

Karen Wilson

1. Yes or no, do you agree that there should be no significant new traffic introduced into the Colonial Hills neighborhood? How will you ensure this in the future?

Yes, I agree and the city's recently adopted bike/pedestrian initiative also supports the idea. Some speed humps would be one deterrent to traffic. But our main concern, of course, would be the potential development on the Harding/Boundless property. I fully agree with the School Board that, should a new school campus be developed there, that buses and cars would enter and exit the property mainly from 161, leaving its south border for walkers and kids on bikes and the (hopefully!) rare emergency vehicle—thus, 'keeping the gate closed' at the end of Indianola.

2. What improvements to Colonial Hills do you propose?

As I'm knocking on doors in the neighborhood, I've noted that the shelter house and traffic issues are the biggest concerns. The shelter house is the most used in Worthington and is woefully missing the mark. It is time to prioritize this important amenity: bring it up to code as well as make it a source of pride by either significantly repairing or totally replacing it. I'm willing to explore whichever is the most fiscally responsible approach. When it comes to traffic, Park to Hartford is a pretty major thoroughfare with significant speeding issues; we are risking residents' safety especially kids. One resident I met suggested speed bumps. The wider and lower 'speed humps' would be a good deterrent with minor inconvenience (especially relative to the smaller, harsher 'bumps'). I would definitely support this. Plus, this work is directly in support of our recently adopted bike and pedestrian initiative and so it already has a potential boost from the city.

3. How do you propose to upgrade the water system in Worthington?

The water main breaks are frequent and frustrating, especially in Colonial Hills. While I don't live directly in Colonial Hills, I see them and I am impacted by them since my son goes to Colonial Hills Elementary School. The deteriorating system is not isolated to Colonials Hills or Worthington, it is true all over Columbus. I pledge to support the currently proposed funding to not only to repair but to replace and prevent these issues in the future.

4. How would you diversify and stabilize the revenue stream in the City of Worthington?

Roughly 75% of our current revenue comes from income tax of people who work in Worthington. That is a sound percentage, and so I see no need to diversify exactly. Within that sector of revenue, however, we need to look toward attracting more high paying jobs such as the employees who work in large office buildings (Worthington Industries and the urology associates on Wilson Bridge, for example) and who work for growing companies and industries such as those on Huntley and Proprietors. Therefore, to stabilize that revenue stream our focus has been and should continue to be on high-end office space like the Wilson Bridge examples. That has been David McCorkle's focus (our city's economic development manager). In a recent interview with David, I asked "how could a councilmember help you be more successful?" As it turns out, he shared he is frequently asked to handle meetings with developers and property managers alone. He felt it could be helpful if a councilmember, (such as myself?!) could join him. I would welcome this and definitely see the benefit, not only in engaging and welcoming development but also as a way to demonstrate that citizens not only want business development, but also expect collaboration. I've noted frequently that our city seems to lack leadership and vision. If we had a well-articulated plan for our Wilson Bridge Corporate Corridor and a similar initiative in the Huntley-Proprietors Industrial/Incubator areas, we could realize greater revenue and ultimately be able to focus on better quality of life initiatives for other areas of Worthington.

Karen Filina Wilson

Karenwilsonforcouncil.org

Paid for by Karenwilsonforcouncil.org, Carolyn Hayzlett, Treasurer