



## AXIOS Salt Lake City Candidate profile survey

### ROSS C. “ROCKY” ANDERSON


 First tap in the morning: New York Times app.


 Hobbies: Hiking, running, working out, backpacking, travel, reading, caring for and playing with my dog and parrot.

 What neighborhoods have you lived in? Maple Drive (near USU), Logan (first 7 yrs); Holladay (7-10 yrs old); Fillmore Ave., Ogden (10-18); University/Aves., SLC (18-23); Freiburg, Germany (23); Arlington/Dupont Circle, D.C. (24-27); East Central, University, SLC (since 1978).

 How would you bring more public art installations to the city? Maintain what we have, like Seven Canyons Fountain. Require all private developments receiving city funds or zoning exceptions to devote a certain percentage of development cost to public art installations. A sustained commitment for annual additions of art (preferably by local artists) throughout expanded downtown area and each Council District so we will be recognized as a leading city for public art installations, like Grand Junction’s downtown.

 What's the top issue facing Salt Lakers? Homelessness/affordable housing.

 How would you address the lack of affordable housing in Salt Lake City? End financial subsidies to private developers and invest in city-owned mixed-income, truly affordable non-market housing, much the same as “social housing” in many European cities and several U.S. cities. Affordability is more achievable when the profit motive of private developers is eliminated.

 As the Great Salt Lake dwindles, what policy solutions would you recommend to conserve water? The Great Salt Lake will survive only if far less water is diverted for agricultural purposes. Salt Lake City should

pursue a lawsuit to protect the public interest in water conservation and require far less diversion of water for agricultural purposes. Turf should be minimized or entirely eliminated (as at my home) in city projects and any projects receiving city funds. [I know you'll cut this, but someone should point it out: It would be terrific if the administration would turn off the sprinklers at Washington Square during rainstorms.]

▶ What sets you apart as a candidate: My values, broad experience, fiscal responsibility, effectiveness, innovativeness, accountability, record of accomplishments, vigorous commitment to increasing the quality of life for all, and my insistence on effective problem-solving regarding the homelessness and affordability crises. When I served as Salt Lake City Mayor for 8 years, we did not have homeless encampments throughout the city, never left any unsheltered people outdoors in the freezing winter without available adequate shelter, and never confiscated and destroyed their property (including survival gear). Without ever raising property taxes, we achieved a great deal for our city when I was Mayor, including the creation of YouthCity, early expansion of mass transit, international leadership on climate protection, and comprehensive restorative justice programs.

👉 First action as mayor: Eliminate homeless encampments by providing for adequate sanctioned camps away from neighborhoods, with showers, meals, property lockers, security, and outreach/case management workers to transition people to treatment and housing.

🏛️ Finally, why do you want to be mayor? To make life better for all our residents (now and in the future), businesses, and members of the homeless community, ensuring our city is affordable, clean, healthy, and safe. I will deal with the homelessness and housing affordability crises humanely and effectively, once again provide international environmental leadership, and preserve the charm and unique character against the pressures of private development.