

## Dr. Kim Barber

**Candidate for:** Monterey City Council – District 1

**Email:** electkimbarber@gmail.com

**Occupation:** University Administrator

**Years in the Area:** 5

**Education:** doctorate

### HOUSING POLICY

#### **What is your position on affordable housing? Please be specific with regards to policies you support or oppose**

Providing housing for all in Monterey is a priority. To meet our community's housing need I support efforts to increase the number of affordable housing units in Monterey with an effective and appropriate approach.

#### **Do you support modifying city policies or regulations to make it easier and cheaper to build housing? If so, what specific policy changes do you support?**

I support efforts to simplify and streamline City regulations and the application review process. The City Council should work with City staff on a program of continuous improvement that identifies ways to expedite the review processes for housing projects consistent with applicable State housing laws. Amending Downtown and Lighthouse Specific Plans to allow other allowances for residential uses. I also am in support of public land for housing development on city owned property. Also, to give incentives to development for adequate affordable housing.

#### **Do you support requiring that “inclusionary housing” units be made permanently affordable, even upon resale? If not, please explain.**

Inclusionary housing should be part of the City's housing program. These units should be required to remain permanently affordable to help the City achieve its housing goals. Sale of the property should not modify this requirement, it should run with the property as is the case with other land use requirements.

#### **Do you support requiring developers of hospitality, commercial and industrial projects that significantly increase demand for already scarce housing resources to pay housing impact fees to finance workforce housing or to build such housing themselves?**

We should explore all options to create critically needed workforce housing. Our local economy depends on the availability of housing for our workers. I support examining development impact fees that would be equitable for all types of projects rather than focusing on one specific type of business or use. Housing is a shared responsibility.

#### **How should local governments finance affordable housing?**

One of the sources that is used by local governments is participation in State and Federal housing subsidy and tax credit programs.

**Throughout Monterey County, local governments have approved ~21,000 single family homes that haven't been built, and another ~13,000 are proposed. The median home price in Monterey County is ~\$850,000. Do you support adding more single family homes to the unbuilt pipeline or zoning for more affordable apartments, condominiums, and townhouses?**

We need to encourage a variety of housing types, i.e., single-family homes, accessory dwelling units, multi-family rental units, condominium and townhouse units. I support adding more units of all types for a range of incomes and that will address the special needs of our community for the elderly and disabled. We need to increase the number of units without sacrificing the character of our neighborhoods.

**What other housing policies do you support or oppose?**

I will focus on policies that prioritize housing in the more urbanized districts closer to services (jobs, schools, stores, mass transit etc.) while also cutting unnecessary red tape for the creation of accessory dwelling units (ADUs). This is essential for our local workforce so that Monterey residents can live where they work. It also creates a potential for decreasing our carbon footprint.

## **WATER POLICY**

**What specific proposals do you support to ensure your community can meet its water demands without increasing the overdraft of the County's groundwater aquifers or violating the SWRCB's Cease and Desist Order regarding taking water from the Carmel River?**

Pure Water Monterey (PWM) expansion will address the water demands in part, an effort that utilizes advanced water recycling technology to provide a new source of clean, safe, and sustainable water for Monterey. The base project has provided an additional 3,500 acre feet per year of water to the region. I believe it is important to consider all options for more sustainable efforts for clean and safe water.

**For Peninsula Candidates:**

**Do you support expansion of Pure Water Monterey as an alternative to building the desalination plant approved by the CPUC in 2018 but now stalled before the Coastal Commission? Why or why not? On what estimate of water demand is your position based, the estimate made by MPWMD or by Cal-Am? If you support the Cal-Am desalination project, how large should it be? Who should pay for the excess capacity from the desalination project until demand materializes for its water, Cal-Am shareholders, business ratepayers, or residential ratepayers?**

I am in support of Pure Water Monterey for more sustainable and more economic impacts for the city of Monterey. This is also connected to more affordable housing as well as a all housing. I believe a desalination plant is needed, however the specifics

need to be discussed and made a priority. A series of slant wells will be constructed in a 376-acre coastal property located north of the city of Marina to draw seawater into the desalination plant. This will help with sustainable clean and healthy water.

### GROWTH POLICIES

**Do you support the creation of “urban growth boundaries” or expansion of the existing boundary as a way to prevent urban sprawl, and to insure that future growth is compact, efficient, and protective of the environment? If not, what measures would you support to prevent urban sprawl? If yes, will you sponsor an urban growth boundary in the upcoming year, and make it one of your top three priorities?**

I believe that we must be intentional and proactive in plans for growth. Growth will happen and we want growth, but with well thought out intention for the good of the community. It also will need all voices at the table to plan effectively for our community.

**Poorly planned, non-infill commercial developments and hotels create more trips and additional vehicle miles traveled on already overcrowded roads and highways. Both residents and visitors pay the price of delay and increased pollution. What specific traffic congestion relief solutions do you support?**

I would propose to work with our city staff and engineers along with community voices to explore reasonable solutions. It is evident that we do have congestion, but there must be a balance, knowing that increase tourists in combination with residents result in this issue. We must also consider reducing our carbon footprint with this issue.

### TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

**Do you support roundabouts on Highway 68 and other roads? What other transportation policies or practices have you seen that local governments should incorporate?**

Yes, I support Concept 1 for Roundabouts on Highway 68 to make the flow of traffic easier for tourists and residence. This would need to be analyze with traffic engineers at the city to be intentional for the best areas for the roundabouts for the good of the community.

### CANDIDATE PRIORITIES

**If you are elected, what will be your top three priorities?**

My top three platform priorities are Housing, Water, and Inclusive voices.

**What land use policies would you champion for the community?**

I am in favor of Employee Housing policies. This helps workers to live in safe and quality housing and may also decrease our carbon footprint. I also would champion Rental

Assistant programs that were put in place during the height of the pandemic. But, should be more sustainable.

### **CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS**

#### **What accomplishments in your career or public service are you most proud of?**

Helping families and students to overcome challenges that included housing to obtain quality and sustainable housing is one of my proudest moments.

#### **Experience**

I have an educational and business background. Additionally, I was raised in politics in the Washington, D.C. area.