

**2018 Election Questionnaire for Fort Lauderdale Candidates**  
Please return to [abreid@sunsentinel.com](mailto:abreid@sunsentinel.com)

**Position you are running for:**

**Personal information**

Name: Bruce Roberts

Age: 69

Address and how long you have lived there: 2113 NE 64 Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308. My wife and I have resided at that address since 1992, which marks 25 plus years.

Occupation: Retired. Former FLPD Police Chief

Work history, at least 15 years back: Fort Lauderdale Police Department for 35 years until I retired as Chief in 2008 to run for office in 2009.

Education: Saint Thomas University Bachelor's Degree Public Administration Criminal Justice; University of Louisville Command Officer Development Course

Family status: Married to Scharlene and we have two adult children (my son Greg is married and is a Foreign Affairs Officer for the State Department; my daughter, Elizabeth is a Lieutenant on Boca Raton Police Department), and as of December 19, 2017, the proud grandfather of a little girl.

Have you ever been arrested or charged with a crime? No. If yes, please explain:

Have you ever been a plaintiff or defendant in a civil action, or in a bankruptcy or foreclosure? If so, please explain: When you serve as Chief of Police, anytime a lawsuit was filed against the City and/or FLPD, I would automatically be included as a sub-defendant. I believe there were two such cases, but it was in the line of duty and not personal. I have never been the subject of a bankruptcy or foreclosure.

Are you a member of any civic groups? If so, please name them: Florida Sheriff's Association, Fraternal Order of Police, Fort Lauderdale Chamber, Broward Workshop; MPO; Broward League of Cities; Florida League of Cities; Imperial Point HOA.

## **Issues**

Why are you running for office?

I have spent my entire career in public service, and am committed to continuing serving the people. I grew up in Fort Lauderdale upon my father's retirement from the Air Force and completed high school at Cardinal Gibbons. My wife and I raised our children in Fort Lauderdale. I served on the Fort Lauderdale Police Department for 35 years, earning my way to Chief of Police. During those years, I served on numerous task forces and, as the District Commander responsible for the Beach area dealt with violent crimes, drug dealers and money launderers, traffic problems, spring break, and homelessness on our beach (including even back then Paul Abbott feeding homeless individuals on our beach). I was a member of our SWAT Team as an officer, Sergeant and Captain. I developed the Department's first hurricane operations plan. During my later years, and certainly during my tenure as Chief of Police, I developed strong working relationships with City

Administration and staff , having oversight of Public Safety budgets, union negotiations, and business approach to community policing, while keeping our residents and tourists in a safe environment. I inherited a Consent Order issued by the Federal Government and immediately addressed that by reorganizing our police department and promoting from within to match and reflect the diversity of our residents. My approach as a Chief was accepting responsibility and finding the solutions to the problems, not pointing fingers at others. While serving as Chief, I learned more than I ever wanted to know about politics within the City, and the lack of ethics and integrity that was integrated within the Administration and policy makers at that time. Therefore, I resigned as Chief and ran for City Commission against an incumbent and actually, in a way, against the City Administrator who failed to respect the men and women who worked hard to protect our city.

Serving for the last nine years as District 1 Commissioner (by the way I have lived in District 1 since my parents moved to Fort Lauderdale), there are projects and challenges within the City that I believe I need to see to fruition. I am the only candidate for Mayor that has proven leadership skills and understands the complexities of the budget and the projects to achieve positive outcomes for our future. I am also retired and therefore I have the time to invest in this job to ensure that Administration and City staff are working with our business community, our neighborhoods and Broward County so that together we can strive to continue building a successful and financially strong City.

It's very easy for "political candidates" to tell the public that the sky is falling or create spins of what Administration and staff may be doing, and throwing bombs with misinformation; however, if you cannot build a consensus of a majority or supermajority of votes to achieve the solutions, then you do not possess the leadership skills it takes to be Mayor. Also, if you cannot grasp the budget process and the financials

of the City, you do not have the skills to be Mayor. I am the only candidate in this race that has those skills.

What are the three biggest issues facing Fort Lauderdale and what should be done about them?

1. Infrastructure
2. Traffic
3. Economic Development (including public safety/parks)

Describe Fort Lauderdale as you would to someone who is thinking of moving to the city or doing business there. For example, what are the city's attributes? What are the city's challenges? How does the city compare to neighboring cities? How would you describe the residents? What do you know about the city that isn't apparent on the surface?

Our City is one of the most diverse cities in Broward County. Our diversity is reflected not only by ethnic, gender and religious components of the community (which is something I am proud of since all people are accepted within our community), but the mix of residential, local and corporate businesses, tourism, cultural facilities, educational institutions, government institutions and employment hubs-making us the most unique in Broward County. We have one of the lowest unemployment rates in the State and even in the Nation. We provide top level services to everyone whether you are a resident, a worker, or a tourist. Downtown Fort Lauderdale was named "South Florida's Latest Hotspot" thanks to our unique urban life style with dining, entertainment, and amenities within walking distance of our live, work and play theme. Our property values have rebounded six consecutive years, and this past year our property values have jumped another 9.25%. Saying that, the property tax rate in Fort Lauderdale is the lowest among the 25 largest cities in Florida. Even with keeping our

tax rate low and not increasing the tax rate, we have maintained one of the strongest fund reserves at just below 25%, so when an unforeseen natural disaster such as Hurricane Irma hit, we had the financial ability to quickly and decisively work with our public works department, public safety departments and outside partners to address the needs of the City. Not all cities in Broward County can make that statement. Also, we have paid off some of the past debt services incurred by prior Commissions, which gives us an opportunity to revisit and borrow monies to accelerate funding over the next 20 years of our remaining known infrastructure needs without increasing our taxing needs on the residents. Our Bond Rating based on Standard and Poor's is AA+, and we work hard to continue maintaining that goal.

We welcome businesses and corporate partners, as well as their families, and can ensure they have a quality of life to support their needs. The Broward Workshop, Broward Alliance and Fort Lauderdale Chamber are partners of our City and by integrating those relationships our businesses and economy are thriving. We also are currently expanding the downtown educational campus of Florida Atlantic University and Broward College. Nova Southeastern University, Keiser College, and DeVry University are also expanding their campuses and services within our City, and partnering with many businesses achieving the growth for technology companies to relocate to Fort Lauderdale as well.

Fort Lauderdale offers many "A" rated public schools, from Elementary level to Middle and High School, including special magnet programs. The School Board of Broward County is also headquartered in our downtown area corridor. For those who have a preference for private educational facilities, we have top performing education facilities to meet those needs as well.

Fort Lauderdale also is the center for the legal community- Broward County Courthouse, which handles local, county and state cases and the

Federal Courthouse for the Southern District are located conveniently downtown. Unfortunately it also means the main jail and booking areas for most of Broward County is downtown, which contributes to some of our homeless issues, but again that also means jobs for others. And because of the location of the two courthouses, Fort Lauderdale is the hub for small, medium and even the large national and international law firms, as well as the government support agencies required for law enforcement. Agencies such as FBI, US Attorney, Department of Corrections, IRS, Customs and Border Patrol and other aspects of law enforcement, bail bond agencies and public safety occupy a lot of office space in our City, both Downtown and in our Uptown corridor.

Fort Lauderdale is also unique in which we are the location for the International Airport, Port Everglades (Cargo Industry and Cruise Ships), Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, two central bus stations (County Bus Terminal on Broward Boulevard and Greyhound Bus Terminal on NE 3 Street), Tri-Rail and now Brightline Station. With that in mind, we are the major hub for tourism and hospitality- whether your choice is our beaches, our museums (NSU Art Museum or Museum of Discovery and Science), our restaurants and entertainment centers, or the Broward Center of Performing Arts, including Parker Playhouse. Every one of these facilities offers employment opportunities, economic opportunities, or just family entertainment and pleasure.

Outside of the hub on the downtown, I am very proud of the work I led in achieving a complete new economic base of commerce and businesses surrounding our Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport. We call that area the Uptown Vision, and major technology and corporate headquarters are relocating creating a strong business base outside of the downtown area. The expansion of Executive Airport is exciting and leases and redevelopment have been recently approved. Again, this equates to jobs and training for the people who live in Fort Lauderdale and South Florida region.

Marine Industry- Along our coastal areas of east Fort Lauderdale and throughout much of the South and Southwestern section of Fort Lauderdale is manufacturing and support services required by the Marine Industry. Fort Lauderdale offers marine services and yachting and boating services that cannot be matched. The Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show is the largest boat show in the world, generating an economic impact of over \$850 million dollars, greater than any two Super Bowl generate. We also are expanding our marinas on the intracoastal side at the Bahia Mar site and Las Olas; private developers are investing the dollars to meet the needs of our growing mega yacht and boating community and to meet the needs and requests of the Marine Industries demands for the future growth of the International Boat Show; the new 30 year lease at the Bahia Mar site guarantees that we keep the International Boat Show in Fort Lauderdale. Again, the developers who are our partners on the public lands are investing the millions of dollars to address the rising sea level and climate resiliency and sea wall needs so our General Revenue Funds and Capital Improvement dollars can be utilized for the other demands and needs for the City to provide the quality of life our residents deserve. With the private developer/operators as our City partners, we can be ahead of the curve to protect our barrier islands from the future threat of our lands being submerged if the sea level rise continues at the pace we are tracking. Fort Lauderdale also established a free trade zone for the marine industry, a first in the nation, to allow facilities to defer, reduce or eliminate Customs duties on foreign products.

Medical Community- Whether you are a resident, tourist, or just employed in the City of Fort Lauderdale we also house the North Broward Hospital District Administration and major trauma, cardiac, transplant, and disease centers as well as Holy Cross Hospital and its Wellness, Cardiac, Women's Center and Cancer Center. What does this mean? Fort Lauderdale offers top medical facilities and major access to

medical needs, as well as vast job opportunities to doctors, nurses, technicians, social services, support staff and numerous other types of employment and health and safety for the welfare of our citizens.

Support for our Public Safety and First Responder: With seven new fire stations built and a new location identified for Fire Station #8, Fort Lauderdale Fire Department became one of only 32 departments out of 47,000 departments nationwide to achieve an Insurance Services Organization Class I rating and national accreditation from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. This ISO rating is used to establish insurance premiums for our businesses and residents, generally offering lower premiums to communities with better protection. As the former Police Chief, and as a 35 year member of the FLPD, I am proud to talk about the ongoing actual reduction in crime in our City, and the types of crime we are best addressing. Let's also take this opportunity to clarify when WalletHub talks about Fort Lauderdale being an unsafe city, as Fred Grimm said it best- it's about traffic accidents folks, not crime and criminal activities. Unfortunately America as a whole are dealing with new challenges today with the opioid epidemic, and mental health issues, but that is not an isolated Fort Lauderdale issue, it's a national and international problem. .

I would be remiss if I didn't mention to anyone looking to relocate to our city, we have beautiful beaches and parks. Our beaches and Birch State Park are maintained by City, County and State of Florida as natural wonders. But aside from them, during my tenure on the City Commission we opened 17 new parks, refurbished 25 parks as playgrounds and installed lightning warning systems at 13 major parks. Also, during that time we purchased 5 acres of land along Riverland Road when the community opposed a development for that site. I believe in our vision statement- Fort Lauderdale is a Neighborhood within Neighborhoods.



Our challenges will always be like any other community of our age, keeping on top of cost and budget management to address our infrastructure needs. While we as elected members have to rely on the expertise of the national companies we retain to guide us, our administration staff, and the state and federal government agencies which regulate and oversee our reports, it's incumbent upon us to create standards and set policies in place to ensure our administration is executing what we as the elected body direct and approve at our Commission workshops, conferences and meetings. Also, it's incumbent upon us as the elected officeholder, to continue being educated and being involved on local, state and national levels of seminars and educational opportunities so we understand what changes and upgrades are being initiated by the governing agencies.

The other main challenge is how to address the traffic concerns of our residents. If you actually invest time to be educated and study the trends, it's not necessarily the new development that are overloading our streets and highways (though I am not denying that there is some impact), but the majority of our traffic concerns are the effect the success of the growth of Fort Lauderdale as an employment destination hub and as a tourism area. And that includes local tourism, as our beaches and special events (Fort Lauderdale Convention Center, Tortuga Festival, Boat Show, Concerts on the Beach, Broward Center for Performing Arts, etc) attract locals from the South Florida region to come to Fort Lauderdale. All the employment hubs we discussed above pretty well all start and end the work day at many of the same hours. When I am talking with the residents, the complaints are about Federal Highway, Davie Boulevard, Sunrise Boulevard, 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland Park Boulevard. The County has worked for the last 10 years or so on traffic signalization issues, and I believe the completion of that project would be most helpful to ease some of the backup, but it's more than that. We also have issues that need to be worked out better with railroad crossings, bridge openings, issues that include working with the FEC

and the US Coast Guard. I have attached recent reports issued by the MPO based on data from 2015. 49,625 workers commute out of Fort Lauderdale, 20,626 workers live in Fort Lauderdale, and 132,115 workers commute INTO Fort Lauderdale. Out of the 132,115 worker who commute into Fort Lauderdale, 56,257 commute in to our downtown. I believe the City has done a poor job in educating the public and the media about these numbers, and how the traffic and employment/economy impact the streets and highways. As a member of the executive group of the MPO, I have been working hard to grasp and seek solutions to offset the impact on our residents with alternative transportation models. It's also a reason why I supported both the transportation and infrastructure sales tax in the past, as the City of Fort Lauderdale is unique in that the impacts on our roads and pipes and even our costs for public safety is not based solely on use by the residents but the tourists and other individuals who come every day to work in our City. I looked it as a means to spread the cost across the board by users versus just residents.

I also believe the Commission as a majority has worked hard as a collegial body to respect the needs of our neighborhoods and each others districts. Fulfilling a 2009 campaign promise, we went to our neighborhoods, conducted charrettes and, together, created a vision as a blueprint for the future. It is called "Vision 2035 Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale." Along with our Vision, the five year strategic plan "Press Play Fort Lauderdale," our annual Neighborhood Survey and our Annual Action Plan Workshop guide us in developing policies and budgets to deliver neighborhood priorities and services. Since it has been five years since the Vision was created, I believe it is time to revisit that Vision. As your Mayor, I will reconvene charrettes and workshops to that end. Unfortunately, few of our residents actually attend our commission meetings, and it's those in the minority, who lack a lot of the history of the City or failed to serve as participants in our vision sessions of the past, who consistently scream the loudest and misrepresent what actually

takes place in City Hall. We have very talented staff and we work hard to implement “vision” for the future. Compared to prior administrations, this Commission has demonstrated far greater transparency. Again, I have enjoyed working in a majority as a collegial body.

How would you assess the performance of the City Commission?

Again, as I stated above, I have enjoyed working as a collegial body. Shepherding the City through the Great Recession to a Vision with the current financial stability, the current economic renaissance, the current safe environment, the current quality of life and the continued hope for an even brighter future are just some of the hallmarks of this Commission. The job as a commissioner is what you want to make of it. A highly dedicated and professional staff is always accessible; taking advantage of their knowledge and experience is an absolute must if you are to be prepared for making decisions. I don't know of any staff person who is not available whether in person or by phone to answer a question or get the answers you need. I believe the public can gage and judge the preparation and performance of a Commissioner by their conduct and questions they raise at our workshops, conference agendas and commission meetings.

How would you assess the performance of the city manager?

I rate Lee as a good City Manager. I am one of the few members who have worked with the prior city managers due to my employment at FLPD, and I appreciate the vision, process and budget knowledge that Lee brings to the table, as well as his respect to the employees. Lee's professionalism and knowledge is very highly regarded by his peers at an international and national level. I believe the challenges he has had to face over the last few years is with the Legal Department, not on questions of what is legally correct, but the “ideas” on policy. I believe Legal Department should not be inserting themselves in policy decisions

or operations, but should instead focus their efforts on knowledge of the law and implementation of the law.

What should be done about the city's sewage pipe problems?

It was at my demand/request at the August joint Infrastructure Task Force and Budget Advisory Board meetings that the Administration create Go Big Go Fast. I was quite disturbed to discover that many of the projects we approved and funded, but were not underway in the timely fashion that we as policy makers voted and approved. I placed the Manager and City Attorney on a 6 month probation period (I chose 6 months after meeting with various engineering consultants with the expertise of our issues) and for purposes of transparency demanded beginning and end dates and named project managers for accountability on each project as identified in the consent order and the Reiss Report, as a reasonable and realistic time sequence to achieve completion of our goals and solutions. The biggest problems we face as an aging city (no different than Miami Beach or Palm Beach, or actually the nation), is the water intrusion in our pipes creating an overload (Inflow and Infiltration). Having salt water intrusion, heavy rains, and an unanticipated hurricane rapidly impacted this insurgence. We now know it's less about about contaminated sewage and sewage plants, than intrusion in our pipes. I believe with the continued work of our Infrastructure Task Force, the new managers we have hired this past year or so for our public works department and the consultants we just approved on December 5, 2017 we will continue to improve. I also approved the City's budget with a caveat that I did not approve the line items in the format as recommended by the City Manager, but rather I approved the budget with the caveat that a freeze on filling many of the positions he recommended, along with freezing some of his spending priorities, until all positions are filled for our public works department and the infrastructure issues are put on expedited track.

How should the city address traffic congestion and do you support raising the sales tax to pay for transportation improvements?

Yes, I approve the sales tax for reasons I mentioned above. Again, this issue as I mentioned earlier needs a regional approach matching government/private sector partnerships. I have worked continuously on this issue through my role at the MPO.

What is your view on where things stand with the Wave streetcar?

I oppose it and I am on the record at both the MPO and City Commission.

How should the city address concerns about overdevelopment and gentrification as it seeks to encourage economic development?

Our commission has worked hard on keeping the density of the downtown development in accordance with the vision plans adopted by the prior commissions when Jim Naugle was Mayor. In doing so, it was a live work and play theology for the creation of jobs and successful business opportunities, partnering with rebirthing neighborhoods and high rise projects, bringing impact fees and major sales tax revenues to benefit the City. Saying that, I have demonstrated my concerns on keeping the density downtown and not in the outlying neighborhoods. Best example I can provide is when I worked hard with the neighborhoods surrounding the Galleria Mall, and once it reached a scenario that the developer was not willing to work with the neighborhoods most impacted, I was able to pull the plug on that initiative. It led to the Commission creating a new committee to review the ID Zoning initiative and its intent.

I support the gentrification efforts of Commissioner McKinzie in his district which are moving his community with both housing and

economic/job growth, building neighborhoods. As he so succinctly states his neighborhoods want the same as the what the other neighborhoods want. On the beach, I spent a lot of time over the last few years with my “32 Street and Galt area businesses”, and we have now a flourishing entertainment and shopping area that I am proud of. I have worked closely with the business community in my district creating “Envision Uptown.” This revitalization area surrounds the Executive Airport and Cypress Road/Powerline/Commercial Boulevard area; it’s become a successful employment hub, integrating a future live work and play neighborhood community and including having the Tri-Rail station at the fingertips of those who need it most.

Measured redevelopment is a key factor in keeping us an employment center for a diverse economy, as well as providing the necessary tax/fee revenues for City government to implement the Vision. Park impact fees allowed us to open and rehab so many of our parks; newer construction incorporates sustainability features to address sea level rise.

What should the city do about sea level rise and other threats from climate change?

We are actively working on updating the seawall and roads and infrastructure design criteria, as is the County, State and Federal Government, working with our other regional partners in Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach County. We have the ability to better utilize our educational facilities such as FAU and Broward College and integrate the work of their experts with our City staff to understand and examine innovative ideas that work. And we need to incentivize newer industries and jobs that specialize in this area to relocate and develop a public private partnership with our City.

Developers are taking more responsibility in their costs and designs and as I stated above, the partnership with the private developers on both the

Las Olas Marina and Bahia Mar as investing the dollars in their new plans to sustain the needs for the next 50 years. At Bahia Mar, the developer is spending over \$10 million on the higher standards and design including raising the seawall and another \$100 million to fill in the land for the entire site and including the design of the new parking garage. Las Olas Marina, Suntext developers and operators will be investing under new design criterias to meet a 50 years sustainable plan.

We are also working private sector organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, the Broward Alliance and the Broward Workshop to facilitate financial and technical support from State and Federal governments. Congressman Ted Deutch's bipartisan 48 member committee is also a leader in this effort.

What are your priorities for spending in the city budget, what city expenses could be reduced and what's your philosophy on taxes?

The budget priorities are the same as the priorities listed above, and all are meant to deliver on the community Vision described above. Again, as previously stated, when I voted to approve the budget, I did so with the caveat that despite the recommendations of the manager, I requested a freeze on hiring and some projects until after the public works employees are hired and infrastructure projects are on track. I also required that our new firefighter paramedic positions be filled to meet the the needs of our medical response demands. I am not sure what can actually be reduced based on our needs for a quality of life our residents deserve. that's why I want to reconvene our Vision process. It has been discussed on this campaign trail about the percentage amount we increased our water and sewer fees. What they fail to share that is despite the increase, we still maintain the lowest combined fees in Broward County amongst the other Cities.

How would you rate the city's response to Hurricane Irma and what should be done differently during the next storm?

I think under the unique circumstances of a Hurricane that actually hit the entire state of Florida, we are extremely fortunate and the City did a very good job. I commend Mayor Seiler and our city staff for the outstanding job they did on a daily basis, in both prepping the community and working as quickly as restoring our City to "normalcy". Despite the infrastructure issues we were facing, we did not suffer any major failures during the storm, our public works department and public safety responders worked tirelessly; we proactively took care of our seniors and those with medical needs. What we learned and need to do in the future is ensuring the neighborhoods and homeowners are better advised in taking care of their landscaping and tree canopies; that FPL and Comcast and ATT provide us with their hurricane action plans; that they provide better communications and information to allow the City to more effectively deploy resources; that the City better inform residents pre and post storm so we have more honest expectations for recovery and debris removal; that the County permits better decision making participation by the City.

How could the city better manage the use of taxpayer dollars in the Fort Lauderdale Community Redevelopment Agency?

I am extremely impressed by the initiatives led by Commissioner McKinzie in the Northwest CRA. Adding the recent hiring of D'Wayne Spence with his expertise in land use and legal knowledge about CRAs and redevelopment, and as a long time attorney with the City, I believe it will be even better. Our Beach CRA has been noted for its success and will be reaching sunset soon. You can see for yourself the level of success it reached and we are proud of that accomplishment



How has the city handled the homeless situation and what could be done to better address that problem?

I have been working on the homeless situation dating back to when I was with the police department and we had tent city downtown, and homeless living and feeding on the beach. We have trained our police officers and first responders with sensitivity training in outreach and integrating with them, similar to a community policing in neighborhoods. However, it is a problem that will always be here, contributed by the winter weather conditions of north versus south, the placement of the transportation hubs on Broward Boulevard, and the social service and medical needs of many, who may not want to accept the help. Currently, I support efforts led by Andy Mitchell and others by Mission United, and we have seen much success with homeless veterans. Through Housing First, Fort Lauderdale is providing the most vulnerable with housing, medical and social services, and its funded by a \$ 441,000 grant that the City secured. The Rapid Rehousing Program has helped families with rental deposits, rent payments, and emergency assistance. I do believe the community would be well served by the County if they would reconsider opening the stockade, since it's no longer needed for jail overcrowding (as Judge Middlebrooks ruled), and we could potentially alleviate some of the impact at the County's public library. But the public needs to understand that due to the mental health of some homeless, those individuals will never accept or desire the idea or concept of being inside, and will reject those offers. Our business leaders have voluntarily worked to assist with the BPHI Center, and temporary hotel rooms, and the City offered bus tickets if the families would agree to take the individuals back, but we didn't get the response that we expected.

After concerns about late-night City Commission votes and limited public notice about commission meetings, how could the City Commission be more accommodating to public involvement?

It's a very interesting discussion about late-night votes. The only reason that we have late night votes (and its rarer than common), is because our city is more flexible than the other cities, including Broward County, in permitting individuals to speak and address the issues of concern. We permit 3 minutes per speaker, and 5 minutes if you are a surrounding HOA President/resident. We certainly cannot take up controversial projects during the day, as we are very fortunate that we have a successful working community, and we recognize the importance of having our agendas begin after the time people leave work and be included so they can have a voice at the City Commission public hearings.

Also, our City agenda, just like the County and other cities, is published online the Thursday or Friday before the meeting. My approach within my district, as is the approach of two of my other colleagues (Rogers and McKinzie), is how we utilize our pre-agenda meetings on Monday night before the Commission meetings. Our staff knows to have all the backup and administration staff memos and reports with us at the pre-agenda meetings. Also, when a controversial issue is added to an agenda, we immediately send the item with all the backup to the community activists that are affected by an item, so they are immediately in the loop. This way, by Monday night we can have a lot of the issues discussed, answered or develop additional information if the public feels its lacking. At times, each of us have been known to have the appropriate staff person present along with myself and my aide to discuss solutions or clear the air of any misinformation or misinterpretation of an item. My meetings are also open for anyone to attend, including those who live outside my district and want to educate or share their concerns in advance of Tuesday night so all of us (community and elected official and staff) can begin addressing the concern or be extremely well versed on the item. There is no time limit on my Pre-Agenda meetings, and no one can ever say they don't have an

opportunity to voice their concerns. For the 9 years I have been serving, I found this the most inclusive and informative way to work with the residents and hammer out concerns prior to a Tuesday night meeting. I also have regular attendance at HOA meetings and individual civic association meetings, day time or night time, and bring the appropriate staff people to work on items. I guess that goes with the luxury of being retired and having the hours to invest in this type of partnership.

### **The Campaign**

How much money have you raised in your campaign? Please include today's date. \$ 102,000.00

What do you want us to know about your opponent(s)?

I believe I addressed that above. While they are both extremely personable, neither of my opponents have demonstrated leadership skills, the ability to grasp and understand the city's finances, and lack the ability to truthfully discuss the issues that the City has had to address on a daily basis. Their voting records conflict with their statements on the campaign trail.

Why should voters vote for you?

I have the proven leadership skills, which unite all neighborhoods in the pursuit of a common Vision, coalesce partnerships with the private sector and government with its labor unions, the ability to grasp the finances and workings of the City, and the time to invest in being the Mayor in Commission/City Manager form of government.

### **Instructions:**

Please include your completed questionnaire to Andy Reid at [abreid@sunsentinel.com](mailto:abreid@sunsentinel.com) at least two days before your scheduled interview. Please write "completed questionnaire" in the subject line. Also, please include a headshot photo.

Thank you for your time, attention and interest.