

#10 - Achievements and the Future

I am writing to let you know that I have decided not to run for City Council in April of 2023. I am saying this now in time for potential candidates to have about a month to make their decision to run for council. The campaign process begins in mid-January with packet pick-up and petition circulation.



Achievements

Since I was elected as a City Councilor in 2019, the City organization has made significant progress toward expanding and enhancing the characteristics of our town that create the exceptional quality of life we all share, and to foster a vital, vibrant economy.

My three main priorities have been the use of financial best practices to ensure accuracy & transparency, creating workforce housing (to maintain a multi-generational community), and establishing measurable goals & objectives.

I am proud that my leadership on Council has been shown by the following key points:

- With the hiring of a new City Manager, Jose' Madrigal, an extensive review of the City's operations and organization has been done. Changes have been accomplished that focus on high performance and customer service. Core values now include using data-driven decision making and incorporating continuous improvement strategies.
- The development of a Strategic Plan by Council is a significant initiative to provide guidance for the budget and City operations. The Plan prioritizes goals & objectives and helps determine funding magnitude for projects to achieve the policies that Council has developed.
- Advocating for and supporting the implementation of financial best practices including open & transparent reporting of financial information, improving the budget process, and rebuilding emergency & operating reserves.
- Supporting the development and execution of policies that generate the opportunities to create workforce/attainable housing for our community including the creation and initial funding of a Housing Division within the City and formation of an Urban Renewal Authority.
- The City is now participating in creating housing by working with public-private partners and contributing land and funding infrastructure where appropriate to meet the housing needs of our community and support businesses in being able to grow and succeed.



I am honored to have been elected to council by our voters and I have taken that responsibility very seriously. While I have been on council, the progress the City has made toward maintaining and enhancing our quality of life has been incredibly rewarding work. I believe we have the opportunity to create a future where Durango is a vital community filled with: prosperous businesses; workforce & attainable housing for all; outstanding amenities; and, is the place we happily call home.

Now, at the age of 66, I have been able to bring a lifetime of experience in finance, management, and analysis to my four years as a City Councilor. It is time for me to refocus on my family and friends, and to spend time doing the things that bring joy to my life. As such, I have decided not to run again for City Council in April 2023. I greatly appreciate the support I have received and the ideas and engaging suggestions that you, our community members, have provided.



It will be important to the future of Durango to elect qualified, thoughtful councilors who have critical thinking skills and are willing and able to commit time and effort to the job of being a productive and successful City Councilor. There are ebbs and flows in the workload of a councilor, however, overall, I believe it takes 15-25 hours per week on average to provide proactive leadership. A true commitment is needed in order to be thoughtfully prepared for discussions & decision making, to meet with constituents, and to represent Council in the community.

I would encourage all of you to consider carefully whether you or someone you know would be a good City Councilor for our community. I am happy to discuss the challenges and opportunities that the City faces and what your experience as a councilor would entail.



Previous newsletters can be seen on my website: www.kimforcouncil.org. As always, if you wish to share my newsletters with others, please do. And if they would like to be added to my list, they can request that by emailing me. If you would prefer not to be included on my newsletter list, please let me know, and I will remove your email.

(all information contained in this newsletter represents my opinion and does not reflect the views of Council unless otherwise stated.)