**My vision for Tahoe’s future**

Tahoe is an international tourist destination for a reason - it’s one of the most beautiful places in the world.

We are a highly service-oriented kind of town, which means we need to take care of the people who travel here and the best way to do that is to take care of the people that live here. My vision for Tahoe is to focus on the uniqueness, our mountains, our lake, our people. We must care for them equally and I believe I can help bring us to that future.

**I- Improving Our Infrastructure and Recreation Economy**

 1) Resort-Town Economy > Improve Quality of Life in Our Community with Emphasis on Low-Income Residents: Many tourist destinations around the world have figured out how to balance tourism, with local quality of life and environmental sustainability. We don't have to reinvent the wheel when places like Hawaii, Bhutan, and Amsterdam, already implement a system called Smart Tourism. If tourism doesn’t work for locals, it doesn’t work.

 2) Tahoe Conglomerates Undermining Market Competition > Support Local Businesses: I was in the retail business for 30 years working for small local businesses here in Tahoe. I have seen them hurt by a bad winter or big business coming in and pushing them out. We need to protect our local and small businesses - they are the lifeblood of our community. There are lots of programs utilized by tourist communities similar to South Lake Tahoe that we can initiate here to address these concerns. As a member of our City Council, I would work to find ways to implement programs like these:

 i) Adopt Business Diversity Ordinance-policies that restrict the proliferation of “formula businesses” stores and restaurants that have standardized services, décor, methods of operation, and other features that make them virtually identical to businesses elsewhere;

 ii) A citywide Adaptive Reuse Program is designed to encourage local entrepreneurs to start businesses in older spaces, specifically those that are vacant. Administered jointly by the city’s Planning and Development Department, Office of Customer Advocacy, and Community and Economic Development Department, this program supports local property owners, and small businesses, through mechanisms that include guidance and regulatory relief, such as permit-fee waiver incentives and faster-permitting timelines, for eligible projects; and

 iii) Give Preference to Local Businesses such as procurement policies designed to give prioritize businesses that meet certain characteristics, such as those that are owned by veterans, pay certain wages, use environmentally sustainable practices, or manufacture within the state.

 3) Daytime Construction on Highway 50 > Bargain With the County for Less Daytime Construction: While road construction has not been an issue this year, we can only expect road construction season in Tahoe to resume during the peak of summer eventually. Unfortunately, the City cannot directly affect the hours of construction on Highway 50. We can, however, do everything within our power to influence CalTrans to limit the number of daytime construction hours. The only way to get people to work at night is to pay them to work at night, and it just so happens that Measure A revenue is eligible to be spent on “road improvement projects.” We can either sit on Highway 50 every year at the discretion of the County, or bargain with CalTrans in our own City to compensate County nightcrews with existing funds for a more nocturnal schedule.

**II- Fixing Our Disastrous Tax Ordinances**

 4) Wasteful Spending > Spending Rules for Special Collection Ordinances: There are many absurd, unnecessary, and just burdensome fees in our City Code. Revenue collected from 4.135.070 appears to have been spent on a machine-gun turret by our police department - the ordinance for “police vehicle” gasoline, repairs, and other necessities. Now that our local department already got a new fleet of vehicles four years ago, it is about time that we utilize our money wisely by implementing necessity-based rules for special collection fees such as 4.135.070 which emphasize conserving the fund.

 5) Disorganized Tax Ordinance Code > Clean Up Fees Outside of Title 3: Have you ever looked at Title 3 of the South Lake Tahoe City Code? Title 3 governs the collection and holding of our local tax dollars by the City, but there are many tax ordinances hidden outside of Title 3. These tax ordinances, however, correspond with the ordinances which they are surrounded by, so I will work to organize the City Code in regard to the collection of money. An existing City staffer will identify all of the fees outside of Title 3, and then the external fees would be transparently referenced to in Title 3. In the process of cleaning up all of the tax ordinances, I will be able to identify wasteful and outdated ones to submit for abolition.

 6) Identifying > Wasteful Spending < in the Long Run: A large percentage of my platform is to address our disastrous tax code, so I will leave a legacy that fills the shoes I am trying to fill. Constitutional law gives citizens the right to inspect public property at the State and federal level. Therefore, in order to have a process where citizens can exercise this right, I will propose to establish a jury-like committee consisting of the City Manager, a rotating City official, and nine volunteer citizens who sign up for a temporary, rotating “service term” appointed by a designated City official. Until this passes, I will continuously identify wasteful spending ordinances and submit them for abolition! The committee shall have the powers to:

 i) access City agency’s receipts from a chronological and categorical word processor databases;

 ii) propose spending rules and other tax ordinance reforms to the City Council; and

 iii) streamline the budgetary process by keeping statistics using the receipts database.

**III- Taking Action When Government Does Not**

 7) Rural Police Corruption > Community-Oriented Policing: Our local Police Department has been under “investigation” by the State for filing false affidavits since 2013. SLTPD officers have been arrested for drug trafficking over the years. The police report in regard to Kris Jackson’s death wasn’t published for two years. Transparency is important in government, and studies have shown that updating different kinds of public access laws and standards in regard to policing reduces police corruption. In 2012, a 12-month study was conducted upon the Rialto Police Department after the City implemented body camera standards, and i) force was used 50% less often after police were required to wear body cameras, and ii) complaints against the police were filed 90% less often after police were required to wear body cameras. Those are significant results! Additionally, given past incidents in our town and across the country, I believe we need a Police Oversight Committee that has the power to review cases and make recommendations for termination or charges. We will update public access laws in regard to all aspects of policing such as giving the Citizen’s Public Access Committee oversight powers over SLTPD.

 8) Outdated Government Processes for Domestic Issues > Assemble the Team: Did you know that 46% of all police reports filed with our police department resulted in no response to help victims by our police? In large cities, only about 20% of reports are domestic issues beyond the purview of police duties, but that figure is significantly higher in rural areas. Before I even decided to run for office, I was engaged in grassroots work in this issue specifically. My team has already made it a top priority to get appropriate community service nonprofits like CAHOOTZ involved to resolve domestic abuse, sexual assaults, addiction, and mental health situations. One of my top priorities will be to establish and implement a Cahoots-like program, to address the often-neglected mental health issues our town faces. As someone that lives with depression, anxiety disorder, and PTSD, mental health is very important to me. I have taught art to Veterans in Livermore, CA’s VA hospital and I know many other people who suffer not only from the disease but from the stigma it brings. The same thing can be said for addiction, it is a disease like any other (cancer, diabetes, or heart disease) where people don’t always do what’s best to take care of themselves. We need to educate our community and make access easy to find for our locals and visitors. As a member of our local Alanon Group, I know how important their support has been to me. I am the number one candidate for advocating a safe, healthy, and peaceful community out of all of the other candidates!

 9) Govt Complaint Boxes that Lead to a Black Hole > Community-Oriented Democracy: In politics, it is the nature of business to ignore your constituents and spend all of your time calling donors in order to get enough donations to win your next election. Fortunately, the scale of the problem in South Lake Tahoe does not reach the level that our 4th District US Representative does, but it certainly exists. I practically have no donors, so my vested interest is not in any particular voters. I will maintain a well-organized, chronological docket and an emergency help-desk tip line. I will not be a government complaint box to a black hole! I understand that I am your employee, using your property, spending your money, on your behalf. And I will stir up as much pressure in the community as my team and I can in order to make sure the other councilmembers understand this very constitutionally fundamental, overlooked, supreme liability in the law.