

Ryan Jamieson

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 *

campaign@rjforboulder.com

Candidate Name *

Ryan Jamieson

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 think the DDA is the right tool for the job from a financial standpoint, but I also think that the city needs to overhaul much of the municipal code that makes doing business in Boulder outrageously expensive and more complex than it needs to be. The DDA creates a virtuous cycle, investing in our core commercial districts to make them more attractive to consumers, thereby drawing more money into the city overall via sales and use taxes. Coupled with greater flexibility from a revised code and a set of simplified permitting processes atop it, the money accrued can improve the infrastructure and diversify the uses of buildings in both areas to draw even more people to our downtown and the Hill. For me the case is clear: investing in downtown and the Hill with a proven tool like a DDA is a no-brainer. If it didn't work as advertised, other cities on the front range would be vocal about it, not renewing them.

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 it's entirely reasonable for businesses anywhere in Boulder to expect the city to enforce existing laws related to public safety. It's city government 101. My goal on council will be alignment between the stakeholders in the criminal justice process to facilitate real change in what we're seeing on the ground today. That means BPD, County Sheriff's Department, service providers like All Roads, aid groups like Harvest of Hope and Circle of Love, and the Municipal Courts all on the same page to what our residents expect from the city: clean, safe streets and parks where people, housed and unhoused, feel safe. Like any other city we have a homeless population, but it's not a monolithic bloc and we do a disservice to the most vulnerable among us by not directly addressing criminal elements in our city that prey upon them and disrupt our public spaces. A safer city is better for businesses, better for our homeless that have simply fallen on hard times, and better for the students and families that want to use our parks and walk down Pearl without fear of being accosted.

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

In my time in corporate spaces, I found regular meetings with key constituencies was really the simplest way to ensure that everyone was aware of what was underway and what was coming down the pipe. I'd welcome the same opportunity with the business community. Like all of us, I have a full calendar, but a regular cadence makes it easier to get time face to face to discuss what's happening. Clear communication about possible impacts to businesses as part of ongoing city work is also a must: nobody likes surprises, and it's better for possibly impacted parties to know as far ahead of time as possible to provide input, discuss impacts, and help figure out a way forward for everyone. I can't commit to answering every email I get or every text I receive, but I can promise that I'll do my best to communicate meaningfully with impacted parties to seek the best outcome for everyone as we do the city's work.

AI Disclosure *

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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