

RICK
Rodriguez
for HOUSTON CITY COUNCIL AT LARGE POSITION 1

TCR CITY OF HOUSTON ELECTIONS 2009 QUESTIONNAIRE

✓ 1. DO YOU SUPPORT CAPPING RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX APPRAISALS AT A MAXIMUM 5% INCREASE PER YEAR?

➤ Yes, I support capping residential property tax appraisals at 5%.

✓ 2. DO YOU SUPPORT A REQUIREMENT THAT THE CITY NOT RAISE TAXES WITHOUT A SUPERMAJORITY OF AT LEAST 60% OF CITY COUNCIL?

➤ Yes, I support having a supermajority of City Council to raise taxes.

✓ 3. DO YOU SUPPORT A SPENDING CAP LIMITING THE INCREASE IN CITY SPENDING TO THE RATE OF GROWTH OF POPULATION PLUS INFLATION?

➤ Yes, I support limiting the increase in city spending to the rate of growth of population plus inflation.

✓ 4. DO YOU SUPPORT ESTABLISHING A "GRACE" TYPE COMMISSION TO IDENTIFY WAYS FOR THE CITY TO ELIMINATE FRAUD, WASTE, ABUSE, INCOMPETENCE AND SUGGESTED OPERATING EFFICIENCIES?

➤ Yes, I support any cost savings mechanism.

✓ 5. DO YOU SUPPORT THE CONSOLIDATION OF CITY FUNCTIONS WITH HARRIS COUNTY WHERE IT IS PRACTICAL?

➤ Yes, I do particularly in jail and parks.

X 6. DO YOU SUPPORT ENDING RACE AND GENDER BASED AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAMS TO BE REPLACED BY A NEED BASED SYSTEM?

➤ No, I do not. I believe minority and women participation are still under represented in terms of awarding of contracts.

✓ 7. DO YOU SUPPORT THE RIGHT OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS TO ADD ITEMS TO THE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA IF APPROVED BY A MAJORITY OF MEMBERS?

- Yes, I do. Council Members currently have the power to place items on the agenda if a majority (at least 7 members) supports an item.

8. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE PRIVATE PROPERTY FROM INDIVIDUALS OR CORPORATIONS FOR THE "GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY" WITHOUT PAYING FAIR COMPENSATION?

- ✓ ➤ No, I do not agree with the taking of private property without paying fair compensation. We should consider paying fair market value at the very least.

9. DO YOU SUPPORT THE GRANTING OF PUBLIC TAX FUNDS FOR PRIVATE OR SEMI-PRIVATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN AREAS THAT ARE NOT ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED?

- ✗ ➤ Yes, but only to the extent the development will enhance the quality of life of that area.

✓ 10. DO YOU SUPPORT EXPANSION OR REORGANIZING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT SO THAT OFFICERS PATROL WITH A PARTNER, AT LEAST DURING NIGHT HOURS?

- As a veteran police officer of 24 years, I do. Moreover, I believe we should return to community policing.