



A Housing and Growth Q&A

How would you help increase Lexington's housing supply and improve affordability?

Lexington needs more housing choices for people at different ages, incomes, and stages of life, including working families, seniors, young professionals, and first-time homebuyers. I support well-planned housing that is well-built, appropriately located, and connected to the roads, sidewalks, utilities, public services, and other infrastructure residents rely on. Increasing supply and variety can help expand opportunity, but affordability must also include rental stability, attainable homeownership, housing quality, and options that allow people to remain in the communities they call home.

What does responsible growth look like to you?

Responsible growth means planning development and infrastructure together from the beginning. New housing and commercial development should be evaluated alongside road capacity, traffic safety, sidewalks, stormwater systems, sewer and utility capacity, transit, parks, and public safety services. Growth should improve quality of life and should not shift avoidable costs or burdens to current residents. Developer contributions should be fair, tied to demonstrated infrastructure needs, and considered as part of a predictable development process.

How would you approach zoning and land-use decisions when residents and developers disagree?

I would review each proposal on its facts, the applicable standards, its community impact, and its long-term value. Growth should happen with residents, not to residents, so meaningful community engagement should begin early enough to shape a proposal rather than after key decisions have already been made. At the same time, applicants deserve clear expectations and a fair, consistent process. My goal would be to find solutions that expand housing opportunity, respect property rights, protect neighborhood stability, and create appropriate transitions between new development and established communities.

How can Lexington make permitting and development review more effective?

A strong process can be both efficient and accountable. Clear standards, consistent communication, reasonable timelines, and predictable requirements help developers, real estate professionals, property owners, neighborhoods, and homebuyers understand what to expect. I support identifying unnecessary delays or confusion while maintaining the safety, quality, and public-interest standards residents depend on. Predictability should support responsible development, not weaken accountability.

How would you balance property rights with housing quality and neighborhood responsibility?

Property rights matter, and they also carry responsibilities to neighbors and the broader community. City policies should be clear, understandable, consistently applied, and connected to a legitimate public purpose. Affordable housing must also be safe, stable, and well-maintained. Lexington should address repeat code violations and problem properties in a timely way while avoiding policies that create unnecessary uncertainty for responsible owners. People should not have to choose between a home they can afford and confidence that it is structurally sound and properly maintained.

Do you believe developers should be able to make a profit from new housing and commercial development?

Yes. Developers are businesses, and they should be able to earn a reasonable profit. Lexington depends on private investment to build housing, create jobs, revitalize properties, and meet the needs of a growing community. If we want more housing choices and a healthy local economy, responsible development must be financially workable. My goal is not to discourage investment, but to create a clear and predictable process in which developers understand the standards, residents have meaningful input, and infrastructure needs are addressed early. The strongest projects create shared value: developers can earn a fair return, residents benefit from quality construction and well-planned growth, and homebuyers and renters gain access to more safe, well-maintained housing. Profitability, accountability, and community benefit are not competing goals. With thoughtful planning and clear expectations, Lexington can support all three.