

Voices to Votes NC Questionnaire: Richard Collier

1. As a Council member, which factor will carry more weight in your decision making...your professional experience and personal opinions or the wishes of a majority of Wilmington residents?
2. You have stated *"I'm not in real estate-I am a civil engineer."* You provide professional services to many large developers. You personally were engaged with Haven at Galleria, Mayfair, River Lights and other local developments. Has your decisions made as a planning commission member ever been influenced by your professional relationship with the development community? If you are elected to city council, how can citizens be confident you will make decisions based on their best interests and not those of your past, current, and future clients?
3. You have stated you would support building higher and with more density to make room for *"...Many new residents seeking a place to call home, and they are choosing to pick Wilmington..."*. What do you think is the ideal population size for Wilmington...140,000, 160,000, 200,000?
4. In an interview you state *"Growth has outpaced infrastructure in some areas, and we're now playing catch-up."* Would you support concurrency laws requiring expanded infrastructure to be in place before new projects could be approved?
5. You have indicated on your website that you favor *"... responsible growth — not moratoriums, and not **"not in my back yard."*** Are you referring to the acronym NIMBY used frequently by the development community and elected leaders to denigrate citizens who may oppose some projects? Please expand on your position regarding NIMBY's. Should citizens who are concerned about their backyard have more or less input in the land planning process and future of our community? Do you think it is unreasonable that a citizen may consider the entire city their "backyard" when expressing concern about growth and development?
6. From your campaign website *"Traffic congestion isn't just frustrating...it's fixable."* The pace of multi-family residential development has obviously grown beyond the capacity of many of our roads and intersections. Expanding or adding roads is limited by our unique geography and poor long-term planning in the past. We face budget limitations both at the local and NCDOT level. Please be specific and tell us how you would propose to improve our already stressed road networks?

7. As a Planning Commission member, you voted for annexation of property to the city for purposes of approving a multi-family residential development. Do you support the annexation of parcels in unincorporated areas for purposes of developing market rate multi-family residential projects?
8. Do you believe increased density and population has any negative impact on the quality of life for existing Wilmington residents? Do you believe existing Wilmington residents should be willing to sacrifice some level of their quality of life to create more housing for people who want to move to Wilmington?