

Jamillah Richmonod

# 2026 Mayoral and City Council Candidate Questions

Thank you for participating in the Downtown Boulder & University Hill Candidate Roundtable on **Wednesday, September 23**.

In addition to the questions you will be asked during the Roundtable, the Downtown Boulder Partnership is asking each candidate to provide written responses to three questions important to the Downtown Boulder and University Hill business communities.

**DEADLINE: Monday, September 21, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.**

Responses are limited to **200 words per question**.

Your responses will be reproduced as submitted and distributed to attendees at the Candidate Roundtable. They may also be shared electronically with the broader Downtown Boulder and University Hill business communities.

Please review your responses carefully before submitting. Downtown Boulder Partnership will not edit candidate responses for content, grammar or length. Responses exceeding the 200-word limit may be truncated at 200 words.

Please provide original responses. If AI tools were used in developing or editing your responses, we ask that you acknowledge that use at the end of this form.

Email \*

jamillahanewvoice@gmail.com

Candidate Name \*

Jamillah Richmonod

Office Sought \*



Mayor



Council Member

### 1. Economic Vitality: Tools to Spur Economic Vitality

The recent proposal to create a Downtown Development Authority was intended to provide a long-term tool for investment and economic development in Downtown Boulder, University Hill and the Civic Area. While the proposal did not advance to voters this year, the economic challenges that prompted the discussion remain.

**Do you believe Boulder needs a significant new strategy or investment tool to strengthen these commercial districts? If you support reconsideration of a DDA, explain why. If you do not, what specific alternative tools, investments or strategies would you support to spur economic development and ensure the long-term economic vitality of these areas?**

Maximum: 200 words

I support the reconsideration of the DDA, it was not a plan without creativity, it was a plan that lacked community engagement, transparency and buy in. I believe, we can with time design a framework that the city won't just vote for, but champion and be proud of.

## 2. Public Safety & the Business Environment

Boulder businesses continue to raise concerns about public safety, illegal drug activity and disruptive behaviors in public spaces. These issues can affect employees, customers, visitors and the day-to-day ability of businesses to operate successfully.

**What do you believe businesses should reasonably expect from the City when it comes to maintaining safe and welcoming commercial districts? What specific actions or approaches would you support to address these concerns while balancing the needs and rights of everyone in our community?**

Maximum: 200 words

I think all community members should expect to feel safe from harm and that they can rely on city governance to help support that. I would do this through working with my fellow council members to ensure that we are utilizing existing resources such as CIRT and reevaluating opportunities to create more non-police response teams that are qualified to provide response to people experiencing mental health and substance use disorders. These resources are vital to providing the mental health services that some of our community members need, and they are not utilized to their full capacity. Police are not equipped to address mental health and substance use disorder in ways that create lasting impact and serve public needs so it is necessary that we have all three resources at our disposal and that these departments are working collaboratively to address concerns related to safety. It would also benefit the city to ensure that we have satellite sites where mental health and substance use professionals are operating out of various areas to ensure timely response to concerns raised by patrons and businesses as well as having a regular presence in areas of concern.

### 3. Communication & Engagement with the Business Community

Decisions made by City Council can have significant financial and operational impacts on local businesses. Business owners and employees often participate in public meetings, surveys, working groups and other engagement opportunities, yet there can be frustration when they feel their input has not meaningfully influenced the final decision.

**If elected, how will you personally engage with Boulder's business community? What can business owners expect from you in terms of accessibility, communication and listening, particularly if you disagree with them? Please describe the specific practices or commitments you would make to ensure the business community has an ongoing and meaningful voice in City decision-making.**

Maximum: 200 words

As the co-founder of a non-profit in Boulder, and previous owner of a for profit business and single parent with a job it is important to me that there is meaningful engagement between sectors, that allow for business owners and employees alike to have a voice. As someone who believes in direct communication; I do not, nor have I ever presumed to tone police and silence communication provided it does not involve threats of harm. I plan to be available, that means showing up regularly as someone that supports Boulder resident owned businesses with my dollars, attending meetings, and inviting dialog through hosting office hours and discussions on the issues that matter to the community.

#### AI Disclosure

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*Did you use an artificial intelligence tool in developing or editing any portion of your responses?*

☐ Yes

☒ No

#### AI Use Disclosure

Please briefly describe how AI was used in developing or editing your responses.

### Final Acknowledgement

I have reviewed my responses and understand that they may be reproduced and distributed as submitted. I understand that responses are limited to 200 words per question and that Downtown Boulder Partnership may truncate responses that exceed the stated word limit. I understand that my responses need to be received by 5 p.m. on Monday, September 21, 2026 to be included in the packet that will be handed out to attendees and posted on the Downtown Boulder Partnership website.

By checking the box below, I confirm that I have read and agree to the Final Acknowledgment above. \*



Confirm

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