



## **2007 Senior Statesmen City Council and Board of Supervisors Candidate Forum September 12, 2007**

On September 12, 2007, 12 candidates for both the Charlottesville City Council and the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors crowded on a dais at the Senior Center for a joint forum. About 50 people attended the event which was sponsored by the Senior Statesmen of Virginia. Candidates were asked about consolidation of the City and County, water and sewer infrastructure, the proposed Biscuit Run development, and City Council's consideration of resolutions related to issues like impeachment, the Patriot Act and the War in Iraq. While many other candidate events are scheduled before the November six election, this is the only time that both sets of candidates will appear on the same stage. The moderator is Don Wells.

*The **audio** and **video** is available online on the Charlottesville Tomorrow Weblog*  
[http://cvilletomorrow.typepad.com/charlottesville\\_tomorrow\\_/2007/09/senior\\_forum.html](http://cvilletomorrow.typepad.com/charlottesville_tomorrow_/2007/09/senior_forum.html)

*Complete election coverage is available on the Charlottesville Tomorrow website*  
<http://action.cvilletomorrow.org/cvilleaction/elections.html>

### **INTRODUCTION**

**Don Wells:** I want to welcome you to this forum put on by the Senior Statesmen of Virginia with the help of the Senior Center who've provided this excellent room for us and you see both logos are represented here on the podium. I want to welcome you to this. The Senior Statesmen of Virginia is a non-partisan organization with membership for those 50 and older who are interested in public affairs and we also deal with local issues as Tip O'Neil famously observed—all politics being local, he claimed. Well, today, is definitely in his category—local.

So what we have today is a showcase forum of the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors and the Charlottesville City Council positions which are up for election this year in November. In the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors positions, these are separate districts. Candidates by district—Lindsay Dorrier, he's first on our list and that's for the Scottsville District. Then there are two other candidates—Kevin Fletcher, Denny King. For the Rivanna District, we have two candidates—Kenneth Boyd, Ken Boyd and Marcia Joseph and then finally the White Hall District, we have two candidates for the White Hall District and that's Ann Mallek and Dave Wyant. Now, in the City, it's my understanding that's at

large for the open positions and there are five candidates contending for the three positions—Mayor David Brown here a Democrat and the City positions have Democrats and Independents contending for them. Holly Edwards, Democrat. Satyendra Huja, Democrat. Barbara Haskins, Independent, and Peter Kleeman, Independent. We will start with opening statements by the candidates and we'd like these to be brief, certainly no more than two minutes and it would be better if it was shorter.

The questions will be on 3x5 cards as Senior Statesmen have always done and they will be collected and then we have Senior Statesmen Board Members in the back of the room who will organize the questions because we usually get multiple questions on the same subjects, so let's proceed. I'm suggesting that we just start with the County positions and maybe proceed from that end of the table and come this way with the County candidates.

**Kevin Fletcher (I-Scottsville):** Hello, my name is Kevin Fletcher and I'm running for the Board of Supervisors for the Scottsville District and I guess the reason that I'm running is that I'm really not happy I guess with the direction that our County has been going in in a number of years as far as the planning of growth. Certainly, I believe that we need to preserve our rural areas but we need to do a better job of managing our growth areas.

I do not believe in the statement that is often made on the Board of Supervisors that we must sacrifice our growth areas to preserve our rural areas. I believe that the people who live in the growth areas because this is where we want to people to live, but the Board of Supervisors seems to have a mindset that they're not deserving of the same quality of life as people in the growth areas and that the cost of growth should be on their shoulders, I think, which is evident in the I guess the last time that it came for a re-assessment to have the cost of water and sewage, the County determined that it was just too hard to try to get that cost passed onto developers and that the only hope is just to raise the cost of water and sewage and I know that's hard enough already for people on fixed incomes to make it in Albemarle County and that we cannot continue to just put the cost of growth on the people in the growth areas.

I also believe that we need to do a better job of managing our land use tax. There're many people who take advantage of this and it costs the County millions of dollars and once again, a great deal of the burden of our tax income falls upon the people in the growth area and we need to force developers to build affordable housing. In the past four years, we have had over 600 affordable housing units proffered and none have been built so we need to try to get developers to deliver on their proffers and that's it. Thank you.

**Ann Mallek (D-White Hall):** Good afternoon. I'm Ann Mallek. I grew up here Albemarle and I'm very happy to be here with you today. Last Saturday, my two twin granddaughters were born up in northern Virginia so my grandson and I

zoomed here this morning to be here with you as a sign of respect for this organization. I'm very glad to be here.

Why am I running? I've been concerned about the direction of the County, the long-term- The future, what our future is going to look like and I've been asking voters as I meet them what kind of future do you want and many of them say I want the growth to slow down. We must find a way to live within our natural resource means such as water and to protect the rights of our existing citizens. We are much concerned about our future residents, what the price of housing will be but we need to also be concerned about the people who live here now.

I'm concerned about increasing representation which means that the people on the Board of Supervisors should not be voting what they think themselves personally. They should be voting about what their voters think and the way to find that out is to meet with them and talk to them on a regular basis and to be involved in their lives throughout the District. That is really important to me.

We need to follow the processes of government much more strictly. We need to have government be more transparent. We need minutes of our meetings available on a timely basis. For example, the last minutes posted for the Board of Supervisors on their website are from June of 2006, so if one wanted to find out what happened word-for-word in a meeting a couple of times ago, you'd be up the creek. I don't think that's right. We need to do a better job.

I believe in the idea of the growth area and the fact that people very economically can live closer together and have less of an impact on the environment and we were able to less expensively provide services for them. However, for the growth areas to succeed, they need to be done in the highest quality manner possible and so that is my reservation for something like Biscuit Run that the neighbors must be taken into consideration and it must be the highest quality to protect the existing community voters.

I'll stop there. Thank you very much.

**Lindsay Dorrier (D-Scottsville):** Good afternoon. I'm Lindsay Dorrier. I'm from Scottsville and I'm a native of Albemarle County. I'm running for Supervisor. I'm running for my third term on the Board of Supervisors and I wanted to— I'm running basically because we've got some unfinished business in Albemarle County. I'm running to develop affordable housing for the citizens of Albemarle County. We need to have more affordable housing and we're requiring 15% of all developed in the future development in the County to be affordable housing. I'm also for working closely with the City to create a mass transit and this will help our senior citizens. I'm becoming a senior citizen myself and I support what this Center is doing. I think mass transit is a way to take seniors out of their cars and put them in buses that get them around the County and around the area and I think we need to work closely with the City on developing this policy.

I also think that we need to improve the infrastructure in Albemarle County. I'm for preserving and protecting the rural areas of the County and I'm for making the growth areas of the County—that's 5% of the County—95% is rural and 5% is development area. I'm for making those work better and be planned better than they have been in the past. That's not to say that we haven't, [that] we've done anything I think that's wrong, although mistakes have been made, but I think that we can plan our neighborhood models better than we've been doing and we're kind of in the process of developing master plans for the County and we're in the process of refining our neighborhood model and you visit other counties, drive through Prince William County and Loudoun County or Fairfax, and you'll see why Albemarle is so special because when I drive those counties, the development is helter-skelter and it's not planned like Albemarle's is planned. So we may have made some mistakes in the past, but we've done, but we've done a pretty good job I think of leaving Albemarle County, the rural part of it pretty and still open and attractive. That's why it's such a magnet for so many people and it's continued to be a magnet, so we can't stop the growth. We need to control it. We need to constrict it and constrain it.

This is what I pledge to do. I pledge to preserve and protect Albemarle County for future— for the future generations and I pledge to do the best I can to provide affordable housing and mass transit and to cooperate with the City to continue to have Albemarle be the best place in America to live. Thank you.

**Dave Wyant (R-White Hall):** I'm Dave Wyant, present Board of Supervisors member from the White Hall District. I grew up here in Albemarle County. I went to Albemarle High School and then to UVA. I have a bachelor's, a master's in civil engineering. I've worked for VDOT for 30 years and while I was working with VDOT, I helped develop for the state the erosion control standards that we use today. In my profession, I'm considered the "grandfather of the silt fence" and probably the most knowledgeable person in the efficiencies of silt fences, but also working on storm water management and the understanding of infrastructure.

I led the state effort in the GIS which we use within the County today in order to site area headquarters in the state and also in the County, that's how we site our fire stations and our rescue services and all. I am the liaison from the Board to the fire rescue. I've worked with the northern station development. I've introduced the County to what we call value engineering which is a technique in the engineering profession where we scrutinized that project and cut some funds out of the— Or expenditures out of that station that we're proposing on starting construction in the northern part of the County.

I also worked heavily in the water supply plan, the 50-year plan. I had dealt with all the regulatory agencies and knowing the difficulties of getting all the regulatory agencies together suggesting that we bring them together at one time. If you deal with separately, it's very difficult. I also understand the difficulties of the

infrastructure as far as the sewer lines and the plants and that we don't build beyond that capacity.

As far as the rural area, I personally have worked for the last— the four years I've been on the Board to get more people introduced to conservation easements to save the rural areas and personally, I've had averaging about 650 acres for the last two years being brought into our conservation easement. I've introduced a number of families to it and several of them have come each year into one of our plans, either the VOF, Nature Conservancy or our ACE Program within the County.

Also, I'm very supportive of affordable housing and we have to— And how we go about bringing affordable housing. What has happened in our area that we need affordable housing for all economic levels in our society and so that's been a major concern and I was glad to see us bringing that policy forward. The implementation of that has been a major concern and so that's one of the other efforts I've been pushing for.

**Denny King (I-Scottsville):** Good afternoon. My name is Denny King. I'm a candidate for the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors also for the Scottsville District. I wasn't born and reared in Albemarle County. I have lived here for about 16 years and I feel incredibly blessed to have discovered Albemarle County and I'm still earning the privilege to live here. As I go about my district and talk to the voters many of whom have lived here for multiple multiple generations and they're very concerned about the incredible changes that are happening in their lives.

I was motivated to run for this office for several reasons. I'm the product of a family of volunteerism and of public service and I learned to participate in public service and volunteerism at a very young age and I've continued that through my adult life. At the urging of hundreds of friends and neighbors, I made the decision to run for this office, for a number of reasons. I'm certainly, when elected, not going in there a magic wand or a preordained agenda but I do feel that there are several issues that require immediate attention and those are issues are preeminent on my platform—water, water, water, and I believe seriously that our County hasn't taken seriously the water issue. I think the 50-year water plan is incredibly flawed. We're building in areas that when that plan was outlined, that wasn't part of the 50-year plan, and you've seen recently now that we're in a drought warning or a drought watch, it appears that this issue only comes up when we have limited rain or when the water levels go lower and lower and lower. We've known about this situation for 30 years. Is my time up, Don? Thank you.

**Marcia Joseph (D-Rivanna):** My name is Marcia Joseph and I'm running for the Rivanna Board of Supervisors. I just thought I'd give you a little bit of background. I have been working as a public servant for probably the past 12 years. Before that, I actually worked for the County and the City so I've seen both sides of how things work. I've been in the Ag Forest District Committee. I've been on the Acquisition of conservation Easement Committee. I was Chair of the Architecture Review Board and I'm the current Chair of the Albemarle County Planning Commission so I've been around and I've seen some things and I know what's going on. The reason I'm running is because there're been some decisions that the Board has made in the past four years that I have not agreed with and a lot of the people that I've talked to have not agreed with, so that's one reason.

Another reason is in November of last year I kept getting these phone calls and people would stop me in the street and say why aren't you running, why aren't you running, and so I kept thinking about it and I'm running. I want you to know that on the Planning Commission it's very very important for us to receive public input. We have started in the past two years public input on every work session that we have. It makes for incredibly long meetings but we've got them. We hear from the public. We respond to the public before any final documents are made. I think it's extremely important to have everything out in the open, every decision out in the open and every decision has public input. I think that's very very important and that's what I expect when elected to the Board that that's how the Board will act.

I know that we're going to have development. I am not anti-development. I think that it's important for us to look at development and make sure it doesn't place a burden on the people who already live here. I think it's important that whatever we approve improves the community. How much time do I have? I'm done? Okay. Now, I know how the applicants feel when they stand up and they get these lights going on in front of them.

Okay. One more. I am not anti-development. I think that, again, that we approve things that improve the community and as [State Senator] Creigh Deeds says, you look at development as if it's this horse riding down the road, this wild horse. You gotta stop it, you gotta mount it, and you gotta ride in the direction that you feel it needs to go and whatever it is, it needs to be in the direction that's good for the community. Thank you very much.

**Ken Boyd (R-Rivanna):** I'm Ken Boyd, by the way. I'm the current Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and running for re-election in the Rivanna District. I'm going to cut down my three-minute talk to a two-minute talk so I might talk fast and miss a couple of the things that I want to talk about. First of all, a little bit about myself. I've lived here for 26 years. I've raised my four children here, all who went to public schools. My background education is I have two business degrees including an MBA. I also have a certification as a Financial Planner from

the American College. I have spent my entire 26 years working in this community starting out at the elementary level when my kids were little and running the carnivals and things that we do at that right on up to being a PTO president at both the middle and high school levels. Then joining the School Board for four years and after that, this is my fourth year on the Board of Supervisors.

I think one of my passions is education and it always will be even though my kids have moved on and are all gainfully employed, thank goodness, off my payroll right now. I earned my grey hair, by the way, with four kids, but I am proud of what we've done and I'm going to talk to you a little bit about the glass that's half full as opposed to what we've been hearing about being half empty because there's a lot going on in this community and a lot that everybody up here that's an incumbent has helped to bring about and one of those things is education. Since I started on the School Board during my tenure on both the School Board and the Board of Supervisors, we've raised starting teacher's pay from \$28,803 to \$40,265. That's an increase of 4%. It's something that I know I'm proud of and I think the School Board and the Board of Supervisors are also.

I'm proud of the fact that even though when I took office we had spiraling assessment rates and property taxes and that kept up that we fought twice to bring down the tax rate, bringing it down in two different occasions from 76 cents down to 68 cents and I think it's important that we manage the taxes in this community so that we don't force people out of it because of raising property taxes.

We've heard a lot of talk about water already. I can tell you that when I went on the Board four years ago, we had no 50-year long-range water plan. We had no— Absolutely zero reserves, capital reserves for improvements. We have a 50-year old system that was beginning to decay and I'm out of time, so I can say that now we do have a 50-year water plan. We need to work towards implementing that plan. It's going to take some financial knowledge to put together the finances to do that and take care of our budget and I think I bring that to the table and I ask you to re-elect me to do that for you the next four years. Thank you.

**David Brown (D-Charlottesville):** Good afternoon. I'm David Brown and I'm a member of City Council and I was elected to City Council in May 2004 and one of the first things we did was that we moved the election from May to November so instead of being re-elected or running for office again in May of 2008, I'm running now and we did it for a couple of reasons I thought were pretty obvious. It saves about \$35,000 not to have a stand-alone election in May. It also means we'll have larger turnout. Fall elections tend to have more turnout than the May City Council elections, but what I didn't really think through is the fact that it would result in us sitting up together having a forum where we talk about City issues and County issues and there's also obviously [Delegate] David Toscano and

Creigh Deeds are running and [Delegate] Rob Bell is running for House of Delegates issues, because the fact of the matter is you can't really discuss any of these issues in isolation.

For example, you can't talk about problems with City spending and City budgets without looking at the fact that the declining in state spending on schools, on the state share for public safety, on the state share for the Comprehensive Services Act and all those things have resulted in the City's sharing going up and so you can't— Those issues— It's nice to have a discussion where we can talk about them at the same time. It's also important because all the issues we talk about— City issues and County issues—they're interwoven.

A lot of the stresses on the City involved the County growth and certainly the City at the same time has a real interest in seeing open spaces in the County preserved, the beauty of the County preserved and our issues interweave and so everyone thinks we need to cooperate more and having been on here for a while, I can tell you it's a little easier said than done and one of the things that can facilitate City/County cooperation is an understanding of each other's points of view and so I think having campaigns occur together means that City issues and County issues are all being talked about at the same time rather than in isolation and so when the City and the County are trying to struggle to figure out how to relate to each other on water supply issues, on solid waste issues, to create a transit authority, to deal with any of the issues we deal with—affordable housing maybe being a great example, we can understand each other's points of view.

I think there's been some improvement in cooperation in the last few years between the City and the County. You know, there's a lot of discussion you've heard already today on the need for a regional transit authority and to do transit together. There's been a- I'm waiting for the glass to chink [indicating my time is up], but— There's been discussion. There's a taskforce being formed to look at affordable housing from a regional perspective and very few problems we face are solely City issues or County issues and so I think encouraging discussions that both jurisdictions can look at at the same time is a great idea. Thank you.

**Satyendra Huja (D-Charlottesville):** I'm a senior citizen and proud of it. I was not born in Virginia but I think I'm most the Virginian-looking on the dais at least. Wouldn't you all agree? And by that I mean that I'm tall, dark, handsome and modest.

I'm going to focus on two things today given that I have two minutes. I've been here about 34 years. Thirty-one of that I was the Director of Planning and Community Development for the City of Charlottesville and those 34 years have been active for me in this community. I have been involved in Downtown improvements, housing, trails, and many programs of interest to seniors, RSVP Program, Mediation Center, those kind of programs and Meals on Wheels, those

kind of things I've been working on, so I've been active in this community for quite some time. I believe that I can make a difference.

If I was elected, there are five areas which I would like to work on. First, is to protect the strength in our neighborhoods because neighborhoods are the building blocks of our community. Second, to preserve and enhance our environment in terms of more green environment, more sustainable development, more water quality maintenance. Third, I'd like to promote a balanced transportation, including frequent direct and dependable transit service, an inter-connected network of trails and bikeways. And, fourth, I'd like to see affordable housing, more work on affordable housing but it is a regional problem. We need to work together, the City and County on that. And, last, to make sure that quality education for every child in our community, that every child is challenged to fulfill their potential.

There're many things that need to be done but most importantly, I want to promise to you that I would listen to residents of this community and then work with them to make improvements and to make it a better community than it is. Thank you.

**Barbara Haskins (I-Charlottesville):** Before I start, before the clock runs, I'd like to say that we received written instructions to prepare three minutes worth of remarks and to be told now to cut our remarks by a third is neither fair nor appropriate, especially when it was done halfway through. Having said that—start it now—

My name is Barbara Haskins. I'm running for City Council. I'm doing this because I'm concerned about how things are handled fiscally in the City. If you were going to set up a political system, you would never set up a system that we currently have in which we have landlocked 10-square-miles of the City surrounded by 690 square miles of the County and in that small City space, then you would have— We have limited opportunities for commercial development and revenue generation. We have one in four people living in poverty. We have many renters and therefore we have homeowners who are paying a very high percentage of the cost of financing the City's operations and I'm running in the short-term for that reason.

Our City homeowners are paying one-third more in taxes than County homeowners are paying. We pay more than Arlington County. We pay more than Fairfax County homeowners and I think that this is non-sustainable. I've heard met many people who've told me they don't know how they can stay in their homes in the City because taxes keep going up. In the last five years, we've had double-digit increases in home assessments every year and essentially City Council has simply taken that money. They've nipped at the edges of our tax rates, but every year homeowners have paid more in taxes. That's a non-sustainable idea and I find it disrespectful of homeowners.

There's a small program in place right now if you meet five or so criteria, you are eligible for a tax rebate. Then City Council came up with the idea to have another program to handle this runaway tax problem but decided the program was too complicated to do and stopped it and never implemented it. There's actually a very simple way to provide relief to homeowners in the City and that's to cut the tax rate they're paying. It's very easy.

If we do nothing, my question is how is this sustainable over 5 years or 10 years or 15 years for City homeowners. How do people stay in their homes funding all of this, so I hope in addition to these short-term questions that long-term, this opens up a discussion among voters about issues and town reversion, merger of services with Albemarle County and/or revisiting the revenue sharing agreement. Thank you.

**Peter Kleeman (I-Charlottesville):** Good afternoon. I'm Peter Kleeman and I live at 407 Hedge Street in the City. This is way most people in Charlottesville and Albemarle recognize me. I am frequently present at meetings of the City Council, the Planning Commission, Board of Architectural Review and I've actually been before the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors on a number of occasions on issues of growth, transportation, environment, and public involvement and making things open to the public to have them participate in the decisions before those bodies.

I came to Charlottesville about 26 years ago. I guess Ken Boyd and I came down [Route] 29 together and I've been involved working at the University on the faculty there. I've worked for the Commonwealth of Virginia. I've in the past worked for the federal government as an engineer and a planner and I've been involved in many issues related to those frontiers that are challenging in Charlottesville and Albemarle today, so the key themes that I'm addressing in my campaign are particularly related to growth.

Charlottesville is the center of a rapidly growing area and we need to do smart growth or at least conscious growth and understand what choices the community is making about our future. So my themes are the issue of growth, particularly as it relates to the demand for transportation services, how we can do a better job moving people from where they are to where they want to go. Also, the environmental issue which are a challenge for us—water, air quality resources, our parks, recreation, history. All of these things are threatened by uncontrolled growth, but mostly as I introduce myself, I am an advocate for involving the public and, in particular, neighborhoods, as well as individuals in the political process to bring them to the table early, often, and have them play a meaningful role in the conversations about what decisions are before these bodies, so I invite you to come visit my table over here and see some of the material that shows what background I bring to the table, what some of my goals and issues are and how you can get in touch with me and participate in government in the City and beyond. Thank you very much.

**Holly Edwards (D-Charlottesville):** My name is Holly Edwards and I am a part of the Democratic team for City Council. The theme we have chosen for our campaign—Building a Better Community—is more than just a slogan but unity and practice and thought of the importance of living in a community that is embraced by everyone. I believe that the entire community is as strong as its neighborhoods and the neighborhoods derive strength from the families that live in ordinary, every-day activities that make a difference. My sense of pride, civic responsibility, and desire to continue public service, my reasons for running for City Council are built in part by my experiences in the community providing service, outreach and leadership but the foundation for that begins with my home.

My husband Kendrick provides the support and I have his vote, by the way, as I campaign and learn more about the issues that concern us all. My oldest twin, Kristin, the 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Buford, excels in reading. She spent the summer on the City swim team, a reminder to me of the importance of our physical health and the need to have recreational facilities and outdoor activities that will span a lifetime. Shelby, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Buford, she has already decided that she will be a mathematician. Shelby's gift for numbers has been nurtured by the teachers in our public school system, a reminder of the importance of providing a sound educational system for all of our children. My baby twins, Bernice, named after my mother, a reminder of my family legacy and the need to make sound decisions now that will impact our future, and Jean, my rambunctious two-year-old, a reminder that the world is filled with opportunities and adventures and filled with questions that haven't been asked yet.

My family also includes my father. A widower in D.C., he was living alone and unable to do so. I have for the past six years taken care of Papa. We celebrated his 77<sup>th</sup> birthday this summer. Watching him age in place is a reminder of how special our home is because of the many generations within its walls. Families, home, neighborhood, community. Thank you.

**Don Wells:** Now, we'll go into the questions and I have two of them and the opening one for both City and County candidates. **What is your position on consolidating City and County governments?** The old question: How will we do this? In a similar order to the previous time. Start with the City this time. That was a good suggestion, perhaps going the opposite direction. How about you?

**Holly Edwards (D-Charlottesville):** I'm going to go first because I'm going to give the same answer I gave at the forum at Buford School because there're so many things that the City has to offer that it does well and so many things that the County has to offer and does well. However, a marriage between the City and County before the courtship is over may give birth to an idea that we're not able to support, so before we are forced to have a courtship marriage, I think we should give strong consideration about what that collaboration would look like. I

do believe that conversation should take place within and an example I gave this was within the school system, especially as children move from the City and County, would Social Services be able to track children, especially children that are at risk, to make sure that there are no gaps in services.

**Satyendra Huja (D-Charlottesville):** I agree with Holly that we need to have a courtship before the marriage in the sense that there are many services we can coordinate. For example, in the area of transit which has been mentioned by some people—we can have joint transit service. We could have joint parks and recreation activities. A number of services we can try to coordinate and merge. I think we should focus on those first before we think of consolidation.

**Peter Kleeman (I-Charlottesville):** I think the City and the County are two different entities and are on different paths and I think it's a great opportunity for the City and the County to work together on some issue that cross our jurisdictional boundaries, clearly transportation, our water resources. There are opportunities for conversations for combining other services that if we find a joint path to the future, whether it's in school or parks and recreation and others, I think that we should explore them.

I personally believe that the City and the County should have a joint start-up kind of a task force with citizens and some staff and leadership people together to work toward identifying where the areas we are comfortable working more closely together. Identify them, follow through with those and we can either grow together or grow in different directions as the communities wish. I don't think it's right now for us, when we look at how difficult it is to even explore joint fire services to consider joining all of our activities at one point, so my feeling it's something to explore and I think there are ample opportunities to move in the directions where joint success can be assured and I would certainly be willing to participate in such an activity. Thank you.

**Barbara Haskins (I-Charlottesville):** My first response would be this to me is very clearly the situation of why buy the cow when the milk is free. I mean, if you compare what the City's offering and what the County's offering, what the City pays and what the County pays, you kind of have to be crazy in the County to just want to take on some of the financial burden that the City is carrying for the region at whole, at large, so I'm— I don't think necessarily that the County is a willing suitor in any kind of courtship. Having said that, I would say that I think that politics is the antithesis of dispassionate thinking and that as we all know in real life, almost everything has an upside and a downside and a pro and a con.

I mentioned three possibilities and they are reversion to town status as part of the County, merger and consolidation as other people have mentioned, or revisiting the revenue sharing agreement in which we, the City, agree to not annex the commercial properties of the County in order to maintain our boundaries. Each of those decisions has an upside and a downside and hopefully, mature voices

can prevailing in analyzing the pros and cons so that we can move towards the best possible decision. However, this is politics and I doubt that that in fact will occur.

**David Brown (D-Charlottesville):** I agree that the City and the County are two pretty different places but there're becoming more alike all the time. The City— It used to be there was a urban city and the rural County and now there's a big urban ring of County around the City. I think that we're going to see more and more cooperation as time goes by. I think we're seeing evidence of it in a number of areas right now and I think that's important. It's important for economies of scale. It's important for efficiency and there's a number of little areas where we can step forward and cooperate more.

For example, if the County school population grows and the City school population is getting less, it seems like there's an obvious way we might be able to both benefit from that type of an equation. But it does require a lot more understanding and I'm going to give one example of what I've learned while being on City Council. It's always easy from the City side to say that— Is to talk about the difficulty the City has with the County growth impacting City roads and the County not building enough roads to connect one place in the County to another place in the County and I think the County— Everyone on the County Board of Supervisors would agree with the need for more roads that connect different parts of the County without having to go through the City, but one of the things I've learned is the funding challenges that the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors faces in terms of decreased funding from the state impacting their ability to support their existing roads, to provide more paved roads in the County, to provide more than just the urban ring services. There's a lot of challenges that they face and so us understanding each other's issues leads us the direction of being able to work more effectively together which I believe we will.

**Ken Boyd (R-Rivanna):** Coming from a business background, I'm always interesting in anything that we can do to provide more efficiency or to more service to our community so I'm very much in favor of pursuing any type of activities that we can do jointly as a community and I think we've already done this to a large extent because people have mentioned that we have a joint water supply. We also have a joint jail authority that we operate together. We're working on a transit system where jointly operate together. We have looked at fire and rescue and that's one that we decided for the moment is not feasible for us to do so there's efforts going on all the time to look at how we might improve efficiency and collaborate efforts between the two jurisdictions, but it's not all just about joining things because I'm very proud to have led a trip with Mayor Brown up to see Senator Warner where we were able to get— Where we collectively presented ourselves as the City and County and got money for the interchange for the Meadowcreek Parkway, so we are working together all the time. I've worked with—

I've had the chance to work with David on a number of issues and there's a lot going on that don't necessarily get in the public out there, but we do work together on collaborative issue. There's probably others that we can do and certainly we want to pursue these in the future.

**Marcia Joseph (D-Rivanna):** I don't know whether consolidation will ever occur, but I want you to know that for the last year or so, the Planning Commission has been meeting— the Albemarle County Planning Commission has been meeting with the Charlottesville Planning Commission. Actually, the 25<sup>th</sup> of September we're having another joint meeting and what we're not doing is we're not telling each other what to do or what not to do or complaining about each other. What we're doing is trying to find out about each other. We're getting educated on what's going on with their comp plan, what's going on with our comp plan, what's going on in terms of what are they doing in transportation, what are we doing in transportation, so what we're trying to do is just open the dialogue so we all know from a planning, a land use planning standpoint what's going on in the different localities.

One of the entities that you didn't mention that I think is extremely important that we shouldn't forget is the University of Virginia. I think that's what makes this place incredibly special. It's the City, the County and the University and together, I think we are beginning to work together. We've got David Neuman who from the University comes in and talks to us and Julia Montieth who lets us know what the University is planning, so it's becoming much more open and much more cooperative so as far as consolidation, I don't know that that's going to happen, but I think that we all are talking to each other.

**Denny King (I-Scottsville):** It's very evident that many changes have taken place since Scottsville was the County seat of Albemarle County and it continues— These changes continue. Our County is not what it was 20 years ago. Albemarle County is not what it was 15 or 5 years ago. We're going through tremendous change and like what Mayor Brown said when he spoke his remarks—it's great to see City and County gathered on the same dais and sharing and I believe that the relationship between City and County is a continuing effort to continually strengthen and to share ideas and to share ideas with the University. We have some of the greatest minds in our nation right here at the University of Virginia, from the McIntire School to the Sorensen to Darden, to encourage these people to come in and join our dialogue.

I believe that the ultimate goal is to save the taxpayer money and to get the most services that we can provide our citizens and how do we do that? I think that this dialogue continues to come up every 5 or 10 years and I believe with the changes that are occurring now in our County and in our City, it's very worthy of opening a dialogue and I think they're all very small baby steps but I think it has to begin somewhere.

**Dave Wyant (R-White Hall):** I'll mostly reiterate what others have said, but I think it is a chance for us to start doing some of these services jointly together. We have met— I have personally met with some of the Council members individually to try to work out arrangements just so I see what the difficulty is merging the services. I work on the fire rescue liaison for the County but also in working with the City and I sat on the oversight Committee as ex officio there, but also I worked on the rescue in trying to— As you all have been reading about in the paper, of how we provide rescue services to our constituents.

I agree with Dave Brown on education. As a decrease in the enrollment in the City occurs, there may be possibilities of County students going to City schools. When Dave Brown and I have met earlier on matters, we discussed the possibility and we've done this recently in the County, the Chair and the Vice Chair which is Ken Boyd and myself present, meet with the School Board Chair and Vice Chair and we're getting ready to have a retreat. We're trying to work our differences out, if you can say that's what's the case, but just have a better understanding about what we provide in services and education in Albemarle County. I feel we need to start maybe doing the same thing with the Chair and the Vice Chair of the County, meeting with the Mayor and the Vice Mayor of the City and start talking about these arrangements. Understanding both sides is what those meetings are about.

**Lindsay Dorrier (D-Scottsville):** The question was do you think that we should have merger. We've kind of merged on the stage. We've got five City Councilors. We've got six Supervisors and the question is do you want a government with 11 politicians on it. Somebody's going to have to merge, be eliminated from the Council and the Board so I don't think that's going to happen anytime soon. It's not that it can't happen. It's just that people are reluctant to give up positions of power. We could make— We could save a lot of money if we merged and I think we could— We really are merging services. We've got fire departments that work together. We've got rescue squads that work together. We've got schools are separate, but there's some overlap and they do things jointly, so we've got services that could be merged that we need to work on. We've got zoning departments and we've got regulatory parts of our government. We've got commissioners of revenue and treasurers and finance departments. We could merge those parts of the government, but I don't think—

I don't see the will— The question comes up—are you in favor of merging? It comes up once every four years and then it's dropped. There's one very good reason to merge and I think we spent \$13 million last year and gave it to the City to prevent them from threatening annexation. I think that the \$13 million is money that we could spend in a different way rather than just give it to the City in return for that promise not to annex. We need to look at merger, but I don't think it's going to happen any time soon.

**Ann Mallek (D-White Hall):** I agree with everyone else here that it's not in the cards anytime soon. Whenever I mention it, people both in the City where I'm teaching or in the County as I'm meeting people have said, "No." Now, that doesn't mean that the people are different or should be kept separate. As a natural history educator in both the City and the County schools, I see parents and children with the same desires. They need a quality of life and a community that they will enjoy living in whereas in the elected [officials], they're sometimes a little behind. The elected officials need to catch up with their citizens on this issue. We do have a very effective community organization, several counties—the Metropolitan Planning Organization which does bring together City and County representatives, both citizens and elected officials and since the year 2000, I've been fortunate enough to be on the Charlottesville Albemarle Regional Transportation Citizens Committee. Peter Kleeman was on that with me as well, and we are charged with working on the long-range transportation plan and helping to implement the use of federal highway dollars.

There are many other parts of the community issues which are covered by the Metropolitan Planning Organization from bikeways and trails to mass transit to affordable housing and beyond, so we need to continue making every effort to speak to each other and find improvements where we can. Thank you.

**Kevin Fletcher (I-Scottsville):** Thank you. Being last, I guess many things are repetitive so I'll just make this very brief and saying that I really don't see merger in the cards any time in the real future. I think our greatest hope is to continue to cooperate together on traffic and water and affordable housing. I think the County could do a better job of pointing up and working more towards affordable housing in our area and continue in cooperation as far as fire and rescue and I think as we continue to cooperate in these matters more, more and more opportunities will arise that we can work together. Thank you.

**Don Wells:** The second question is County and City, what will you do to address the areas' water/sewer and traffic problems? So how shall we go? Shall we reverse it back to the County and come back from that side?

**Kevin Fletcher (I-Scottsville):** I guess as far as our water and sewage problems, although I think we have a good plan to provide water through the Ragged Mountain and through the pipeline over to the South Rivanna, that has yet to be even approved yet and that is still years in the process of coming to a fact so I think our main problem is funding and I think that the Board of Supervisors needs to work harder in getting the people who are developing our County to proffer and pay for money, to pay for the infrastructure. We cannot continue to just put the cost of this growth on the citizens. I know that they have talked quite a bit about how they lower the tax rate but every time that they raise our water and sewage, that raises the cost of living in our growth areas.

As far as traffic, traffic is the same issue as far as funding. The funding's been cut from the state and we need to demand more from the developers to get this taken care of and we need to do a better job of planning, planning our roads. We have failed to do that and I think we are paying the price for that now. Thank you.

**Ann Mallek (D-White Hall):** The problem I see is as postponing investment. We have not faced up to our responsibilities to anticipate that our 50-year-old water pipes and sewer pipes are going to not last forever so now we're facing a perfect storm of investment. We have \$50 million proposed for water supply, \$40 million— I'm sorry, \$50 million for the Ragged Mountain Dam, \$40 million for the pipeline and then a whopping \$100 million to improve our aging sewer pipes. If this is attached only to the rate payers, it is a monstrous amount of money so we have to deal with this and figure out how this is going to be done in a better way than just waiting for total collapse.

An example of holding people's attention is in the Biscuit Run development where there is a proposal that the builders will cover the cost of the entire improvements for the sewer interceptor but only after 80% of the capacity of the pipe is reached. This could be years, in which case the number of providers of the money will be greatly fewer than they would be if that fund was started now so that everyone in the development when they come in, whether they're commercial or residential, would be able to contribute to those improvements that would be built some number of years later. It will be a grave mistake, for my opinion, if we wait.

With traffic, increasing the use and the desirability of mass transit in every phase is going to be essential in this solution. On the chart group, we have raised for the first time during the 2005 long-range plan, more than 10% of the federal highway money is attributed to transit improvements. We need to do much better now but it took many years to achieve that 10% level.

**Lindsay Dorrier (D-Scottsville):** Thank you. We've got highways that we're still talking about. The Meadowcreek Parkway, for example—we've been talking about the Meadowcreek Parkway for 30 years and it's still not built, even though the City and the County agreed on it, and we agreed several years ago, so I think the system is broken. The local Supervisors and the Council members need to fix it. The state is obviously not doing its job of funding highway construction and it looks like the locals, we talk about it. We've been talking about the Meadowcreek Parkway for 30 years but nothing has been built and still I don't know how many more years we're going to talk about it. So the system is obviously broke.

I think the state— We need to— The locals need to put pressure on the state delegates and senators to do something differently than they've been doing. Perhaps we need to find a governor who will make that, fixing the highways of

Virginia his or her number one priority and perhaps then we'll get some breaking away from the gridlock we've got now.

I don't think the localities— I know Albemarle County doesn't have the money to fix the highways or to build the highways. We talk a million or a two million dollars in funding for highways in the County but \$2 million is a drop in the bucket for what it's really going to take. I think we may need to talk about tolls roads. We may need to talk about newer approaches where we can have incentives for people to get out of the cars and mass transit and perhaps we need to look at the highways we're building. Do we really need all these highways? Can we get people out of cars and onto buses and subways or other vehicles, I mean, other forms of transportation? So I think we need to be creative and come up with solutions because the system right now is broken.

**Dave Wyant (R-White Hall):** In my profession, civil engineering, the American Society of Civil Engineers, years ago identified infrastructure problems coming. They identified 65% of the national bridges being deficient. That report has been available for many years. It has told the federal government. This is not just a local issues. Four years ago in my campaign I said this is the problem we're going to be facing in society. We master plan, too, but infrastructure is really critical.

On the water side, we don't have a direct say in that but the Water, Sewer and Service Authority has now— Since we've been on the Board, we got a \$2 million reserve and we had none prior to this term of mine and that's not going to scratch the surface as you already heard the numbers. We made an attack at the water to deal with the 50-year-supply-plan. The sewer is over capacity in some of the cases. The Service Authority controls that through connection. The Service Authority needs to identify proffer costs per connection as we have done with our proffer policy in the County for the development.

Over on the traffic side, I have said transit is a way to go. Through my studies and all, there's many many reports that people do not want to give up their automobile. Getting people out of automobile— Ride down any of these roads and see how many single-occupied. We need to get into transit. One of the things that Biscuit Run and Mill Creek and all those out in that area, I have said that we ought to create nothing but a bus lane, a transit lane, a gated one, along with the bikes and walking trails into UVA. It's the big gorilla in the room. We keep ignoring it. That's where a lot of traffic goes and where it comes from in the afternoon and we also need to consider the same thing up north. People in traffic movement and all around Albemarle County and everything, the communities, the neighborhoods, do not want cut-through roads in there so we need to provide local movement within the communities and more of a bus movement through from the mass areas and also the pass-through traffic that we have in the County.

**Denny King (I-Scottsville):** I believe it's time that we stop playing catch-up. I've watched over the years and it appears that we're constantly playing catch-up. We're catching up to the demands that we can't even meet and I think the only way to do that, once again, is to have a much longer vision into the way we grow our County. We've known that water was a problem 30 years ago. We have been aware of transportation problems getting worse and worse, yet we haven't addressed but at the same time, we have approved continual growth, continual building, more and more houses, more and more apartments. Those people are on our roadways. They're flushing their commodes. Our water supply system will not be completed until, best case scenario, 2011. Will we reach a point between now and 2011 when we're flushing our commodes with Avian water? We really have to look at this seriously and I believe, as the incumbent Mr. Dorrier said, our system is broken and I think we need a complete overhaul.

This County is not what it was 20 years ago. It's not what it was five years ago and if nothing has been done during all of those years, I ask the question why. Why hasn't it been accomplished? Why hasn't it be done? Thank you.

**Marcia Joseph (D-Rivanna):** When we're talking about water and sewer, let's not forget about we're talking about ground water, too. We're talking about water availability in the rural areas and there're many horror stories out there, not only during the drought of 2002 and probably now but people having to drill extra wells out there, so we really have to start thinking about what is the carrying capacity of the area in terms of water and sewer, not only the stuff underground— It's all underground but the pipes we can't see and also septic sites. I don't know if you all know but Thursday night at 6:00 o'clock at the County Office Building Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority will be having a question and answer session and particularly about the water, trying to take questions from the public and trying to figure out and give us some idea of where all of this— I don't know what you came up with, Ann, \$190 million— If that's the number, if \$190 million, where the heck is that money going to come from, so that's what the Rivanna Service Authority is going to be talking about tomorrow, so if you've got the time, it concerns all of us, City and County.

The traffic I'm so excited to hear everybody talking about transit because nobody was talking about transit a couple of years ago. That can be an option. It has to be something that's safe and reliable and it gets you everywhere you need to go. The other thing I think we really need to think about is bicycling and walking paths and making sure that all of theses neighborhoods connect. I understand what you're saying. Dave Wyant said the neighborhoods don't want to be connected and they don't want, but some of them are amenable to bicycle connections or walking connections and we are having an obesity epidemic in this country and we need to get people out where they feel safe, they can walk and they can bike, so I think that we need to get creative about transportation and not think that we have to punch through roads all the time but let's see if

there's other ways that we can get people out there moving about in a healthy way so we can have a really healthy community. Thank you.

**Ken Boyd (R-Rivanna):** I can't attest to what has gone on for the last 30 years in this County. I can tell you that during the last four what's happened and I can tell you that the Board of Supervisors and I know the City Council has not been ignoring the problem. Four years ago I ran on the fact that we needed to do something about our water supply. We were just coming off the 2002 drought and I said we need to do something about that. After getting elected, I ran into the brick wall. The brick wall is 11 different federal and state regulatory authorities. We put together an excellent plan and took it to the public. The public overwhelmingly approved and it took us two years to get through the process of getting it approved by these regulatory authorities. In fact, it's not even approved yet. We're on the last stages of it, but we will soon get it done, so things are moving forward. It's a snail's pace and it disturbs me as much as it does anybody, but we have not figured out a way to get around all of that, so it's going to take some time.

The next phase, as a couple of people have said, is we're going to have to figure out how to finance that and it's going to take some creative financing and bonding to get this done so it doesn't put an overburden on the people of this community, so that's going to be important step for us to do next.

And transportation— Four years ago there wasn't any talk or discussion, at least on the table with a consultant, about a joint transit authority. Now there is. We are working on that and we hope to have a report out early next year or the end of this year on that. Everybody is trying to encourage that we use more transit and that we move forward on a joint and collective area for it. We are receiving less dollars this year than we have in the past from the state for transportation so another brick wall that we ran into. Where we used to rely on the state to provide us with money, they weren't even providing us with enough to keep up with the inflated costs which in recent years has been as much as 30% of building a road, so we got behind on that. Now, we're rethinking that.

The County, again, in the last four years, has started putting some of our local funds towards transportation. It's a million dollars a year. It's not much, but we hope to be able to leverage that for revenue sharing programs with the state and get more things done there, so it's slow and it was as frustrating to me as anybody that deals with bureaucracy, but there are things going and moving forward and we are very conscious of both these issues.

**David Brown (D-Charlottesville):** I'm just going to offer a couple of comments. When we talk about roads, you know, one of the things we need to do, as has been mentioned, is to get people off the roads and we can get people off the roads by improving our transit system and as was pointed out, this really wasn't on the map a few years ago and I'll credit David Slutzky in his campaign of really

bringing this idea forward of creating a transit district authority and getting the City and the County to cooperate better. We need to have more density in places where people don't need to use their car and that means the City needs to grow in. The City needs to have more density along certain areas where people can walk to work or take buses, but regardless, we still need more roads.

We need, in our opinion, the City's opinion, we need an eastern connector so people can get to Pantops, to 29 North without going through the City. We need the Hillsdale Connector here so that it's a parallel road for shopping and not just 29. We need a southern connector so people who live, say, out 5<sup>th</sup> Street don't have to come into the City in order to get their kids to school at Monticello High School and we need a Sunset/Fontaine connector and the problem is, as has been mentioned, there's a not a lot of state money out there.

I believe one of the things the City and the County are going to have to do is to work together and create a transportation district, an ability to fund our own roads and no matter— We can't just put money in directly, you know, the County may put a million into their budget but that doesn't go very far if you're actually trying to build a road, but a transportation district could make assessments on businesses or could even, if we got state permission, could institute a local gas tax that we'd have bondable revenue in order to have real money to build real roads with to improve transit.

And that brings me to a subject of a lot of these things we need to do. We need the state to change their ways. The state currently doesn't allow localities to assess impact fees on development. Right now, all localities can do is to get money through proffers when they change the zoning. We need impact fees so that all developments—City or County—can pay their share of the costs to the government and to the residents of the City and the County.

**Barbara Haskins (I-Charlottesville):** I would just follow up some— These themes are emerging but the theme is restructuring the way things are possible to be done because within the current confines, we're very very limited. As I've come into this campaign, I've found there are many issues that are sort of like apple pie and motherhood. You can't be against them. I mean, you know, better transportation—who's against it? Nobody.

But the problem is always how do you do it and without saying it's broken and thinking of ways to fix it, it really becomes slogans—oh, yes, I want it better, and several people today have mentioned UVA and transportation, for example, is a huge area where UVA needs to be involved. There're recently been stories in the paper how UVA is sort of watching and waiting which is understandable because they have a system that already works for them in terms of mass transportation and talking about a system that works for them leads to sort for me the big theme in transit and moving people to other methods which is incentives and disincentives. Everybody wants you to take the bus, not themselves, you

know, it's very hard to change individuals and it's not going to happen unless the seductive appeal of mass transit gets a lot better and the inconvenience of private cars increases as well.

So when we are restructuring and setting up transportation system, we I think really need to pay attention to the incentives and disincentives to try to shift behavior. This question is sort of like an essay question. In terms of sewage, you know, the City's sewage lines are very old. They really need replacing and by not replacing them, we are taxing the water supply when there's excessive rainwater and storm water and we are flushing raw sewage that shouldn't be flushed, so there needs to be a commitment politically and financially on the part of the City to not neglect that infrastructure. I think that's one of the themes in America this year and woe to those who ignore that theme.

**Peter Kleeman (I-Charlottesville):** The City has just completed a comprehensive plan, a long-range 2025 comprehensive plan and 2025 is not that far away from now, but what we need to do I believe in all these areas of infrastructure is to take those long-range plans which relate directly to how we grow and what the change in demand is going to be for water and for sewer, for transportation and other infrastructure. What I think we need to do is break that down into some smaller time increments and have intermediate targets that we as a community can determine whether these long-range comprehensive goals that we have are reachable or whether we are running short of our infrastructure capacity much faster than we expected because there's so much growth that's outside of the control of governmental bodies. It's already approved. There's by-right opportunities. All that's required is the developers have their funds available and do the work and then people will move in, demands will change and problems may exacerbate, so my feeling is that both the City and the County but since I'm running for the City Council, I'll worry more about the City, is to sit down and set some intermediate targets as to what kind of new infrastructure do we really need to be on track to meet our goals in 2025. It's nice to have goals, but we need a path to reach them.

Also, many of these decisions are outside of the Board of Supervisors or the City Council. They're in these special purpose government bodies so the Council doesn't sit over the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority. They're somewhat independent so we need to have a better interaction among these special purpose governments and the general purpose governments like City Council and Supervisors, so from a regional point of view, I think we need to do a little more collective thinking about how the demand for water, demand for sewer, demand for transportation all relate together in the bigger package of changes taking place over the next 20 to 25 years in our region.

So, I feel that it's a clear management issue and I think that all of the various stakeholders including developers need to come together and map out a plan that will work for all of us and not put a severe financial burden on any one group.

**Holly Edwards (D-Charlottesville):** Regarding water, I think that conservation efforts on the grassroots level, and that campaign on that level, should be ongoing and not just during periods of drought because there're a lot of day-to-day behavioral changes that people can control that will make a big difference.

Transportation—I think we need to create a culture where health and wellness also includes days when you leave your car at home. That can be a big change in behavior for a lot of people so making that gradual change will also help with the culture of health and how we just need to move more.

The sewer—I've had an opportunity to do mission work in a third world country where there was no formal sewer system and I have a totally different appreciation of how important that is and given that, in the same way that we need to take an annual evaluation of our physical health, we need to do the same with the sewers and the infrastructure of the City and it's something that needs to be done because in the same way that put off the annual exams that need to be done and it causes long-term health consequences, I'm afraid that if we put off the physical health of the sewers and the infrastructure, it will have long-term health consequences with the City as well.

**Satyendra Huja (D-Charlottesville):** I've been here about 34 years and in those 34 years, the City has built two small roads. One was Hydraulic Road, one was [inaudible] Street. At that rate, we'd all be dead by the time we get all the roads, so that is not a solution, in my mind. We need to also think of the demand side of this equation. We always keep on talking about supply side. How many more trips will be. We can also work on how to reduce the trips. People can work in their homes. The density, land use development is also an issue of how we develop land and how we develop growth and where we locate it, so that we need to look at this. The demand side of the equation is water as well as in traffic.

On the supply side, I agree with many people that a good traffic system— I said a good traffic system. By that I mean, which is frequent. It's gets you from where you want to go and it is dependable. If you have those three qualities in this good traffic system, I think we can reduce some of the trips. I would like to see the goal of reducing 25% of the trips on single-occupancy vehicles. If we can reduce that by 25%, that would be something to do in terms of dealing with the traffic problems. I think building roads is not a solution, at least not in the City. I'm pretty certain of that.

**Don Wells:** I'll also remark that as moderator what I was trying to do was give you an capability to see these candidates, to give them a chance to talk as much as we could allow given there's 11 up here, so that you could see what they're like and on very broad questions and what their big issues are. **Now, I think we should get specific and in the County, the hottest issue currently on the table for County candidates is in the face of current water restrictions, why are 3,000-plus homes being approved for construction in Biscuit Run before a new reservoir is built?**

**Ken Boyd (R-Rivanna):** I'm going to decline to answer on this because this is a matter that's before our Board tonight and it would be inappropriate to talk until we've heard from the public and heard what the public has to say so I've had this question brought forward to me by a number of different people in the press and I've declined to answer it in that situation also. I will say one thing, though. There's not a single building permit that will be approved or disapproved tonight, not one single building permit and you need to remember that we're talking about a land use decision, not a building permit authorizing a hook-up for water.

**Marcia Joseph (D-Rivanna):** The meeting tonight will include Biscuit Run, is that correct? Yeah. So if you all want to Ken is thinking, go to the meeting at Biscuit Run tonight and he'll let you know, but it is difficult because they don't know. I mean, the information hasn't come out yet in total, so Biscuit Run did go before the Planning Commission. It took a long time the first time it came before us. We denied it, unanimous denial. Came back with all kinds of extra things that were actually giving back to the community and one of them you probably all heard about is a 400-acre park. There's a connector road, so—

But the question has to do about water. We asked the question to the Service Authority when they came before us—is there enough water and we were assured that there was enough water, so the question was asked to the Service Authority. I don't know what else to tell you. They are the authority. That's part of their name. We did ask them. They said, yeah, there's enough water. Now, one of the things that does happen is the Service Authority as they're going through the process can stop the process, can stop the project at any time. Whether or not they have the— Whether or not they'll do that, I don't know. Yeah, courage is a good word. I don't know whether they'll do that or not, but I assure you that the Planning Commission, many of the members just kept asking that question over and over because we got that question from the public. The people in Mill Creek were very concerned—do we have enough water. And we were assured, yes indeed, we have enough water.

What the Service Authority will say tonight if asked that same question, I don't know what to tell you, but it's awfully interesting that we're having a meeting with Service Authority about water Thursday night and talking about how we need to make sure that we have 50 years of impoundment so your guess is as good as mine. I'm sorry I don't have an answer on that.

**Denny King (I-Scottsville):** Chairman Boyd, that's very encouraging that there will not be a vote tonight for any of the developments, is that correct? No building permits or will there be a vote to approve or deny? Once again, we're playing catch up and I mean I'm just very concerned about it. I can't answer that question why all of these developments have been approved when we know we have a horrendous water problem facing us and I'm very very concerned about that. I encourage everyone to go to the meeting tonight, to go to the Board of Supervisors meeting tonight when we will have public hearings on Biscuit Run and after talking to my constituency in the Scottsville Magisterial District of which Biscuit Run is part of, there are hundreds and hundreds of concerned citizens and the issue of water continues to come up. It just simply continues to come up, so know the many many residents adjoining Biscuit Run from Mill Creek, Mill Creek South, Lake Renovia, and the near environments to Biscuit Run, they'll all be there tonight so it should be a very interesting meeting and I encourage everyone, everyone to come. Your voices needed to be heard. Government cannot work without the people and we need the voices of the people and we need to honor the wills of the people. Thank you.

**Dave Wyant (R-White Hall):** I'll take a little bit different stand. I will respond in this way. As working in water resources and all, there is questions that I asked as an engineer in working with the infrastructure. I want to know that the resources are there to support whatever is done in the County and that doesn't just include the development areas. It includes the rural areas. That's why knowledge about ground water and other things and I've worked in ground water and the ability to how we handle sewers in the rural areas, but in this public facilities area, I want to make sure that those facilities can adequately support whether it's Biscuit Run or any of the others, but we'll wait to see what the public has to say tonight, but that is my approach as an engineer and I come from, I guess, a different slant than the rest of the Board because of my background and expertise in the water resource area.

**Lindsay Dorrier (D-Scottsville):** I agree with what Ken Boyd and Dave Wyant said about the plan. Listening to the public before we give our plan— a solution to the problem and I plan to do that, too. I plan to listen to the public tonight. I've been listening over the months dealing with the Biscuit Run problem and the water problem and I've got some ideas that I want to share tonight that I think it'd be premature to do it at this time. I think that we— The local government really should be responsive to the people and the people's will and I think we need to explore all the possibilities so I'll leave it at that and we'll look forward to this meeting tonight.

**Ann Mallek (D-White Hall):** Well, this question is another example of how we are thinking more about our future residents than our present ones. Many times during this summer of talking to people at their door, they have said why am I being restricted on how much water I can use, my garden is dying, and yet building permits are being handed out by the hundreds on a regular basis and

there is a connection between building permits and actual housing and people here and this zoning decision tonight because if this is approved tonight, there will be very little way that the zoning administrator can deny someone a building permit. It's another example of how useful it will be if we can change the composition of the Albemarle County Service Authority to include a member of the City Council and a member of the Board of Supervisors because having a better connection to elected people will help to keep the Board focused on its financial and its community responsibilities. That's all.

**Kevin Fletcher (I-Scottsville):** I can tell you that I don't see how they could possibly try to approve this rezoning tonight when in actuality the water plan has not been approved yet. It's a good plan but it has not been approved yet and if a snafu over something that takes place and the plan is denied, well, then, you know, we've added 3,100 homes and we still do not have an approved water plan and I think we're often premature. We often hope for the best and plan for the best but we need to always be planning for the worst and hope for the best. To think that our budget grows by— Our County— I guess our tax revenues grow by on the average about \$18 million a year and since the 2002 drought and I guess, you know, you could think that we're probably at a cumulative effect of that is probably about \$180 million of extra money that the County has received at least in the last four years and I believe they've stated that, you know, we've set aside \$2 million of that money to help to pay for water and, you know, that's poor planning and that, you know, we need to do a better job of that and we need to think of the future. That's it. Thank you.

**Don Wells:** Thank you for this response to the question. I have another one here. This time I'm going to choose to make a City question because it's targeted better at the City than at the County, I think. Here's the question and this one is the zinger kind of question. **Do you believe that it is appropriate for local governments to prepare and present resolutions to the federal government concerning impeachment and war issues and I'll just choose to make this a City question this time to balance things.**

**David Brown (D-Charlottesville):** I think our resolutions should be limited to issues where— That affect people locally. For that reason, I was not supportive. If we were asked by City Council to have a resolution or even just to put it on the agenda to discuss a resolution for impeaching the president and I declined. The rest of the Council declined to do that. I also don't think a big issue such as an issue on a war, an issue which is controversial—I think that's also getting beyond the purview of City Council. I think there are issues that are national issues that I think Council has an appropriate say on.

For example, the City Council passed a resolution opposing the Patriot Act. The Patriot Act imposed impositions on local libraries, on individual civil liberties and I think there are issues where it's appropriate for the City or for a governing body to take a stand that touch nationally, but I think on issues that are just national

and especially issues where the community may be divided and that some people may support the Council and other people may be offended by the action, that we should stay away from them.

**Barbara Haskins (I-Charlottesville):** I actually gave this a lot of thought when I heard it had gone forward a week or so ago and on the one hand, I thought about how in Czechoslovakia, there was sort of the Velvet Revolution because all at once so many people living there made their will known and it seemed to be congruous and in that sense, if one had that particular political belief that the City Council endorsed, one could see oneself being part of history and putting forward a groundswell. What helped me think about this was I changed the resolution arbitrarily in my mind to suppose the City Council had come up with a resolution in favor of—you pick it—banning abortion or legalizing and liberalizing abortion. You could play that either way. Obviously that affects people who live here, too, and it's just so non-representative. There's no way you can make a political statement like that without leaving out a lot of the citizens and if I were on the other side equation, I would be outraged and alienated at a governmental action like that, so I would have to say—

I can understand why you're saying specific local effects and if the Patriot Act affects our library treats our citizens I can understand that but something more like an non-specific war thing or other kind of political things, I don't support it so it would have to be really applicable to the citizens more along the lines of the Patriot Act and the library than a sweeping thing.

**Peter Kleeman (I-Charlottesville):** I think matters of conscience and the like are clearly individual decisions and if one is by conscience opposed to actions by the federal government or opposed to actions by other entities outside of the City, I think it's perfectly fair for individuals to express their beliefs and their feelings on those issues, but I do not believe that issues of conscience should necessarily be determined by a majority vote. I think that each individual should be free to express their opinions. I think that City Council has the opportunity to perform many functions, one of which is to take votes and take action by majority role, but in cases like were just discussed here, several good examples, I would find that not to be a satisfactory solution.

If you're on the losing side of that vote, what does that mean? Does that mean you as a member of City Council go along with that vote like you're expected to on all of the other votes by majority? So, I feel that one of the other roles of a city government is to provide information and opportunities for conversation within the community and I think as a City Councilor rather than promoting the idea of taking— making a resolution by vote, I would much more be in favor of perhaps having the City Council promote or sponsor or participate in a discussion about those issues and what are the relationships between those national or state-wide decisions and impacts in the City and have people make up their own minds

through providing information. I just don't think it's appropriate for any of those issues to be divided by majority vote.

**Holly Edwards (D-Charlottesville):** That was so well stated that I am going to agree. Thank you.

**Satyendra Huja (D-Charlottesville):** Maybe I should just stop here. I agree with these guys.

**Don Wells:** Now, going back to the County and another interesting question. **Here it is: is it appropriate for a Supervisor to make an appointment to the Planning Commission and later accept a large contribution from the Commissioner he appointed.** Now, I remind you, I didn't make this question. That committee, the two folks back there, didn't make it. One of you submitted it, so this is a question from the floor regarding campaign contributions in the Supervisors. I don't know the order.

**Kevin Fletcher (I-Scottsville):** That's an interesting question. It all depends I guess on exactly how that would come about. I guess if that person is representing a PAC or a group of people who have managed to accumulate that money, I would think that that would be okay. I mean, certainly that often raises question in a curiosity, but I guess there are no rules against it so I guess it's okay. That's all. That's it.

**Ann Mallek (D-White Hall):** Thank you. A good example—we do not have restrictions on campaign contributions of any type for local races. Maybe something that concerns you. My mother taught me the appearance of impropriety is often as damaging as the truth and that's all I have to say.

**Lindsay Dorrier (D-Scottsville):** We've got the public finance laws that deal with campaign contributions. I'm working on my campaign report now. It has to be in next Monday and it's pretty thorough and holds the candidates accountable and I think it works fairly well. I don't think that just because the person is appointed to the Commission, Planning Commission, and gives a contribution back to the candidate that there's anything wrong per se. I don't think it's— I mean, the presidents appoint fundraiser to be ambassadors to countries and so I think there's— And that's been going on for centuries and we've turned our heads and looked the other way and we don't find anything wrong, so I think that you can't always assume that because somebody— there's connection there between financially that there's something evil going on. I think we have to look at each case and make our decisions accordingly.

**Dave Wyant (R-White Hall):** I'll stand up and answer it because I know where it was directed. I appointed my Planning Commission person because of expertise in the area that he works in. He's a land conservation easement attorney, works well. Lives in the first growth area we got and that was the appointment. There were no strings attached to it then. He also, after that time— And I'll leave my Planning Commission member alone. I like a difference voice in the government, so very seldom do I ever talk to my Planning Commission member that gives us a separate voice in our matters. He, in turn, when he made the contribution to me that he was recognizing me for my skills and my expertise in the area and he was well enough off to do it.

I know other folks have done those things to these other candidates up here as well but some have better means than others. I would be concerned if it was somebody that was a constituent versus somebody sitting on the Planning Commission, but we do have rules and guidelines that we abide by and I know these candidates, all of us, are held to strict standards and this was scrutinized just as well.

**Denny King (I-Scottsville):** As Ann pointed out, we have no limitations on campaign contributions and as Mr. Dorrier pointed out as well, we give our reports, we had our reports, our campaign finance reports in on a consistent basis. I'll speak for myself but share the thoughts of the other candidates on this dais now. When I read the article in the newspaper, the \$10,000 contribution, I was jealous and I would go so far as to say that I bet that was on the minds of other candidates, too.

**Marcia Joseph (D-Rivanna):** The one thing I want to remind you is that a lot of money goes to candidates through PACs and there's one thing you can say about this—it was an honest contribution. Everybody knows where it came from. I don't have a problem with it. Duane had a problem with the Planning Commission after we all found out because we were all asking him for money at that point in time, so I really— I don't have a problem. It's out there. You know who it is and you know where the money came from. It's honest.

**Ken Boyd (R-Rivanna):** I think I would agree with what most people have said here and that this is perfectly within the laws of our campaign finance laws and it is something that is disclosed properly the way we're supposed to disclose it and as long as we live in a free society, I think that people who are abiding by the law ought to be able to do what they want to do and that would be my opinion on it. But I wanted to add one thing to it. Somebody who's already been appointed to a Planning Commission, a job that is eight to 10 hours a week every Tuesday night, 20 hours and you get \$40.00 for it and they're going to pay somebody to keep them in there, I don't get that logic at all.

**Don Wells:** Our forum was designated to extend to 3:30, for two hours duration, and that's unusual for us because the Senior Statesmen normally 90 minutes on our programs and for the last— the previous forum and this forum, we've extended to two hours because of the number of candidates, but we're at that time now and it seems to me that we've achieved a balance here in the questioning and in the City and County representation and all the positions that are in contention, the candidates for them are all here, and that's remarkable and you've gotten to see them for which I'm very pleased and you're able to see the issues, a wide range of subjects and philosophies exposed here and that was our intent. It was to promote civil discourse about public affairs. That's what we exist for, that's Senior Statesmen of Virginia.

Again, I want to thank the Senior Center. I want to thank the candidates and I think we deserve a round of applause for the candidates here.