

Name:

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Page 1: Business Climate / Regulations Issues

Q1 Rate the regulatory climate for business in the City of Pensacola. Is it Good/Fair/Bad? Explain your answer.

I would rate the regulatory climate for business in the the City of Pensacola as Fair. The business climate is fair because the City of Pensacola has, and is, an area of increasing development and progress. However, the City of Pensacola can be regulated on a better infrastructural foundation, to be able to produce better regulations for increased business and productivity.

Q2 Please provide any examples of how regulations have affected the life of city residents in a positive or negative way.

Regulations have affected the life of city residents in negative ways because the infrastructural systems in place do not proportionately distribute the ability to generate wealth, equally. This is evidenced through the City of Pensacola's Charter (charter) because the charter is ambiguous and vague. This ambiguity and vagueness allows for for misappropriation of funds, and/or overfunding of certain projects, while there is a lack of funding for projects in other areas of the City of Pensacola.

Regulations have affected the life of city residents in a positive way because of the geographical location of the City of Pensacola. Our City has the ability to draw a vast variety of people, and our growth is evidence of this. Strengthening the infrastructure of the City of Pensacola will allow for more opportunity for diverse groups, enabling residents to enjoy a better quality of life.

Q3 Name the top 3 specific city ordinances/regulations you would like to see eliminated. Explain why they should be eliminated.

The current process of recycling in the city of Pensacola is not efficient. There is no accountability and enforcement of the recycling policy. Although, recycling cannot be forced, we can encourage recycling by educating residents on the costs of contaminated recyclables, and the costs associated with disposing the contaminated materials.

Addressing this issue can be more cost efficient, through better utilization of tax dollars because installation of cameras on City Sanitation Vehicles would allow for better management of the recycled materials. This is because residents would be able to reduce amounts of contaminated materials being sent to landfills through proper recycling habits, while being held accountable for non-recyclables contaminating recyclables.

Q4 What can the city do to facilitate a more livable downtown environment that also attracts and caters to the interests of visitors?

The Port of Pensacola is not utilized properly. I would propose the City of Pensacola take a serious look into the economic possibilities of a Convention Center with Parking Garage, located at the Port of Pensacola.

This would allow for larger event spaces, while being able to accommodate increased tourism and visitors.

Page 2: Operations / Infrastructure Issues

Q5 Do you see any overlap or duplication of services between the county and the city? If so, what services, and how could these services be consolidated?

Yes. Sanitation Services, along with Parks and Recreation Services are duplicated Services which could be consolidated to better utilize the tax-payer dollars.

These services could be consolidated in a way where the County and City could negotiate a method to merge the best aspects and practices of the separated services, into one consolidated service.

Q6 There have been a number of joint government meetings over the past few years. What is your opinion of these meetings? What types of cooperative meetings would you like to see moving forward?

In addition to consolidation of services by the county and city, I would like to see more joint efforts with the educational systems in Pensacola. For example, the Escambia County School District, the University of West Florida, and Pensacola State College.

I would propose a Mayoral Internship and Fellowship Program open to students within the local school district, along with undergraduate and graduate school students.

Additionally, I would like for the City of Pensacola to operate a legal clinic, with law students interning, dedicated to indigent services, which do not provide conflicts of interest.

Additionally, within the educational component, I would like to see more cooperative initiatives of joint government to provide more reasonable means of access of resources to residents.

Q7 Do you believe the city allocates sufficient resources for infrastructure projects? How would you prioritize these projects and fund them?

No, I do not believe the city allocates sufficient resources for infrastructure projects. To prioritize, one must look at meeting needs before wants. Part of the need is providing equal access, while providing incentives for participation in building the infrastructure.

Providing for sufficient resources for infrastructure projects would be funded through a reevaluation of current projects, which may be over-budgeted. With these projects, reallocation of funds and allocation of funds would be necessary to make the proper investments moving forward for the longevity and future of the City of Pensacola.

Q8 What do you consider to be the number one infrastructure concern for the City of Pensacola going forward, and how do you propose to address that concern?

Economic development is the number one infrastructure concern for the City of Pensacola going forward. Addressing that concern means being able to represent all persons affected through the positive development going on in Pensacola.

In this representation, providing access to resources is essential to strengthening the City's infrastructure.

Q9 What would you change about the relationship between the Mayor's Office and City Council (i.e. should the Mayor attend all city council meetings, etc.)?

As a Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator, I know the importance of communication. Yes, the Mayor should attend all city council meeting as required by the City's Charter.

Between the Mayor's Office and City Council, I would encourage each of us to be more informed. This involves being able to talk with each other, hearing the voice of the residents of Pensacola, while best serving the residents by having active participation in city council meeting, and beyond.

Q10 What would your Five Year Plan for the City of Pensacola look like?

My Five Year Plan for the City of Pensacola would be to grow Pensacola. I envision Pensacola being able to become more of a metropolitan area, especially with consolidation of overlapping city-county services. I would like to see a larger push into renewable resources, and how we can utilize natural resources, while being fiscally responsible.

Page 3: Economic Development Issues

Q11 What role should city government take in attracting new businesses to the area?

City government should create an atmosphere, inviting to new businesses to the area. This should also be done in a way where small businesses are able to thrive and be successful. City Government should have access to meet the accommodated needs of the public, whether local or visiting.

Q12 Which industries should the City of Pensacola should concentrate its business development/growth efforts? Be specific.

Specific industry for business development and growth efforts should be education. Providing access to education about the "how-to's" in business, along with access and partnerships to create more skilled laborers and more business entrepreneurs, will allow for greater economic growth as a community.

Q13 What should the city do with excess properties that it owns? Which properties should take priority? Do you believe certain city parks could be considered excess property?

City Hall should be better utilized to its capacity, while re-purposing other properties owned by the city. Evaluation into a property's utilization should be assessed, to determine priority. Certain parks may be considered excess property if the park is not properly utilized in a way to create a benefit.

Q14 Tourism is an integral part of Pensacola's economy. What are the top 3 ways that the city can add value for the Pensacola business community with respect to increasing tourism and nurturing a positive tourist experience while here in Pensacola?

The top 3 ways to add value to Pensacola's business community, to increase tourism, is to (1) construct a convention center at the Port of Pensacola, (2) create metropolitan area in Pensacola, and (3) a duorail system to help with public transit.

Q15 What is your vision for Pensacola's waterfront properties (i.e. Port of Pensacola, Community Maritime Park, Bruce Beach, Bayview Park)?

Waterfront properties should be used for the best impact for the community.

For example, the Bayview Park Project should be halted, and new architectural blueprints should be designed to fit within the original budget.

The Port of Pensacola should be constructed into a Convention Center with Parking Garage, as discussed in other areas.

Q16 What is your vision for the various commerce parks or potential sites throughout our community?

I would like to see more successful business be able to thrive and benefit from the opportunities this City has to offer. I would like to implement a plan to strengthen the infrastructure, to have long-term and lasting effects.
