



**RECA**  
REAL ESTATE COUNCIL  
OF AUSTIN

## 2020 General Election Candidate Questionnaire

**Candidate:** Louis Herrin III

**Office Seeking:** Austin City Council District 4

**Political Affiliation:** None

**Candidate's Website:** [www.louisherrin.com](http://www.louisherrin.com)

### **Why are you running for this position?**

I do not like the direction the city is going.

### **What do you believe are the three most critical issues facing the City of Austin, and why?**

Crime- The crime rate is rising in my district and the defunding and reducing the number of officers is not acceptable. Homelessness- the city need to look for long term solution for the homeless problems and not the band aid solution we are currently spending on the problems. We are spending over thirty thousand dollars per homeless person. Transportation- we need to look to new technologies for solutions to are transportation problem

### **If elected, what other items would you like to accomplish while in office?**

An independent audit of all of the city programs. I need to know what is working and what is not and where the money is going.

### **How would you describe your position as it relates to balancing the needs of new job creation and big development projects, with the big problems of traffic congestion, cost of living, and affordability?**

I know this is one big problem and it is not going to be solved over night. I am train as an engineer I look at big problems and break them down into smaller problems that can the solve until the bigger problem is solve and under this approach you are able to change direction easier if conditions changed.

### **Do you believe that our Land Development Code needs to be updated?**

Yes

**If you answered "Yes" to question #13, what would you want to see updated in our land development code?**

All codes need to review periodically and updated based on new technology. The code should not be change in such way that would destroy the neighborhood dynamics. A requirement that new neighborhood be design that allow for public transportation within the subdivision.

**If you answered "No" to question #13, what do you like about our existing code?**

**One of RECA's top areas of focus has been to improve the overall permitting process to make it more predictable for everyone. Please indicate any specific policies you have worked on (or will work on) while in office related to improving efficiencies in the permitting process.**

This is problem that have been going on for years, I have train employees over the thirty years on how to review projects so that we all review them the same way. The city need to streamline the process, remove requirements that are not needed. Setup a new training program on how to review projects so everyone know what is expected and everyone know what to submit. If the city can not do this, then the management need to be replace.

**What specific policies would you support to address our severe housing shortage and the rising cost to construct and produce housing?**

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**What is your position on Project Connect?**

In it current form I am against it, the cost versus benefits in the long term would not serve most of the citizens of Austin, The cost of the project based on the city current track record for large construction projects is going to cost somewhere between 25-50 billion dollars and by the city own ride projection will only serve 1% of the city. We need to also serve the commuting population if we are going make a dent in the traffic problems in the city

**What other measures would you support to improve current and future mobility throughout our city?**

As I said above, we need also need to serve the commuting population if we are going to make a dent in traffic problem. Also, the planners need to take in our climate into their plans, I would not want my 85 year old mother walking half mile in 100 degree to catch a bus or train. I would not like to share my office with someone who have to walk a mile or more in Austin summer heat and humidity to catch a train.

**Do you support the expansion and improvement of major roadways and highways in our region, such as IH-35, US 183, and 360?**

Yes

**How do you think RECA or the business community should play a productive role in our city?**

They should be promoting what is working in Austin and should be pressuring the council to change what is not working.