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2022 WARD 1 CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE INFORMATION SHEET

NAME: Tom Green

CANDIDATE FOR WARD 1 CITY COUNCIL

Fast Facts:

- Age: 58
- Occupation: Community Affairs Representative
- Years Lived in Brighton: 9
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Questions and Answers

1. *Tell us about yourself.*

I'm a Bromley Park resident with more than 25 years of working in the utility industry, a military veteran who used the GI Bill to graduate from South Dakota State University with a degree in English, and I have two grown children, one of whom still lives with me in Brighton. But I also have a long resume of dedicated participation in my community.

I currently serve on the 27J School Board and as Chair of the Adams County Board of Adjustment—allowing residents to seek variances for situations blocked by over-regulated ordinances and outdated rules. I am in my eighth year on the Board of Kid's First Healthcare—providing school-based clinics where kids can see a doctor, therapist, or dentist without having to leave or miss school. Since 2016, I have been on the Board of Almost Home in Brighton, which promotes self-sufficiency and assists people experiencing housing instability. I also serve on the Board of the Richard Lambert Foundation Family Grief and Healing Center and as President of my Rotary club. Additionally, I can easily be found at most community gatherings in Brighton or walking my dog daily in the neighborhood.

I'm active in the community, not just a name. I'm accessible and approachable and am ready to discuss your concerns any time.

I have extensive experience working with groups of leaders to find consensus on decisions that benefit the people we represent; a history of managing multi-million-dollar budgets with the utmost in fiduciary care; I understand multi-department financial summaries and disclosures; and have demonstrated skill in

evaluating and hiring employees to lead organizations.

I'm not asking for your money for my campaign; I'm asking for something more important: your vote.

2. *Why are you running for City Council?*

My experience serving other local boards and organizations and my deep-rooted community connection make me great fit for the Brighton City Council. I believe there is no more respectful way to serve your community than by trying to make it better. It's why I serve on so many boards and commissions; I want to make a difference. I want to make Brighton a better place and help those that I can by giving generously of my time and capabilities.

Our school district has the highest graduation levels in all of Adams County. With the advice of community residents, 27J used the bond money citizens approved to upgrade the condition and longevity of our existing schools; build modern new schools; expand computer usage; and invest in the future of our students. Right now, there are three STEM Career Technical Education centers simultaneously under construction--one at each high school in 27J. We're expanding our students' educational opportunities so upon graduation they have additional technical training and certifications to succeed regardless of the path they chose to take.

I want to see similar support from the Brighton Community. I want input from residents as we chart the future for our city. We've hired a top-notch City Manager, added a new water tower, a new water treatment plant is underway (which will improve our water quality and prepare us for more growth), the streets are getting fixed, and the Council is looking long-term in its budgeting processes. That's a great start.

Is Brighton perfect? No. But we can accomplish more by working together to solve problems and move forward rather than just grumbling about previous decisions.

3. *What do you hope to accomplish as a City Council member?*

If we want to see more retail and dining opportunities in Brighton, we can't shut out development. Attracting more commercial businesses, like upscale grocery stores, is tied to the number of rooftops and residents in our city. That means developers must continue building more affordable homes for families. I believe in reasonable, managed growth and want to see more primary employers located in our industrial and commercial areas. The Brighton Economic Development Corporation was created to retain and expand our employment options.

If we can bring better-paying, quality jobs to Brighton, residents will not have to hit the highway every morning to reach their employer. A commute just down the street is much better than an hour every day in traffic driving to work. Local jobs mean our citizens can enjoy more time with their families and less time behind a windshield.

Brighton is a great city, and I want the folks who live here to spend more time in it, instead of driving away every day. Sales tax accounts for 75% of the City's general fund budget. The more we can expand that tax base, the more dollars we have available to improve our community. With the struggles of inflation and ever-increasing costs, we are all feeling tapped out. We don't need to tax you more or increase fees. We need to grow our city and have fiscal responsibility in our government for the increased revenue that will bring.

4. *What are the three most important issues confronting the City of Brighton and how would you address them?*

The top priority for me on the City Council is ensuring our Police Department has the resources it needs on the streets and behind the scenes to keep Brighton safe. Let's crack down on vehicle thefts, gun violence, gangs, drug overdoses, and other crimes creeping into our community. I want to expand the Security Resource Officer program (which is partially funded by the City of Brighton) to elementary schools, not just middle and high schools. All our residents deserve protection.

Second, Brighton must continue to improve our streets. As we grow, traffic bottlenecks must be addressed. Let's use our taxpayer's investment wisely, and that means upkeep on existing roads while adding lanes, stoplights, and multi-modal opportunities across the city and especially in and around Ward One. In some neighborhoods, heavy traffic makes it nearly impossible to leave! Let's make it easier to get to where we want to go. That includes working with Adams County, CDOT, and neighboring communities to prioritize upgrades to our shared roads like Highway 7, Highway 85, and I-76.

Finally, I want to see an upgrade to the quality of life in Brighton. We need more investment in Brighton's future. Expenditures focused on improving and expanding our recreation center; adding a pool and facilities for our Eagle Ridge Adult Center; and adding a sporting complex with more fields and opportunities for our children and residents. Brighton already has a tremendous performing arts center in the Armory, a great start on an entertainment area in the Pavilions, numerous family parks, and a growing shopping complex in the Prairie Center. Let's invest in our future and improve what Brighton has to offer.

The COVID panic should be over. Let's get back to living. We should be enjoying and increasing the opportunities we have in Brighton.

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