



## 2008 City Council Candidate Survey

**Candidate's Name:** Randi Shade

**Campaign Web Site Address:** [www.RandiShade.com](http://www.RandiShade.com)

**Please limit each response to no more than 50 words:**

1. What are the top three issues facing Austin in your opinion?

Managing growth to protect our natural and cultural environment, quality of life, unique character and affordability; Fighting poverty to provide a safe city infrastructure for all citizens; Improving the way our City does business with all stakeholders to ensure basic needs are met reliably and affordably.

2. What specific solution do you plan to implement as a Council Member to address the region's transportation problems?

We need to better link land use decisions with transportation planning. We should also look for ways to involve our biggest traffic generators (i.e. major employers, UT, state government) and explore strategies to "stage" arrivals and departures to change traffic patterns and better utilize our existing transportation capacity.

3. What do you see as the proper role of the City of Austin in economic development?

The City should be in the business of encouraging sustainable economic development that benefits people at every income level in our community. I'm open to the targeted, strategic use of City incentives to encourage this kind of economic growth, as long as the public benefits clearly outweigh the public costs.

4. Do you support continuing the use of firm-based incentives as outlined in the City's Economic Development policy?

Incentives, whether for big or small businesses, should be used when they provide clear, direct economic benefit to current local residents. To ensure taxpayers benefit as promised, there must be more transparency to ensure job creation, salaries, and other performance requirements are met before any City-granted economic benefit is received.

5. Do you support the "Stop Domain Subsidies" charter amendment?

No. I am skeptical about the Domain incentives, but don't support terminating them via a charter change. Charter amendments are extremely difficult to undo, and



sometimes have consequences unimagined by the drafters. I believe passing the proposed charter amendment could have several unintended consequences, and even hurt small businesses.

6. Should the “Stop Domain Subsidies” charter amendment pass, the City will be able to arbitrarily terminate certain development agreements. How will you ensure that the City uphold a fair and predictable regulatory climate for businesses in the future?

As noted above, I don’t support the charter amendment, but if it passes and I am elected to serve on the Council, I would oppose terminating previously approved development agreements, barring unforeseen circumstances.

7. Do you support a possible charter amendment implementing single member districts?

I believe it’s possible that we might be better served by a mixed system of representation incorporating both single-member districts and at-large seats to ensure every citizen has more than just one representative, while still offering the potential opportunity for more responsive, accountable, and diverse representation.

8. Describe what City program you think best illustrates your idea of an exemplary City service and explain why.

Austin Energy’s “Green Choice” program, which by most accounts is the most successful utility-sponsored green energy program in the country, is an exemplary program. It delivers a service that Austin consumers clearly want and are willing to pay extra for, and supports our efforts as a clean energy industry leader.

9. Who are three past or current leaders in Austin that serve as your model of leadership?

George Kozmetsky, Pat Hayes, and Neal Kocurek come immediately to mind, but there are many others whom I’ve been fortunate to know and learn from over the years. My role models are those who bring everyone’s perspective to the table to achieve the best results for the most people.

10. How are you qualified to serve as an Austin City Council Member?

I have succeeded in business, in government, and as an executive in the nonprofit sector. I have a common sense, real-world perspective. I’ve experienced Austin as a student, community volunteer, government employee, mom and entrepreneur, in good times and in bad. I have a solid record of getting things done.