

**Questions for Candidates:
Chon Travis – Ukiah City Council**

- 1. Bicycling/walking and safe bike/pedestrian infrastructure enhances quality of life and addresses issues such as affordability, equity, access, health, and the safety of our streets. In your view, what can the City/County do to actively encourage more people to bike and walk?**

I think that the city can help encourage more walking and biking by creating more adventurous pathways and trails through the city that are separate from the "bike lane". The "bike lane" tends to be bland and very dangerous due to passing vehicles. I also believe that in order for people to be sold on walking around town, we have to create a sense of security and feeling of calm and safety that we have lost in the past ten years. However, I do believe that your leadership with Bike/Walk Mendocino is an amazing start to getting the message and spirit across.

- 2. Studies from Portland and other US cities show people on bicycles spend more per month in local business districts than those arriving by other modes. Bicycling and walking also promote a “shop local” mindset (it’s difficult to get to a faraway store to shop if you are walking or biking). What steps would you take to ensure that local businesses in your shopping district are able to benefit from better access by bicyclists?**

I would try get businesses to honor more bike access by first turning their attention to your Portland study. I would then meet with you and talk about the needs of a bicyclist in a shopping environment, farm out my own ideas, and return to the businesses with a game plan to facilitate. One idea that comes to mind, is more bike friendly parking, or maybe a downtown pump station next to the Tesla charging stations. I would love to work this one out, sounds fun.

- 3. Childhood obesity and chronic weight related health issues are a major problem. As an elected official how would you use your position to foster an active living agenda that will make measurable improvements in these chronic but often preventable diseases?**

It's fair to say that obesity in this country is an epidemic. Care of our children starts in the home. People have become more hurtful towards each other, but more sensitive to word dynamics as well. People have come to their situations for all sorts of reasons and from my personal study on obesity, I can say that a majority of youth obesity comes from depression and separation issues that are deep seeded. There are a small number of kids who just love food and video games and have a very content approach to the matter. Those are the ones that can readily benefit from city activities. I would recommend proper healing for the others.

- 4. Forty percent of vehicle trips are less than two miles and many of us trip-hop with our cars rather than walking when we have a number of closely located errands to do. Will you commit to using your leadership position in the community to “walk the walk” by personally walking and biking whenever possible during your tenure in office?**

If I'm elected, this interview has encouraged me to not only be mindful of the energy I waste by driving, but has inspired me to look for a bike to ride and because I only live about four blocks away from the City Building, I will find time to ride my new bike that I will be getting or walk...if elected of course.

- 5. We are at the point now where increasing on-street infrastructure like bike lanes will require some difficult decisions, which will not please everyone. A classic example is the struggle between installing bike lanes, sometimes at the expense of on-street parking. Give us some insight into your decision-making process and how you plan to balance the opinions of residents who may be at odds.**

Dealing with citizens at odds is like breaking up any fight. We all have needs and not one is greater than the other. People are willing to compromise in the face of the truth. The truth is that people ride bikes and the other side of it, is that people need to park. The great thing is that bike lanes are not used as much after 5pm and most people aren't parking at their home until after 5pm, but to cater to those who are riding to work, what we could do is set a no parking in those areas from 8:30am to 6:00pm. That gives cyclists time to get to and from their jobs and daily errands and it gives the resident owner a place to park after work. For spill over parking, I think that the city might consider some of the many empty lots for extended parking for residents as well as permitted parking.

- 6. Do you have a biking or walking related story you'd like to tell?**

I don't have a walking or biking story to tell, but I'm super stoked on your enthusiasm on the subject. I have been brainstorming throughout this interview response process and wanted to run this idea by you, "Ukiah Bike/Walk Week"? Where we close off 5 blocks of downtown to through traffic using detours of course, and the only real way to access shops and work are to walk or bike. It would be a fun way for Ukians to move about and get creative in planning their week. Just a thought. Thank you for reaching out to me it was a pleasure doing this interview and feel free to check in with me anytime. To all those who read this, these are just my thoughts and in no reflect the thoughts of The City Of Ukiah as I'm just a Candidate running for office of Ukiah City Council. Please understand and read responsibly. Thank you.