



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

1. Multi-Unit Residential Development

Chanhassen faces changing demographics, housing affordability pressures, and workforce retention challenges. How do you view the appropriate role of multi-unit residential development in meeting community needs? If you support this growth, what sites would be most suitable and why? What timeline aligns with our infrastructure capacity?

I support carefully planned multi-unit housing when it helps Chanhassen meet real community needs, including workforce housing and options for older residents. Any project must be evaluated from the ground up for zoning compliance, infrastructure capacity, neighborhood fit, and alignment with the Comprehensive Plan. When a project delivers a clear public benefit, the City should be willing to consider appropriate tools such as grants or TIF incentives while ensuring the development reflects the character and long-term needs of the community.

2. 1190-1200 Lyman Boulevard Zoning

This property represents a significant land-use decision for the 2050 Comprehensive Plan. Would you support changing the land use and zoning from residential to commercial? What factors-environmental impact, traffic patterns, neighborhood character, market demand would inform your decision?

I would not support a land-use change of this significance without a full public process and a clear showing that it serves Chanhassen's long-term interests. My decision would be guided by neighborhood character, traffic, environmental impact, infrastructure capacity, market demand, and consistency with the Comprehensive Plan. Residents deserve a transparent review before the City Council makes any decision that could permanently change the character of this area.

3. Avienda Project Completion

The Avienda mixed-use development has stalled, affecting community expectations and downtown vitality. What specific strategies would you employ to encourage project

completion? Are there regulatory barriers to remove, incentives to consider, or community engagement approaches that could help?

The City should keep the Avienda developer accountable to the approved PUD while remaining constructive and responsive as the project moves forward. Avienda is a private development, so the City's role is not to recruit tenants or residential partners, but to review proposed changes, enforce the approved plan, and remove unnecessary delays within the City's authority. My focus would be on protecting the public interest, maintaining standards, and encouraging completion in a way that strengthens Chanhassen's long-term vitality.

PUBLIC FACILITIES ACCESS & RECREATION PROGRAMS

4. Public restrooms and sports facilities

Chanhassen operates public parks, recreation facilities, and city-sponsored athletic programs. City policy determines access to public restrooms and participation in recreation leagues based on gender or biological sex.

Specifically:

- What should the City's policy be regarding access to sex-designated public restrooms and locker rooms in municipal facilities?

Restrooms are private facilities designated for individuals based on biological sex as determined at birth. If a person transitioning between genders does not feel comfortable using a restroom aligned with their sex at birth, I would support providing a third restroom option. I would not support use of a sex-designated public restroom based solely on gender identity.

- For city-sponsored recreational sports teams and leagues, should participation be based on biological sex, gender identity, or another criterion? What is your reasoning? Because this is a matter of direct City authority, please provide a clear statement of your position rather than a general response.

The City sponsors youth recreational sports teams only, and these are not competitive leagues. They are generally designed for elementary school children. At that level, I support equal opportunity for all participants. This has been the normal way these teams have been organized, and I see no reason for the City's Recreation Department to change that approach. As children grow and mature, they can move into privately sponsored teams based on ability and age level.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY & FUNDING

5. Property Tax Stability

Property tax management is critical to resident retention and affordability. What is your specific plan for keeping property taxes stable while funding necessary municipal services and infrastructure investments?

Keeping property taxes stable requires discipline, not slogans. As service costs rise for fire, police, public works, and parks and recreation, I will insist that every line item in the City budget receive exacting scrutiny, challenge, and review before approval. My goal is to protect essential services while keeping Chanhassen in the lower tier of property tax burden within the seven-county metro area.

6. Local Sales Tax

Are there specific projects or programs for which you would support a local sales tax increase to residents? If so, which projects and what is your rationale for requesting additional revenue?

Chanhassen has already implemented a local sales tax to help pay for the new community center that was voted on and approved by the taxpayers of Chanhassen last year. I do not see the need for any new local sales tax additions at this time.

7. Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

Under what circumstances would you support the use of tax increment financing? For which types of projects or neighborhoods would TIF be appropriate, and why?

I support using TIF selectively when it produces a clear and measurable public benefit. In Chanhassen, that can include affordable housing, needed retail development, and infrastructure improvements that strengthen the tax base and serve residents. TIF should never be automatic; it should be justified, transparent, and tied to outcomes the community could not reasonably achieve without it.

8. State & Federal Funding

How would you proactively pursue state and federal funding sources to support community projects (housing, transportation, infrastructure, sustainability)? What is your track record identifying and securing grants?

Chanhassen should pursue state and federal funding aggressively when it can reduce the burden on local taxpayers and help deliver important community projects. City staff, with

support from specialists or consultants when appropriate, should identify and compete for grants tied to housing, transportation, infrastructure, and sustainability. Chanhassen has a strong track record, including state funding for the completion of Highway 100 south of Pioneer Trail to the Minnesota River and funding that helped construct the trail around Lake Ann.

PUBLIC SAFETY & INFRASTRUCTURE

9. Highway 5 Access & Connectivity

Highway 5 creates significant barriers to motor vehicle traffic, pedestrian access, and bicycle connectivity-impacting school safety, economic vitality, and neighborhood walkability. What concrete ideas do you have for improving crossing access? What timeline and funding sources would you pursue?

Improving Highway 5 access and connectivity requires practical coordination with the State of Minnesota, because Highway 5 is a state highway. When the State undertakes work along the corridor, Chanhassen should be ready with local priorities that improve safety, reduce traffic conflicts, expand trail connections, and support neighborhood access. We are already advancing local benefit projects along Highway 5, including the permanent traffic signal at Highway 5 and Minnewashta Parkway.

10. Carver County Sheriff Partnership

The Carver County Sheriff directly influences ordinance enforcement and community safety. What qualities and priorities do you believe are essential in this role? Do you have a preferred candidate, and what is your basis for that preference?

Public safety is one of the City's most important responsibilities, and Chanhassen benefits from a strong partnership with the Carver County Sheriff's Department. During my 18 years on the Chanhassen City Council, I have worked with officers who are professional, effective, and dedicated to serving this community. Chanhassen remains one of the safest communities in the metro area, and while I do not have a Sheriff candidate to recommend, I will continue to support law enforcement leadership that prioritizes safety, accountability, and service.

COMMUNITY CHARACTER & POLICIES

11. Retail Licensing & Business Standards

Chanhassen has discretion over retail licensing and business types. Are there categories of retail business for which you would support or oppose expansion in the city? What framework guides your decisions on business licensing?

I support a business environment that reflects Chanhassen's community standards, economic goals, and quality of life. Each application should receive public and City Council review, with decisions made on the merits of the proposed use and its impact on the community. I would oppose any expansion of adult-oriented businesses within Chanhassen, while reviewing other business applications on a case-by-case basis.

12. Marijuana-Related Retail

Specifically regarding marijuana-related retail outlets, what is your position on their presence in Chanhassen? What factors inform your stance?

My approach to marijuana-related retail is to use every authority available to the City to protect community standards and manage impacts responsibly. Minnesota law limits what Chanhassen can do, but the City of Chanhassen can still regulate locations through zoning ordinances, apply building-code requirements where appropriate, and limit the number of stores based on population.