CLEANSLATENOW Action.org

Candidate Questionnaire

CleanSlateNow Action is committed to eliminating the corrupting influence of big money in politics. We believe candidates best represent the public interest by choosing to accept contributions only from natural persons. We encourage candidates to reject contributions from political action committees (PACs), special interest groups, and corporations. *We are active at the local, state, and national levels across the country.*

The questions below are meant to provide information to voters about the kind of campaign contributions you are taking in your pursuit of public office and the kind of legislation you would support and propose if you take office. Your answers will also help us when considering if we will endorse a candidate in your race. Though we publicize the names of candidates who do not take PAC and special interest group money, no question is meant to serve as a litmus test. We seek to inform, educate, and engage you, other candidates, elected officials, and the public about issues surrounding campaign finance reform, and we hope the information you provide will help voters make up their own minds about the candidates. **Please complete and return the questionnaire at your earliest convenience** so we can share your responses with voters.

Thank you for your participation, and good luck in your campaign!

__Gerry Horak_____ Mayor

Name Office Sought/District

__gchorak@gmail.com__gerryhorakformayor.com _____970-217-2993_____

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e-mail address website phone number

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1. If elected, will you use your stature as an elected official to actively support meaningful campaign finance reform in the following areas?
   a. Support overturning *Citizens United?* **Yes** **No**

   b. Ban contributions in Fort Collins elections from corporations, unions, and other organizations banned from donating directly at the state level and from municipal campaigns in Denver, Lakewood, and Aurora? **Need to know more and study pros and cons Yes No**

   c. Limit special interest group contributions? **All candidate contributions are already limited in Fort Collins Yes No**

   d. Incentivize small-dollar contributions ($100 or less) from individuals with publicly-funded matching funds for qualified candidates? **In Fort Collins contributions for mayor are already limited to $100 – need to know more how public matching funding has worked and the**

pros and cons **Yes** **No**

e. Accept spending caps of $25,000 for mayoral races and $15,000 for Council races as part of an opt-in for matching funds? **Maybe don't know if those are the correct amounts and the mechanism for changing the maximums** **Yes** **No**

Are there other reforms you would propose? **Possibly limiting donations to city residents or property owners.**

2. Will you accept, or have you accepted contributions from special interest groups or organizations, including political committees, political action committees, or small donor committees? *(This does not include political party contributions.)*

   Yes **No**

3. Will you accept, or have you accepted contributions from Leadership PACs (a committee an elected official uses to donate to other candidates and elected officials, separate from their candidate committee)?

   Yes **No Prohibited in Fort Collins Mayoral Elections**

4. Will you establish, or have you established your own Leadership PAC?

   Yes **No**

5. Will you accept, or have you already accepted contributions from large corporations (i.e., offices in more than one locality, or based out of your state with a regional or national focus)?

   Yes **No**

6. Will you accept, or have you already accepted contributions from small corporations (presence in only one locality, i.e., "Mom-and-Pop Shop")?

   Yes **No**

7. Will you accept, or have you already accepted money from lobbyists?

   Yes **No have not been offered**

8. Will you accept, or have you already accepted money from unions?

   Yes **No have not been offered**

9. Do you support a **proposal to establish publicly funded campaigns in Fort Collins**, which features an opt-in program requiring candidates to meet threshold requirements of raising $1,500 for council races and $2,500 for mayoral races in qualifying contributions of $25 or less from Fort Collins residents and to commit to turning down corporate, PAC, and special interest money and accepting campaign contributions only from natural persons, accepting spending caps based on historical spending data ($25,000 for mayor and $15,000 for Council), and limiting self-financing, all in exchange for a 1-to-1 public match on contributions from Fort Collins residents? **Yes** **No** **Maybe – need more time to consider and research the pros and cons of the proposal.**

Would you use your influence as an elected official to support similar reforms for state and federal offices? **Yes No Probably**

10. Please use as much additional space as you'd like to share any thoughts about campaign finance reform and the role of special interest, corporate, and PAC money vs. contributions from natural persons in political campaigns. **These are important issues to consider. I hesitate to establish a position on these important restrictions to develop a more level playing field without extensive research and discussions. Sound public policy does not result from Yes No questions and answers.**

Signature

3/13/21
Date

Completed questionnaires may be scanned and emailed to Owen@CleanSlateNowAction.org or mailed to CleanSlateNow Action at P.O. Box 100093, Denver, Colorado 80250.