



2024 ODESSA PASTOR COUNCIL ISSUES SURVEY FOR CITY COUNCIL/MAYORAL CANDIDATES

CANDIDATE NAME: (Please PRINT or TYPE) NAYELY URIAS

OFFICE/POSITION SOUGHT: ODESSA CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

CAMPAIGN CONTACT AND TELEPHONE: NAYELY URIAS -432-258-4336

Please indicate your positions on each of the following issues by marking the appropriate box.

Fiscal and Budget – Do you support or oppose...

- 1. Raising city taxes and fees to address the city of Odessa’s water and sewer infrastructure needs?
 Support Oppose Undecided

Comments: pg. 1

- 2. Recently, the City of Odessa joined TGAA (Texas Government Accountability Association), which is a good government association that has the highest standards of ethics, transparency and accountability. Do you agree with this decision to join TGAA?
 Support Oppose Undecided

Comments: _____

- 3. Zero-based budgeting for city agencies and departments (starting at zero each budget cycle vs. the previous budget baseline.)
 Support Oppose Undecided

Comments: pg. 1

Community Protection - Do you support or oppose...

- 4. Increasing the budget of the Odessa Police Department to adequately fund recruitment and staffing levels based on current city needs?
 Support Oppose Undecided

Comments: pg. 1

- 5. Granting Personal Recognizance Bonds to defendants charged with Homicide, Felon in Possession of a Weapon, Possession of a Prohibited Weapon, and who has existing violent felony bonds or convictions?
 Support Oppose Undecided

Comments: pg. 2

- 6. Campaign Ethics Reform that includes prohibition on accepting contributions from part or full owners of Sexually Oriented Businesses?
 Support Oppose Undecided

Comments: pg. 2

7. Creating a functioning Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force of city officials, law enforcement, judicial, business, NGO's and churches?
 Support Oppose Undecided

Comments: pg. 2

Social Issues - Do you support or oppose...

8. Current State of Texas restrictions on abortion
 Support Oppose Undecided

Comments: pg 2.

9. What is your position on the Sanctuary City for the Unborn ordinance adopted by City Council?
 Support Oppose Undecided

Comments: pg. 2

10. Prohibiting adult sexual content and performers in any City of Odessa owned and/or operated building, including the Odessa Public Library system, programs and materials accessible to children.

Support Oppose Undecided

Comments: pg. 2

11. A city ordinance creating discrimination protections for sexual orientation, gender identity or other sexual behavior.

Support Oppose Undecided

Comments: pg. 3

12. A City Ordinance prohibiting City of Odessa owned and/or operated building with a "multiple-occupancy bathroom or changing facility" from allowing biological males to use those facilities designated for females"; and vice versa. .

Support Oppose Undecided

Comments: pg-3

Faith/Religion

Are you a member of a faith community? Yes No

Church/Organization name: ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON

Pastor/Priest Name FATHER FRANCIS

Please describe in brief your personal religious beliefs I BELIEVE THAT THERE'S ONE GOD, IN TRINITY, IN JESUS THE SON OF GOD AND HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION, AND HIS PROMISE OF ETERNAL LIFE. MY AIM TO SERVE HIM.

The signature below constitutes a pledge and attests that responses in this questionnaire accurately represent the views of the candidate as completed only by the candidate.

CANDIDATE SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

1. Raising city taxes and fees to address the city of Odessa's water and sewer infrastructure needs?
OPPOSE

Currently there is no need to increase the financial burdens of city residents. According to city records the city currently has more than adequate money in the bank to meet the city's immediate needs with over \$350,000,000 in general funds as well as over \$100,000,000 in currently unspent bond proceeds. It seems to me that what we need to do is really prioritize the most urgent work and get it done.

2. Recently, the City of Odessa joined TGAA (Texas Government Accountability Association), which is a good government association that has the highest standards of ethics, transparency and accountability. Do you agree with this decision to join TGAA?
OPPOSE

The bulk of what is contained in the TGAA pledge is already covered by Texas law and what isn't covered could be easily added by either passing a new ordinance or by adding these requirements to the City's charter. While you assume that this is a "good" government association there is currently no evidence of this because TGAA has no track record. Also, I would question the ethics of this entire organization and the people involved in it because of the way it was presented and passed. Accountability and transparency are very important in government, but Odessa's taxpayers don't need to be locked into a costly contract designed to be nearly impossible to terminate in order to achieve these goals.

3. Zero-based budgeting for city agencies and departments (starting at zero each budget cycle vs. the previous budget baseline).
UNDECIDED

Zero based budgeting can be a good thing and can lead to a tighter, leaner budget if properly implemented. However, I have very real concerns about the new "zero-based" budget. Studies have typically shown that zero based budget should reduce overall budgets by 10-20%. However, in the city's just passed budget expenses skyrocketed by over \$28,000,000 or 10.1% and only a small amount of this (\$5,000,000) was the result of increased capital spending (repair and replacement of major infrastructure, equipment, etc. It seems to me that all the talk about zero based budgeting is nothing more than a smoke screen to distract from the fact that our budget was up a lot.

4. Increasing the budget of the Odessa Police Department to adequately fund recruitment and staffing levels based on current city needs?
SUPPORT

While the city did provide a small increase of about \$3,000,000 to OPD they also cut the overall staffing levels which is very concerning to me. Of the Odessan I've talked to, no one feels like our current police protection is adequate and just about everyone agrees that we simply don't have enough officers on the streets everyday to protect our community. I know recruitment has been a problem but we now have some of the best paid officers in the state and it seems to me like there are other causes than just pay that may be the cause of our recruitment difficulties. We need to prioritize recruitment and getting more officers on the street.

5. Granting Personal Recognizance Bonds to defendants charged with Homicide, Felon in Possession of a Weapon, Possession of a Prohibited Weapon, and who has existing violent felony bonds or convictions?

STRONGLY OPPOSED

Experiments in liberal states and communities have proven this approach to be a disaster leading to increased crime. These ideas are a hard NO from me.

6. Campaign Ethics Reform that includes prohibition on accepting contributions from part or full owners of Sexually Oriented Businesses?

SUPPORT

While I support this idea I do question whether it could be Constitutionally done. I think we should prioritize removing these types of businesses from our community using all legally available means.

7. Creating a functioning Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force of city officials, law enforcement, judicial, business, NGOs and churches?

SUPPORT

My question is why this hasn't already been done. We've heard a lot of talk from the current City Council over the past four years but seem to have accomplished little in making this a reality. Human trafficking is a major problem in our area and we're going to have to get serious of detection, prevention, and punishment if we ever hope to get a handle on human trafficking. We need the City to take a real leadership role in this.

8. Current State of Texas restrictions on abortion

SUPPORT

Texas continues to lead the way on stopping abortion and I fully support their efforts such as the Heartbeat Bill.

9. What is your position on the Sanctuary City for the Unborn ordinance adopted by City Council?

SUPPORT

We need to use every tool at our disposal at the federal, state, and local level to protect innocent life. Alongside such measures as Sanctuary City we also need to beef up, as a community, our support for pregnancy crisis centers and others that help solve this problem.

10. Prohibiting adult sexual content and performers in any City of Odessa owned and/or operated buildings, in the Odessa Public Library System, programs and materials accessible to children

SUPPORT

I support all legally available options to protect our kids and our community from sexual content. It should be noted that the City does not have libraries as the library is owned by Ector County. However, I do believe the City can and should work with all of the other governmental entities including our County and School District to ensure that we keep programs that target our children out of our community.

11. A city ordinance creating discrimination protections for sexual orientation, gender identity or other sexual behavior.

OPPOSE

Odessa must never go "Woke". I am completely opposed to any efforts that would attempt to create protected classes around sexual identity.

12. A City Ordinance prohibiting City of Odessa owned and/or operated buildings with a "multiple-occupancy bathroom or changing facility" from allowing biological males to use those facilities designed for females and vice-versa.

SUPPORT

This is about protecting our families and I would support this ordinance. I believe we can also make this apply not only to City owned/operated buildings but the City could by ordinance have this apply to any governmentally owned property regardless of which governmental entity owns the property. I know that Councilman Chris Hanie has been working on this ordinance and I fully support his efforts.

I attest that the answers in this questionnaire accurately represent my views.