

# Tina Marquis

# 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 \*

tinaforboulder@gmail.com

Candidate Name \*

Tina Marquis

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 made extensive comments about the DDA at the council meeting when I voted against the DDA. The need to spur economic development still exists. If we decide to pursue a DDA again, there needs to be proactive engagement with the special taxing districts and boards related to dedicated funds. During this process, we need to better define the pain points and benefits of a DDA, provide a clearer vision of what the DDA will do, and explain why other tools and the city aren't able to create the outcomes we want.

Simultaneously, we need to make sure Sundance is a success. While it is only two weeks long, the city will benefit all year as we grow our creative economy. In addition, we can use our learnings from Sundance to support other large scale events, bringing new visitors to Boulder. Separately, we are opening up the RFP for the East bookend redevelopment along with the permanent farmer's market, transforming and activating this area. City council and the business community are a part of this revitalization project, particularly how it can complement, not compete, with the Downtown and the Hill.

## 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

When I first ran three years ago, public safety was perhaps the biggest issue during the campaign. Just last month, we received promising data from our July point-in-time count, showing the largest decrease in unsheltered homeless since 2023. We are making progress on public safety and the downtown experience but need to keep up our work. Specifically, we need to continue to implement the priorities identified in the Clutch report on homelessness, which balance caring for people who are experiencing hardship while making our public spaces more welcoming. I specifically have asked for more information during this budgeting cycle about the investment we are making in the homelessness priorities as well as the re-imagine policing plan. I also am supporting the continued allocation of funding to the Downtown Ambassador program. Finally, our city council continues to advocate to the County and the state for more funding and resources to help people with issues around mental health and addiction.

### 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 general, I try to be accessible to all constituents through email, phone or in-person meetings, though recognize there are times when I cannot respond to all requests in a short window. After the DDA vote I made, which disappointed many in the downtown and Hill communities, I have connected with a handful of people interested in talking about how to move forward. I also meet with John Tayer regularly to keep up to date with concerns in the business community. I also meet regularly with members of the development community to understand the impact of our permitting and review timelines to commercial projects, both downtown and throughout the city. I intend to maintain these open lines of communication.

#### 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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