results in Smart Growth.