

Your Name:

Scott Trotter

Page 1: Business Climate / Regulations Issues

Q1 Rate the regulatory climate for business in Escambia County. Is it Good/Fair/Bad? Explain your answer.

I believe it's pretty good but I don't own a business so I don't have first hand knowledge. I'd be happy to talk to anyone who believes there are unnecessary regulations that are restricting their business.

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

As a general rule, regulations were put in place to solve a problem and have helped to create the modern civilization that we all enjoy. The way code enforcement is applied to property owners is often arbitrary and serves no purpose.

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

I'm not running on a platform of eliminating ordinances. If there's ordinance that needs amending or eliminating I'll consider the facts of each as they come up.

Page 2: Operations / Infrastructure Issues

Q4 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?

I'm unaware of any direct duplication but if there are areas in which the county and city could sign an agreement to better utilize resources I'm willing to explore the possibility.

Q5 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?

I think periodic joint meetings are a good thing. It's important for various governmental boards understand what the other parts of government are doing and to make sure they are not working at cross purposes. I don't have any specific proposals concerning joint meetings other than a desire to have them when it serves a productive purpose.

2018 Chamber County Commission Candidate Survey

Q6 Do you believe the county allocates sufficient resources for infrastructure projects? How would you prioritize these projects and fund them?

I think the county allocates all it probably can without raising taxes. I think preventing neighborhoods from flooding and fixing bridges are the highest priority.

Q7 What is your opinion of the beach congestion plans that have been proposed? What is your vision for solving this problem?

At least for the time being I'm against the traffic circle proposal. They have made improvements to the traffic flow through better management of the lights and may be able to make further improvements. Also additional parking may help the traffic by eliminating cars driving from lot to lot looking for a place to park. At this point there's no indication that traffic has hurt business, I think we need to see how much the traffic situation can be managed through less expensive means before spending millions on this solution.

Q8 There is a proposal for a new sports/meeting facility. Do you approve of this project and how would you propose to pay for this type of facility?

There are multiple proposals that have been made. I think the best bang for the buck is going to be a renovation of the Pensacola Bay Center, possibly with a new attached field house if Triumph money is awarded for the project.

Q9 What would your Five Year Plan for Escambia County look like?

I don't have a 5 year plan, I think we need to strive for continuous improvement with an emphasis on the long term sustainability of the our actions.

Page 3: Economic Development Issues

Q10 What role should county government take in attracting new businesses to the area? What types of jobs would you like to see growing in Escambia County? Be specific.

The county's primary role is in providing an environment that is welcoming to companies that want to either start or relocate a business to the county. They should feel confident that the county will maintain and improve infrastructure, the public schools will turn out educated potential workers and that government officials will take common sense measures to enable them operate in the county. It's not the county's role to determine the specific jobs that will be created, however the goal is to attract skilled jobs rather than more low-end service sector employment.

Q11 What is your vision for the various commerce parks or potential sites throughout Escambia County?

Concerning OLF-8, I'm currently supporting a combination of retail space, Navy Federal expansion and a commerce park along the lines of Jeff Bergosh's plan. However, I would like to see the inclusion of some low-cost housing and a long-term contingency plan for alternate uses for the commerce park if suitable manufacturing jobs don't materialize. I still want to listen to area residents before I make any final decision on the land's future use.

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Q12 What should the county do with excess properties that it owns? Be specific.

The answer is going to be different for each piece of property. The only answer I have is each property should be used or sold in a manner that is in the best interest of the people of Escambia County.

Q13 Tourism is an integral part of Escambia County's economy. In what ways can the county commission support tourism in Escambia County? Be specific.

Our tourism is primarily based around the natural beauty of the county, protecting the environment's long-term health against short-term profits to be made from over development is the most important thing the County Commission can do. We should also look for ways to promote our unique local history.

Q14 What types of Triumph/RESTORE projects would you like to see funded? Be specific.

I don't have any specific proposals other than what has already been submitted. I have no personal business interest to advance and I'm not being backed by any special interests that are looking for special consideration. Any decision I make to back a future proposal will be made solely on the interest of the people of Escambia County.
