Q&A from A5

every open niche in its housing market (particularly entry-level and affordable options and multi-unit housing) through subsidies of development fees and pursuit of grant funding.

How do you feel about the transportation options currently available in the city?

Gowing: I feel that the current transportation options are good for this size town. However, I would like to see options like Uber and Lyft become available.

Del Sol: In town, it's acceptable, but LTD 98 to Eugene is inadequate. As far as urgent transportation, I have food and supplies in the trunk of my car in case I have to flee natural disaster or violence.

do the same. Pack enough to take someone that doesn't have a car. Roberts: I miss the

I suggest everyone else

MOD program. It had great reviews. We need to find a way to fund this service again.

Savage: To answer that I would need more information. Recently a survey was sent out to learn more about the community's transportation needs.

Roughly 80 were returned, which is less than

Leaf Filter

1 percent of our community. I believe that we need better results from this research, so I am suggesting that we talk to the existing customers by putting a volunteer on the different buses to conduct the survey questions on an individual basis then turning that re-

With proactive communication I suspect there will be a better assessment of need.

Stinnett: For many local residents, viable transportation can mean the difference between the realization of economic and other opportunities or the inability to capitalize on such opportunities.

The city council can be a leader in an ongoing conversation about the viability of bringing new transportation options such as Uber and Lyft to Cottage Grove, in addition to continuing to support options like South Lane Wheels and busing through the Lane Transportation Dis-

Proponents of climate change awareness appealed to the city last year to reduce environmental impact. How well do you think the city is addressing this issue?

Gowing: I believe that the city constantly addresses the issue of climate change. This year the city converted all city facilities

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to 100 percent green power. The golf course converted to all electric golf carts and four electric vehicle charging stations have been installed in town.

Del Sol: Regarding the proponents of climate change awareness, city was open to having a community conversation, which is good. The much greater issue is that there are a number of people within our city government and staff that are skeptical of well-established climate

Until this changes, the city does not and will not address the issue effective-

Roberts: I feel the city is doing fine on this topic. As the council liaison to the Community Development Corporation, we talked about putting a solar farm on city land by the maintenance yard.

The city could help more with citizen programs like EcoGeneration recycling and more tree planting programs. Overall, I think we're doing fine, but more

Savage: I support awareness and conversations on how to reduce our environmental impact. We can always do better, but I also feel that we need to be financially aware of how the city money is being spent.

I appreciate the new bicycle lockers and electric car charging stations which promote greener commuting, but I would like to see recycling offered to businesses and I am open to have the conversations about hearing ways the city could go greener.

Stinnett: The city and city council can be leaders in the pursuit of local solutions to human-caused climate change. First, city government must officially acknowledge the crises that are made worse by human-caused change.

Second, the city can reach out to concerned individuals and organizations to make connections, pursue local solutions and

foster a collaborative approach to tackling this vital

The city council can create awards for local businesses, individuals and groups that showcase a commitment to reducing their environmental impact to encourage others to take such steps locally.

Do you think Cottage Grove's downtown area is healthy and successful? If not, what would you do to change that?

Gowing: I feel that we have a healthy downtown given that we are in a pandemic. Businesses have been creative in offering services while complying with state requirements.

However, we are not out of this crisis and need to remember to shop local and

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support our neighbors.

Del Sol: Cottage Grove's downtown has been the best thing in my life since I arrived here. The pandemic and ensuing shutdowns have devastated our local businesses and the city (and community) should do everything it can to pre-

vent further losses. If you feel the same, stop making life harder for employees and business owners and just wear a mask

They didn't make the

without being a jerk.

Roberts: Yes and no! We have discussed many ideas, but none have born fruit. I say, light up the trees using the same LED-size bulbs as I had put on the downtown

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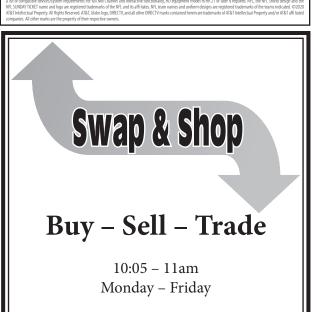












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