

Platform of Ideas

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI)

1. There is interest in forming a Community Advisory Board to interface with the Police Dept.
2. We are in need of a Diversity Officer in our city.
3. Formation of a Human Rights Commission

Fiscal Responsibility

1. Budget: The process should include more input from the public as well as input from the entire council, not just 3 members. We should host (more than one) public meeting on the budget.
2. The town budget can't be the only priority in town governance.

Preamble:

1. Land acknowledgment language
2. Climate resilience language
3. Equity, diversity, inclusion, & human rights

The Charter Review Process

1. Selection and composition of the Charter Review Committee:
 - a. The entire Town Council should not serve on the CRC
 - b. The Town Council President should share the role of appointing citizen members
 - c. The CRC should consist of 50 percent citizen members
2. Charter Review should be conducted every 5 years instead of 10 given the pace of growth/development in our city.

Balance of Power

1. Change the ratio between district and at-large councilors.
2. Reconsider term limits for both legislative and executive branches.
3. Increase pay for councilors.
4. Add more staff positions/support for our city and/or full-time council
5. Require that each CRC SC has at least one resident member with the power to vote and/or provide input on the same equitable level as the council members.
6. Too much authority in TM/TCP. TC is too weak. We need a stronger TC that can investigate/respond with autonomy and impact.

Communication/Responsiveness

1. There should be principles, policy, and protocol in place regarding public inquiry responsiveness. Many times inquiries go totally unanswered. This is unacceptable. Public officials should reply within 48 hours, for example.
2. Clarify and improve the communication process for residents. For example, the new CIO publicly encouraged residents to reach out directly to him, but the TM/TCP have discouraged direct communication with him.
3. All communication to town officials should be made public.
4. Residents feel they are being informed on a "need to know" basis. We need a stronger Communications department.

Accountability/Transparency

1. We need more transparency and inclusivity regarding the Executive Branch's performance evaluation. This should be more of a public process, and we should hold them accountable to qualitative metrics in addition to fiscal performance, because all are interrelated and of equal importance.
2. There is interest in requiring two annual public forums hosted by the TM and TCP.
3. We need more disclosure and clearer definitions around potential conflicts of interest with the TM and others. These include:
 - a. Limits on how many boards/departments the TM can sit on?
 - b. How are these boards formed?
4. How can we do a better job of keeping the town abreast of large-scale projects/initiatives, such as the high school project? This should be a fully transparent process with lots of public input.
5. In general, residents feel in the dark when it comes to town governance. The impression is that decisions are being made "behind closed doors" without adequate public discussion and engagement. We must do better in order to build trust within our community.