

**Watchmen Voter Guide for City of Hayden: City Council - Seat 4**  
*\* Click on each candidate's name to see their completed questionnaire \**

	<a href="#">Sandy White</a>	<a href="#">Jeri DeLange</a>
<b>1.</b> What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	I'm Sandra "Sandy" White and I'm running for Hayden City Council seat #4. Preserving Hayden's small town feel, protecting private property rights, and not taxing current residents to pay for new growth are some of my goals in running.	My name is Jeri DeLange and I am running for Hayden City Council, Seat 4. I would like to continue serving the citizens of Hayden as I have a passion for public service and serving others. I am very proud of our community and the city it has become, and I welcome the opportunity to continue serving.
<b>2.</b> How could our city be improved? Please provide your top 2-3 ideas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Preserving Hayden's small town feel: We need to slow the residential growth rate and solve the traffic congestion issues in order to preserve the Hayden we love to live in.</li> <li>o Protecting private property rights: The City of Hayden's "2040 Comprehensive Plan" is causing a massive rezoning that facilitates density and growth. Also, I believe that removing your zone and/or placing your home in a new zone without your consent is a violation of your private property rights and must be stopped.</li> <li>o No taxation of current residents to pay for new growth: There should be no increase in your taxes to pay for more people to move into Hayden.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our city could be improved with more open space and recreational amenities for citizens to enjoy.</li> <li>• I would review ways to increase transportation funding to improve infrastructure needs and lessen traffic congestion. I was recently appointed to the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization (KMPO) Board which provides a coordinated planning effort between the cities, county, small towns, highway districts, CDA Tribe, the state, transit providers and the public, so this will provide an excellent opportunity for me to learn more about the transportation issues facing our region and help with planning needs.</li> <li>• I would also look into ways to fund additional deputies to provide for public safety.</li> </ul>
<b>3.</b> What are your views on the rapid growth of North Idaho? How should the city council manage growth?	Growth is happening too fast and our infrastructure and population are suffering because of it. Growth management would require slowing down the 2040 Comprehensive Plan and taking a hard look at the Future Land Use Map.	The rapid growth that is occurring in North Idaho is a huge issue as it affects housing affordability, density, traffic, and our quality of life. I would work towards moderate annual growth to address rezoning/density issues as growth needs to be balanced. Having only low density creates urban sprawl, increases the cost of providing services, and highly inflates property values and affordability. There needs to be some medium density and limited high density in specific locations to balance growth along with some open space areas to maintain the "small town" feel of Hayden.
<b>4.</b> In your opinion what best serves the public, elected officials, or appointed officials?	In my opinion elected officials serve the public the best, because being able to vote someone in or out gives the people a real voice.	Good leadership best serves the public, elected or appointed officials. There will always be circumstances where people's opinions differ, but leadership must help each other stay focused on the common good to make the best decisions for everyone while being respectful of each other's viewpoints.

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<b>5.</b> What role should the city council have in the design and authorization of new developments?	Slowing down the 2040 Comprehensive Plan and taking a hard look at the Future Land Use Map would be the first step in dealing with new development. Once we've slowed it down then we could resume looking at new development on a case-by-case basis.	City council officials are the elected representatives of the citizens and have legislative and policy making authority. They have a critical role in the design and authorization of new developments as they are representing citizen's interests. Planning & zoning members are involved in planning and land use, but are non-elected so city council officials have the higher authority.
<b>6.</b> In your opinion, should any services currently provided by the city be cut, eliminated, or privatized?	It would be prudent to take a fresh look at the budget, see what could be tweaked, and perhaps even get new, lower bids.	I cannot think of any services provided by the City of Hayden that need to be cut, eliminated or privatized.
<b>7.</b> Do you believe access to city managed water and sewer should be increased to rural communities and why?	I believe that we would need to look at the need and the resources available on an individual basis.	The City of Hayden does not provide water, only sewer. Sewer is provided to the citizens of Hayden and is paid for by the citizens or a developer. It cannot be provided to outside rural areas unless the land is annexed into the city and sewer capitalization fees are paid, sewer connections are made (and paid for), and sewer treatment fees are paid.
<b>8.</b> How do you plan on keeping a healthy reserve fund but not raising taxes?	We need to have a good reserve but there needs to be a balance. The people of Hayden have already seen their water and sewer rates increase. At this time I do not support an increase in taxes.	Since Hayden has one of the lowest tax levy rates in Idaho, especially for a city of about 16,000 people, the city usually increases taxes by the 3% allowed each year by the Idaho State Legislature. Currently, the levy rate is \$0.94 per \$1,000 or about \$1.00 per \$1,000. If the City of Hayden did not do this every year, the levy rate would be next to nothing by now and the City would either be bankrupt or not be able to pay for the services it provides to citizens such as snow plowing, road improvements and maintenance, etc. We have a small, but healthy, reserve fund to cover expenses in the case of an emergency. I have voted for the last 20 years to increase taxes each year by the 3% allowed as we do not have any foregone taxes, so the 3% is the maximum amount we can increase taxes. It is important to note - that even with the 3% increase each year, our levy rate is extremely low for a city our size. We would like to not raise taxes each year by 3%, but in our case, the city would not be able to survive.

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<b>9.</b> What is your opinion of the increased push for affordable housing?	"Mixed Middle Housing" doesn't necessarily result in affordable housing. I support the continued widespread use of the single family R1 zone and less dependence on government.	There are already programs set in place to help homebuyers and renters. Hayden citizens have been extremely vocal they do not want a lot of high density. Other options that may be more affordable include duplexes, triplexes, cottages and smaller homes.
<b>10.</b> How should the public's input be taken into consideration and implemented in the decision-making process?	I believe that more transparency by the City Council would help to keep citizens involved. We need to have all of the public meetings that take place at City Hall to be videotaped and on YouTube. Public notice of upcoming decisions needs to be more prominent as well.	I always consider the public's input in the decision-making process. Decision-making is not easy, but I always listen to ALL the citizens, review public comments, review all the information presented, ask questions if I am not clear about something, review planning and zoning, and staff recommendations, and most importantly besides listening to citizens, I keep an open mind. In the future, I would also like to provide additional opportunities for citizens to provide public comment and speak such as townhall meetings, workshops, and open houses.
<b>11.</b> Is there anything in your personal or business life that would be a conflict of interest in your ability to serve the people of this city?	No.	No. If there ever was anything that would be a conflict of interest, I would recuse myself from voting on that particular issue.
<b>12.</b> Should the concept of "equitable outcome" be implemented as a part of the city council's decision-making process? Why or why not?	There seems to be a variety of definitions for that term when I looked online. The one that came up on Wikipedia was referring to everyone having the same material wealth and income. If that is what you mean, then I would be against that. This would mean transfer of income or wealth. That is socialism. The role of the city council should not be to promote socialism. The city council should treat every business and resident as fairly as possible. We will make mistakes but should strive to do our best. <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equality_of_outcome">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equality_of_outcome</a>	I am not completely informed on this aspect or procedure and I would need to do more research before I make a comment.

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<b>13.</b> What role should the health board play in the city council's decision-making process?	The only role of the City Council in public health decisions should be to protect the freedom of the individual citizen to make their own health choices. The health board is now accountable to the County Commissioners for their decisions so Panhandle Health doesn't have the same authority that it did last year during the pandemic.	None. The City Council should not be making public health decisions. If needed, the Panhandle Health District should make public health decisions.
<b>14.</b> What is your background and why do you feel it qualifies you for this position?	I'm a concerned and involved citizen. I don't have deep roots in government agencies or years and years of experience in government, but I do have a love for the Constitution and for my neighbors in Hayden. I bring with me years of experience of dealing with people around the world and helping people in many different ways.	I have proven leadership, proven experience, and proven commitment. My experience includes 20 years Hayden City Council; 8 years formerly employed by the BEIPC as the Assistant to the Executive Director (multi-governmental commission); 8 years Association of Idaho Cities Executive Board (including President 2017-2018); 15 years AIC Legislative Committee; 11 years Executive Board PAC; recently appointed to KMPO Board; recently appointed to EPA's federal Small Cities Advisory Subcommittee (SCAS); Hayden Chamber member; Hayden Senior Gems member; former Hayden Rotary Club member; graduate of CDA Chamber's Leadership and Advanced Leadership classes; former CDA Chamber Board member; former chairman CDA Chamber's Public Policy and Local Government committees; extremely active in numerous community organizations for over 20 years. With my knowledge and experience, I know I am the best qualified candidate.