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Page 1: Candidate Information

Q1

Office You are Seeking

Honolulu City Council District 3

Q2

Party

Non-Partisan

Q3

First Name

Greg

Q4

Last Name

Thielen

Q5

Email

greg@gthielen.com

Q6

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8085428675

Q7

Campaign Website

www.gthielen.com

Page 2: COVID-19 Response and Recovery

Q8

What steps do you think our state and/or counties should take to aid this recovery? Some examples could include how you think federal funds should be spent, diversifying the state's economy, etc.

I believe the City needs to invest CIP funds at a higher rate to ensure there are job opportunities for people displaced from tourism. Priority should be given to infrastructure to support housing as well as greening our economic recovery. We should also expand business and agriculture incubator programs to allow our entrepreneurs to diversify our economy. Finally we need to open for tourism in a safe and methodical manner.

Q9

Please share some of the efforts you have led or participated in response to COVID-19.

In my own small business I was very proactive at instituting Covid safety policies in early March before any lock down occurred. This included social distancing, stay at home when sick, hand washing and regular cleaning with bleach solution. Once the CDC decided masks were a good idea, we added this as well. I also helped my wife who is the Executive Director of Partners in Care with blanket and face mask distributions to homeless care providers.

Q10

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:

Page 3: Tobacco and E-Cigarette Regulations

Q11

What policies do you think the state and/or counties should enact to reduce tobacco and e-cigarette use?

I'm very concerned with the rise of vaping and seen it's widespread use in younger employees and workers in the construction industry. I would support initiatives to make accessibility more difficult and expensive as well as education programs to prevent new users from getting started.

Q12

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Apply a tobacco tax to e-cigarettes, such as a percentage of the wholesale cost or taxing e-liquid by volume. | Strongly Support |
| Prohibit the sale of all flavored tobacco products, including menthol cigarettes and flavored e-liquids. | Oppose |
| Restrict online sales of e-cigarettes to tobacco retailers only, in order to curb illegal sales to minors. | Strongly Support |
| Increase the tobacco tax on cigarettes to help smokers quit and prevent new users from starting. | Support |
| Funds from the tobacco settlement and tobacco taxes should fund tobacco prevention and cessation efforts. | Strongly Support |
-

Q13

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:

Page 4: Healthy Eating + Active Living

Q14

What steps do you think the state and/or counties should take to ensure food security for all of Hawaii's people, and to significantly increase food self-sufficiency for our state?

I believe we should support agricultural incubator type programs and work with existing successful farms to develop mentoring programs. I also think we need to look beyond farms and promote community based gardening where people can learn on a small personal scale to grow food for themselves.

Q15

In 2019, Hawai'i made a commitment to adopt Vision Zero, an initiative to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all. What policies and infrastructure changes should the state and/or counties make to achieve this goal?

I think there are many good ideas within the Oahu Bike Plan. Some of the ones that tie well into my vision for greening our recovery include traffic calming measures as well as establishing a comprehensive bikeway maintenance program.

Q16

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

We must significantly increase public investment in food systems workforce development, including programs such as farm to school, agriculture and food systems education (PreK-12 and higher education), and farmer training programs. **Support**

The state should continue to invest in a Double Up Food Bucks program, which doubles the value of SNAP benefits when buying fresh, locally grown produce at participating retailers. **Support**

Enact a one-cent per-ounce fee on sugar-sweetened beverages. **Strongly Support**

Use revenue from a sugar-sweetened beverage fee for obesity prevention programs. **Strongly Support**

Make health and physical education (PE) courses a curriculum requirement, rather than an option, for middle school students. PE is currently a requirement for elementary and high school students. **Support**

Implement a red light camera program to deter red-light running and help curb traffic fatalities and injuries. **Strongly Support**

Q17

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:

Page 5: Oral Health

Q18

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

Reinstate coverage of preventative dental benefits for Adult Medicaid participants. **Support**

Fluoridation of community water supplies is an effective way to prevent tooth decay. **Support**

Q19

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:

Page 6: Alcohol Regulations

Q20

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

Increase in alcohol taxes.

Support

Repeal of the alcohol takeout laws that allow people to buy and take home liquor-based mixed drinks from restaurants.

Oppose

Repeal of alcohol delivery laws that allow restaurants to deliver beer and liquor-based mixed drinks to people's homes.

Oppose

Increase in enforcement that helps ensure that youth do not access alcohol through existing laws allowing for alcohol takeout and delivery.

Strongly Support

Q21

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:

Page 7: Marijuana Regulations

Q22

Respondent skipped this question

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

Q23

Additional thoughts/comments:

I didn't answer these questions as they all relate to the State as opposed to City Council.

Page 8: Economic Justice

Q24

What are your immediate plans to help make Hawai'i more affordable for its residents?

The most serious challenge to affordability is housing. I am a strong proponent of building more housing to alleviate this crisis. This can be done via a variety of methods. First off we need to further incentive ADU construction. Secondly we need to invest in infrastructure around the rail line. Thirdly we need to utilize City lands for housing.

Q25

What is the role of government in addressing housing affordability issues and what would you do to encourage the production of more affordable homes for Hawai'i residents?

Government must focus on the 100% AMI and below housing category while removing barriers to private home builders targeting the 100% - 140% AMI category.

Q26

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

Increase the state's minimum wage in a series of annual steps to a living wage of \$17 per hour. **Support**

Create a statewide Paid Family Leave Program, which would allow up to 12 weeks for employees to provide care for a newborn, bond with a new child, or care for a family member with a serious health condition. **Support**

Q27

Additional thoughts/comments:

Again this is more of a State issue than a City issue, but I firmly believe any paid family leave should be modeled on the TDI process as opposed to a mandate on business.
