

Lily Morgan NE Ward 2
morganlily@hotmail.com

1. Why am I seeking the position of City Councilor?

I grew up in Grants Pass and chose to move back here after college. Four generations of my family live in Grants Pass. This is my home and as such I want this city to thrive for generations to come. To that end, as an honest and broad minded citizen, I would like the opportunity to serve my community. I know that I can be just, fair and respectful when considering all sides of an issue and after hearing all sides, be willing to make a rational decision that enhances the well being of Grants Pass and its citizens.

2. If elected, do you have any specific things you would like to accomplish during your term on the City Council?

I will promote economic growth by supporting local businesses and encouraging new businesses in our community; and to seek out stable funding for Public Safety.

3. Please provide us with a listing of your prior community and civic involvement in Grants Pass (or other communities).

Josephine County Parole/Probation Officer 2005-present
Josephine County Sheriff's Office on-call Dispatcher 2008-present
911 Dispatcher, City of Grants Pass, 2000-2005
Josephine County Sheriff's Office Reserves 2002-2005, Sergeant 2003-2005
Josephine County Sheriff's Office Reserves Executive Board 2003-2005
Department of Corrections Field Automated User Groups Network 2008-present , Co-Chair 2009-2011
Paint Your Heart Out – Grants Pass
Relay For Life – Josephine County
Habitat for Humanity – Jackson County
Edgewater Christian Fellowship -Women's, Music , and Children's Ministries
Seattle Pacific University – Associated Student Body Senator
- Academic Affairs Committee, Student Rep
- Board of Trustees - Faculty Affairs Committee, Student Rep
Seattle Pacific University – Urban Involvement Homeless Ministry
Seattle Pacific University – Group Ministry Coordinator

4. Please tell us your understanding of the role of Economic Development and what you believe should occur with Economic Development during your term.

In order to fulfill the role of Economic Development, I will help sustain current businesses while collaborating with new businesses to start and removing barriers that would keep new businesses from coming to Grants Pass.

5. What role do you believe Tourism promotion and the Tourism program should play in Grants Pass over the next four years?

Tourism is a very important part of our community. Promoting tourism is a vital part in bringing in new visitors to the area, which in turn brings in outside monies to promote our local economy. With the falling away of the logging and construction industries locally, Tourism is one of the major avenues of economic growth we have.

6. The decisions on the Urban Growth Boundary will be made in the next couple of years. Please tell us your understanding of the purpose, and your view on the extent (if any) that the Urban growth Boundary should be expanded.

The purpose of the UGB is to provide guidance and structure to the growth of an urban area and to reduce urban sprawl. The boundary protects land use by geographic boundaries. The law requires the boundary to be expanded in order for cities to grow. In deciding which areas to expand, the City should look at areas that will advance business and community development.

7. What is your position on signage for local businesses and why?

Signage is necessary to attract customers and to maintain the viability of our local businesses. However, signs can also detract from the beauty of our community or interfere with other businesses in the area. There must be regulation to some extent to provide balance so the signs can be a benefit to our businesses and our community as a whole.

8. The community survey annually asks about how citizens perceive growth and the impacts of growth on the community. Please describe for us your position on community growth.

I have always believed the phrase "It's the Climate" referred more to the small-town feel of Grants Pass than to the weather in our area. There is a perceived notion that if this town continues to grow, the climate or culture will change. Growth is inevitable. What we can do, is be intentional in that growth to take into account the aspects or our "climate" that make Grants Pass unique.

9. This City is actively evaluating parks and recreation plans. What is your position on the proposed park plan, and to what extent do you believe that parks should be directly funded by local taxing efforts.

I support our comprehensive park plan but I do not believe the parks should be primarily funded by taxes. All efforts should be taken to fund parks with grants and volunteerism. A user-fee system could cover maintenance costs involved. However, since the parks are available to the entire public, the public should share in a portion of the costs.

10. Please let us know your position on the funding of Public Safety.

We have high quality fire and police departments, yet as the city continues to grow, the demands on these departments increases. The current levy system makes it difficult to offer a sense of security to the community. Finding a stable funding source is necessary to "provide our residents with a sense of well-being and protection at an affordable cost."

11. Do you believe taxes and fees in Grants Pass are too high, too low, or about right, and to what extent to you believe these should be changed?

Our City taxes and fees are reasonable given the current economy. As a City Councilor, I will work to maintain a balance between available resources and the needs of the community.

12. In your opinion, what role does the downtown play in the future of Grants Pass?

Our downtown offers a wealth of history, culture, and unique small businesses which must be sustained. A city that promotes growth into new areas and neglects the care of their downtown does not have a balance in their growth. The vitality of our downtown area represents the health of our entire city. As the City must promote growth into new areas, we must continue to support our downtown district as the centre of our business community.

13. Please provide us with any other information you believe makes you the best candidate for the City Council.

My desire is for Grants Pass to be a healthy, thriving community and I will serve this community whether I am elected or not. I shop at local shops, attend community events, and support youth activities as the youth are the future of this town. I will work hard towards the goal of making this City a continued success.