

We're asking everyone this as the first question. In five words or less, what is the theme of your campaign?

Competence, experience, devotion, ability. That's four.

Ha, OK, all right. Tell me about your history in Malibu. What prepares you to take on this role?

I came to Malibu in—the first time—in 1977. I came back in December of '78 with a real estate license and went to work on Point Dume for the Winikoff family. My complete training I received from them consisted of taking me to the Malibu Canyon Village condominiums at 23901 Civic Center Way, giving me keys to five units, and advising me to get a beach chair and a big hat and sit out front and chat with people when they come in. So I started at that point having tons of conversations about Malibu with people. As time went on, I became more devoted to my—to that business, and changed to the John Douglas Company, which taught me how to widen my horizons as far as the different neighborhoods of Malibu. And so, instead of just talking to condominium owners or buyers, I was talking to everybody all over Malibu, which has been a huge help for me. Shortly after I joined John Douglas Company, I was recruited to join the Kiwanis Club, which was in the process of forming, and that started my career in public service in Malibu. I worked with the Kiwanis Club as a member of the board of directors, chairman and chili cook-off chair over the next 29 years. The Kiwanis Club raised a lot of money with the chili cook-off every year, and every year we dealt with various nonprofits that wanted to have us donate what we made to them, which exposed me to lots of different areas of need and concerns of people in Malibu. I also got involved in the Malibu Association of Realtors and served on various levels there including president and board of directors for several years and the same thing with the Chamber of Commerce. Again, you end up hearing lots of concerns from all different areas of Malibu. When we became a city, which is close to 30 years ago now, I, like many people—there were over 30 of us running that year—applied, ran for office. And I was actually endorsed by the Santa Monica Evening Outlook as their fifth choice. I didn't get elected that year, but I did get to know the other people who ran and got elected and managed to get appointed to the first general plan task force for the city of Malibu and in the first year we had 14 neighborhood meetings in each of the various neighborhoods around Malibu to listen to what people wanted the city to do for them. And I produced, took the notes and produced the actual minutes for each of those meetings. Since then, I've gone to many, many city council meetings, quite a few public works—quite a few planning commission meetings and life has gone on. About 16 years ago, Jeff Jennings appointed me to replace Richard Scott as his public works commissioner. When he was termed out 10 years ago, Lou La Monte was elected and he appointed me to be one of his public works commissioners. Lou was termed out two years ago and Karen Farrer was kind enough to select me to continue that role. Since Woolsey, I have gotten extremely involved ... I need to back up. In 2010, Jim Thorsen, the former city manager, appointed me to a task force to study the District 29's fire flow deficiency. And that was a group that had about 20 members—members of the public safety people, members of the fire department, members of the District 29—and after two years of meetings, everything went away with the consultants and it came back as a 600-page plan that identified all existing infrastructure and what needed to be repaired and how soon. That resulted in a, uh, environmental impact report that came out in June of 2016, which unfortunately was stuck in a drawer at the supervisor's office almost as soon as it was done. That didn't solve the problem, it just meant that they weren't addressing it. After the Woolsey Fire, I was, I went to Sheila Kuehl's

“listenings” meetings and pointed out to her that all of these people who were so mad because their houses had burned down are gonna be even more angry when they discover that they can’t rebuild because their homes don’t meet—their neighborhood doesn’t meet the fire flow requirement. And to her credit, Sheila got Chief Osby and Mark Pastrella together and told them to meet every week until they solved it. Well, the first thing they did was realize that our fire flow requirements were several times more difficult than the ones that are actually required by state law, and so they reduced it to a level that would allow the people on Point Dume and Malibu Park to rebuild. That didn’t help Encinal Canyon. And, uh, two months later they came to the conclusion that the only solution there was to actually start the work that was anticipated as part of the first five-year plan. And so they have so far replaced all of the water mains in that area with lines that are big enough to carry the requisite 1,250-gallons-per-minute and they are going to be in the next year starting work on the replacement of the actual tank, so there will actually be enough stored water to make that happen. There are other neighborhoods in Malibu that still need that work, like Corral Canyon and Las Flores Mesa, which we happen to be sitting right in the middle of right here. And I’m hoping that if I get elected, I’ll be able to work to get that and the other areas of deficiency under way, as well.

Um, the city manager is predicting there’s going to be a crisis in the budget next year because of the economic downturn caused by the pandemic. Where would you propose to cut from the city’s budget?

Well, the city has already done a lot of cuts and there are a lot of cuts that were proposed at a budget meeting they held, I think, was it two or three weeks ago? And so that, it gets it to a—what I consider to be a—manageable place. It will draw down our reserves, but it doesn’t require us to fire everybody in the building and, you know, go around in sackcloth and ashes for the next couple years. And part of the reason I’m running is because this is gonna be a very trying time. And there are gonna be a lot of people wanting the few resources we have to spare. And it’s, it’s gonna require someone with a long term view of the solutions, I think, to make that work.

OK. Would you consider cutting Malibu’s sheriff’s department budget? Do you think it’s reasonable for Malibu to continue increasing the sheriff’s budget while LA County has decreased their allocation to the sheriff’s department?

I think that our public safety is horrible. Right now, we have a real problem with sheriffs being unwilling or unable to even ticket the sufficient number of people. We don’t have the ability to tow cars because we don’t have a temporary tow yard or a permanent tow yard and, I think if one of the things that I’ve thought about several times is that we are solely responsible for funding the beach team, which is a large addition to the budget and that is—we’re protecting the county property and it ... and at the same time that we have four cars inside the parking lot at Zuma, we have cars in PCH right next to it that are in No Parking Zones that aren’t being towed because the deputy doesn’t have time to go over and put an official ticket on it. The volunteers on patrol car—the volunteers on patrol tickets are not, apparently, able to tow. So for towing you need an actual deputy. I would love it if we could pull one person off of that to just go around and just hit the tow away zones and give them actual tow away tickets. Because nothing gets people to go, “They tow,” like seeing people hook up their neighbor’s car and drag it away.

How much control does the city have over specific directives to the sheriff's department?

Apparently, we don't have a great deal and that's, that's pretty distressing. One of the things that people want a lot more responsiveness on is the after hours, the nighttime calls for the STRs that are out of control or parties that are out of control. And while the city has a phone number you can call after hours and there will be a live person to answer the phone, when they get done taking your information, they say, "We'll have a zoning, enforcement officer call you on Monday morning." That is not satisfying to people. In the meantime, when those people who are being subjected to all this noise and obnoxiousness next door to their house call the sheriffs, they don't get the impression that it's any kind of a priority for the sheriff. And one of the things that I have been advocating is the temporary occupancy tax money is not free money for the city of Malibu. We have to swallow hard and spend the money for someone to be the on-duty, zoning compliance officer—or code compliance officer—and go out at night after making a call to the sheriffs and letting them know that they are going to that address, which would probably prompt the sheriff to go there and meet them. In the short term, that's the only thing that really I can see that might help. we need ... the volunteers on patrol have been wonderful. We just need them to have more powers and we need more volunteers on patrol to write more traff— parking tickets, because parking ticket—the illegal parking we've been subjected to this summer is ridiculous.

So it sounds like your proposed solutions to a lot of the public safety problems come from reallocating city resources toward those, versus having the sheriff's department increase their services in town, am I getting that correct?

Uh, we're already paying \$9 million-plus a year. I was very disappointed to learn that they are not gonna have a substation in Malibu so we will continue to pay for the time it takes each deputy to log in, to join duty in Lost Hills and then drive across the hill, and then also drive home. So out of an eight-hour shift, we get about six hours from each of them. That's, that's a poor usage of our funds. I don't know what we can do to convince them to open a substation over here. Maybe, maybe we have to look at the space that's gonna be at, at the La Paz development. The city gets a piece of property and the money to develop it. Maybe that's one of the things we have to do if they're not gonna, they're not gonna do it at the location that's the Santa Monica City College. But maybe they're not gonna wanna do it anyway because they just don't wanna outfit another spot. So we need a better, better bang for our buck from the sheriff's and if anybody has a great idea, I'm willing to support.

So pivoting slightly, still talking about public safety, it's generally acknowledged in Malibu that the Woolsey Fire and its response were mishandled. Do you agree and who do you think was responsible for mishandling the fire?

Well, interestingly enough, I got mad enough about this and I ended up writing a whole bunch of columns for *The Malibu Times*! Ha. The fire department, the way they are set up these days, everything is managed from where the fire starts and even though it doesn't take a genius to know that once it crosses the highway, it's coming to Malibu, they held people back until, you

know, way too late. They lost the canyon roads, they were forced to send anybody who was coming over here through Malibu Canyon because Kanan was blocked by downed power lines and everything else. They call that fire front following, but it makes more sense if you're ... if you're playing baseball and somebody hits the ball, you try to end up where the ball is gonna land so you can catch it. It's hard to do that if you're following the ball out into the outfield. So that's, uh, it's a strategy that the fire department likes, I don't like it, I have no education in fire science but, to me, the thought of not positioning people where the fire is going makes no sense. I think at nine in the morning on that day that it hit Malibu, there was, half a dozen fire engines in Malibu. And an hour later it was still less than 15. And then, the fact that—because of the fact that they were so overwhelmed, the order was given that they were to save lives only, not fight fires. And that was a standing order that never changed, even after the fire was all the way here and we were just dealing with fires burning sideways in areas. I know that they had tons of calls about people wanting to know if their family was safe and things like that and they prioritized going to those places and seeing if those people were safe. But there were way too many people in Malibu who had the experience of seeing their house being approached by flames, going out into the street, seeing a fire engine, and asking them to help and being told, you know, "That's not my orders," or in the famous case of Brian Merrick on Point Dume, they told him that he should call 9-1-1 and drove away. It's, it's, it was infuriating, it was not a good response, it was a terrible outcome and it took a long time for them to admit what concentrating on saving lives actually meant. That was the reason that, uh, that people didn't have orders to help put out fires. And there were a few instances that I've been able to document of people who approached, a group that had a chief or a subchief or whatever they're called in charge of their little group and were able to talk them into sending one engine to go and do something to save their houses because that neighborhood could be saved only with very little help. I know Mikke Pierson, who'd been fighting the fire in Malibu West with his son and the other people in Malibu West Fire Brigade was able to get one fire engine from a group that was out of town to come in and help 'em finally. I mean, it's, it's—none of us expect to have to beg for fire protection.

Do you have any ideas for how you, as a Malibu City Council member, could prevent some of the same mistakes that occurred during Woolsey from happening in the next fire?

I'm, interestingly enough, about a month-and-a-half after the fire, after the chief of CalFire came down, went to Paradise with Newsom and Brown and Trump and then came down here and did his tour. He then returned to Sacramento and, uh, resigned at the ripe old age of either 53 or 57. And I'm wondering if he wasn't pushed. And the rumor that I've heard—and I have no way of knowing it—is CalFire is where the order that, you know, it should be, "preserve life at all time, at all costs." So, that, I don't think that's an acceptable standing order. If people are available, they should be helping. It doesn't make sense to let Point Dume burn because, you know, "I'm waiting for orders from some guy who's waiting for orders from Sacramento." It makes no sense. So I can understand that CalFire was a little overextended with Paradise happening and everything else, but why take responsibility for controlling that if you're so far away and

completely occupied? The people on the ground here knew what was going on. They should have been respected.

Is there anything that a Malibu city council member can do about that?

Uh, maintain extremely good relationships with the local fire captains and the people who run our fire stations here. One of the things that always happens in a fire is because our guys are closest to the fire, they immediately get sucked over the hill to respond to it and we end up with a bunch of people who have very little clue about our terrain and where it's safe to be, where it's not safe to be, and we lose all the benefit of having people who are here all the time, so that's ... It's a very difficult problem and I'd love to hear what Rick Mullen's response is to that. Who, by the way, did a great job of saving life with the people up at the fire camp, the juvenile delinquent ... juvenile ... whatever. I'm trying to remember what it's—

Campus Kilpatrick.

Yes, Kilpatrick.

Uh, Paul Grisanti, do you feel you have the name recognition needed to win the election?

Well, if name recognition will do it, I should have it.

You last ran for city council nearly 30 years ago. Why choose this year as the time to jump into another council race?

I actually ran for city council in the initial one, which was about 30 years ago, and then in the second one, which was about 28 years years ago. And in that election, I came very close to being one of the three people elected, but it was a pretty rough-and-tumble election and I was supposed to be a contender. So there was a guy named Fox who did a hit ad the week before the, uh, election, in which he claimed I was a secret investor in a multimillion dollar commercial development for Malibu. This is when they had all of the pictures of, of Malibu as a 20-story version of Honolulu. And I had no time to respond to it. The investment was—I was a limited partner in a group of small businessmen here in Malibu who were trying to build an office condominium where each of us would have our own office and, hence, control our own lives. My wife said, "You know, the attacks are too much. You can run again if you're willing to run as a bachelor." And I went, "Well, I think I'll be on a commission or something like that!" Over time, Sara's become a little tougher and she told me two years ago that if I wanted to run again, I could. At that time, I thought, the people I was backing were Karen and it was in very good shape and there were, uh, there were othe— there were good candidates. I didn't wanna draw attention from them. And as I'm now a little older, I have a little more time, so I'm mature enough to do it and not lose my temper. I believe. Ha.

Um, so earlier when you were telling me about your history here in Malibu, it seemed like you were involved from the very start of the city incorporating. Do you feel that the issues in town have changed and have you kept up with the current issues that people are facing today?

The issues in Malibu have changed, but a lot of the issues we're talking about are the same ones that were solved already. For instance, we recently had the whole TDSF reduction thing a year ago. And the people who were promoting it were acting like we had become a city and we were still going on with the county zoning thing, they ignored the fact that we had downzoned all of Malibu once very significantly and then we'd done slope overlays on top of that, which had a further reduction in buildability. And, you know, we put the most strenuous controls on commercial property in the state on properties and they, uh, they act like, "Oh, you know, this is terrible." It was a solution that the people they venerate as the founders of Malibu put in. So.

Do you feel that quality of life in Malibu has gotten better or worse since it incorporated as a city?

One of the things that—when we incorporated as a city 30 years ago, we didn't have 10 million people living just over the hill. Westlake Village was a very small community at that time. The Valley had large swaths of undeveloped land still. And, as the density in Los Angeles, in the Valley, and Westlake Village have increased, we have become more and more attractive to people every time the sun comes out and it hits 95 degrees over there. We are blessed with a climate that is usually, on days like that, at least 20 degrees cooler. And keeping them out is something that people talk about every now and then. I can tell you, I've been told a million times why we should actually turn Malibu—Pacific Coast Highway and Malibu Canyon and Kanan—into toll roads. And it's gonna be very difficult for us to do that because we don't own them. I mean, we own Malibu Canyon, we own the last, what is it, about half a mile? And Kanan we go back a little further but not much further. And it's not like we can block a road. When Kanan was blocked by a landslide, Walt Keller's attitude was, "Well, it's just tough that people can't commute to work and, I don't think we should do anything about it," and the residents of Malibu thought differently and thank God that Jeff Jennings became the mayor and was able to re-establish communication with the county and they cooperated with us on repairing that and reopening Kanan. But we live in a more populated world. Our population hasn't changed much in the last 30 years, but the population pressure from all around us has definitely increased. So yes, we have more, more problems on sunny days than used to. Although on sunny days when it hit 100, in 1977, and I was coming out here from the city, I knew that if I didn't get to Point Dume, where I was going, by 12 o'clock, it was gonna be backed up at the Malibu Creek because that intersection hasn't had any—hadn't had any attention since the '70s.

To clarify, "no" on toll roads?

If someone could come up with a way to do it, I'm all for it.

Ha.

I'm pretty, I'm not very gifted when it comes to magical thinking.

You have an impressive list of endorsements including several former council members. Is a vote for Paul Grisanti a vote for the status quo? And what would you say to voters who are looking for change at City Hall?

A lot of the status quo is very good. There is always room for improvement and I've been working for improvement on the public works commission and by attending city council meetings

for the last, God, that's a long time, years, advocating for changes that I think would be helpful. I'm not for the status quo. The status quo at the planning department for years was that it was impossible for anybody that worked in planning or building and safety to get disciplined for not giving someone a permit, they could only get disciplined for giving someone a permit. That's not a rational behavior and I really am so delighted that the people who are there now hired Yolanda Bundy, who has been a wonderful hire, and she's, uh, she shook things up, and she's making those people think it's OK to say yes. It's OK to give someone a permit. The default of "no" is not being encouraged any longer. I think that's healthy. So that is not the status quo. As far as other things that ... Malibu is an organic being. It will always need changes. We will always be trying to change things. Coming up, we've got things like the removal of the Rindge Dam, how do we want it done? Can we actually get the, uh, corps of engineers to do it in a way that isn't damaging to us? The idea of taking it down all at once and trucking everything around, through, and dumping most of it in a landfill and bringing the rest of it all around through Camarillo Grade and then bringing it into Malibu from that end to get it all the way back here to place it where it should have gotten to over the last 60 years by flowing down the creek, which is right off Surfrider Point, doesn't make a lot of sense to me. The proposal that makes a lot of sense to me is we take it down 10 feet every five years or so and as the debris starts to get to Serra Retreat where they have a road that has excellent access to the creek, at that point, they should be scooping stuff out, loading it in trucks and taking it all of a mile to where they can put it where it should—where it wanted to land in the first place.

Would that entail a lot of trucks in the Serra Creek neighborhood?

It would entail a lot of trucks in the Serra Retreat neighborhood every five years. But not as many as would be required or as many truck miles as would be required to first take it out of Malibu Canyon, drive it to the landfill, sort it, then drive it up the 101 to Camarillo, come over to the 1, come all the way down the 1 to right here, and transfer it into however you're gonna get it out to where it needs to be. So I think the homeowners in Serra Retreat only wanna know that taking it down is not gonna result in their neighborhood being flooded. And if all of the debris comes down at once and directs the water into the neighborhood, then it probably will get flooded.

OK. It's a fact that Malibu's schools population has been on the decline for years. Why do you think that is and is it a priority for you to address it? It's been decades since your household has had school-age kids. What makes you the best man for the job at such a critical time for public school education?

Well, for starters, it's true it's been a long time since our kids went to school locally. They did go to school locally, they didn't go to private school. It's important to the community that we have local schools. I think that we have a couple of major problems here. Being part of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. Santa Monica has treated us like a piggy bank and has neglected us for years. When the PCBs were discovered, they did an extremely poor job deciding that we should litigate instead of starting fixing things. And we lost many families to private schools over the hill, families ended up moving over there because commuting back and forth is not that fun, we lost a lot of people. We lost a lot of young families. I'm looking forward, eagerly, to when the work at Malibu High and Malibu Junior High is done and see if we can't convince parents that their children are safe going to school. The thing is that I have been a supporter of district separation since my neighbor Mitch Clarfield tried to do it about 20 years

ago. Interestingly enough, when AMPS was formed, the person heading it was another former neighbor of mine when I lived on Carbon Mesa Road named Craig Foster. And Craig is a terrific guy, very smart and has an incredible amount of patience and stick-to-it-iveness. And we are so lucky to have him as a member of the Santa Monica school board—Santa Monica-Malibu Unified school board. But we really need—Santa Monica has been stalling us now for at least the last five years. AMPS is still a viable entity and I still believe that that is what needs to happen. And it would be tremendously wonderful for the city of Malibu when we can claim we have good schools and we control them. Because I think all of the ... I first became aware of the fact that Santa Monica really wanted, didn't care about us at all, when they looked at the money our PTAs were raising and different parents were donating for things in the schoolroom and passed rules that made that, gave them a huge rake-off of those funds, which told parents that you're not empowered to make your schools better and any money you're willing to spend, we're just gonna take. Terrible. Terrible motivational stuff.

Do you think with the school population numbers down so much, especially after Woolsey, that an independent district is still viable and still a worthwhile goal?

In the time I've been here, I've seen us need three elementary schools. Then it dropped to two for a long time. And then, young families moved back to Malibu and suddenly we needed three again. And now we're back down to two. History teaches us what's coming in the future. We're gonna need that third school again. I don't see that—we're gonna have more young families. They may be wealthier young families, but they're gonna be young families. And they're gonna like the idea of their child being able to go to school close to home. And I think that having a community with children in it is important to its viability and its sense of vibrance. I don't wanna go to live at a senior center.

Is the school-aged population of Malibu something that's cyclical, you believe, or are there factors that are affecting that right now?

The biggest factors affecting it right now was the battle over, uh, school funding where they decided that we couldn't—you know, we had tremendously wonderfully involved parents who were giving tons of money to make the programs in Malibu incredible. And then, they raided that. And then, time went on and, you know, we lost some people to that. And then they, the PCBs were discovered and they elected not to fix them. They elected to claim it was no big deal which no sensible person could honestly believe for long. And, we lost more people with that. And then the fire happened! So we, in the sense that it's, we've had three major downturn events happen. And do I think—I think the school being completed and people being able to look at it and see it's done will be a positive step for people deciding to keep their kids in, in junior high and high school here. I think that, as time goes on, we will see other people, you know—kids tend to follow their older siblings. So yes, it is cyclical. The reason for the previous down cycle I'm not real sure of but I'm pretty sure about the reasons about the downcycle that has resulted in us going from three elementary schools to two.

At this point in the election, most candidates have published a list of platforms or campaign promises. When I looked at your website this afternoon, I couldn't find a list, uh, that you've published with areas of concern of your campaign promises.

I have noticed that from looking at the other people's websites and I am working on that—was working on that—this morning and, inside of a week, you will be able to see a platform so that you can more easily compare us to them.

OK.

On the other hand, I think expecting people to sort through 40,000 words of my previous writings and figure out what I think was, it's a little ambitious for me to expect that of people, so I need to give 'em bite-sized chunks.

OK, so this question will be outdated by the time this interview publishes?

I hope. I hope it will be.

OK.

When is it publishing?

Thursday.

This coming Thursday? Yup! Should be.

OK. As a Realtor, are you personally invested in bringing more development to Malibu?

No, I am not. I'm personally invested in selling homes to people who wanna live in Malibu or people who already live in Malibu and want a different home in Malibu. For instance, I'm representing a house for lease today and we're gonna get somebody to rent it, but the reason that house is vacant is that about 10 years ago I sold the people who lived in it another house in Malibu—on Bonsall. And they kept it as an income property. The last family I put in there stayed there for seven years. The vast majority of all our clientele is people who already live in Malibu and are either downsizing or upsizing. Uh ... uh ... as far as— can you ask the question again?

As a Realtor, are you personally invested in more development in Malibu?

Ah, well, "personally invested" means "do I have ..." I'm not working with any developers now. In the past, I have sold pieces of property to developers. The place where Scott Gillen is building now I sold when it belonged to the Crummer family. At that time, there was an eight-lot, ... agreement with the city that was available for them to take up. And they ended up getting approval for five lots. Was that ... you know, I don't think that that's pretty outrageous and the, the, old tow yard property which I sold to the same people was, zone for up to 16 condominiums. They ended up deciding to build four houses, of which one has built in the past 15 years now. So there have been—I have sold places to people who wanna build a house. But subdividing has been done in Malibu for a longtime. We downzoned everything back when Walt Keller was here. So when they rezoned everything, they reduced the number of subdividable properties by more than half. Everything on Point Dume was subdividable up until that point and they, they just upped the zoning to two acres and suddenly very few things were ... because there were some five acre parcels and stuff.

You mentioned the tow yard, which reminded me, I wanted to ask, um, with your knowledge of the parcels and properties in Malibu, do you have a suggestion or any ideas for where there might be an idea for a solution?

Well, the, uh, the solutions that come to mind: the first one is, when they finished developing the high school property and the junior high, it's hoped by me that they will once again decide to lease that parking lot or portions of that parking lot as a temporary tow yard during the summers to help us. It's properly zoned. It's located a walkable distance from Zuma Beach which is where most of the tows are coming from. You know, the school system needs money. The other thing that comes to mind, and it may or may not be possible, is that 21 acres we own between, between Heathercliff and Surf ... is it Surfside? It's not Surfside. Seaboard. No. Come on, Paul, you can do this! Anyway, that whole 20 acre frontage there that the city owns—

The Christmas tree lot?

Where the Christmas tree lot is. Some portion of that could easily accommodate the needs of a temporary tow yard. Whether or not the city is willing to lease it to 'em is something that would require a whole bunch of hearings and everything else. People have to decide what they wanna do with that stuff but one of the flaws about—we, it was really wonderful but we spent 41 million dollars we didn't have yet buying vacant commercial property to keep it from development. But the problem with land is that unlike a developed property that you can rent out, it eats. You have to pay the taxes on it, you have to keep it clean, you have to keep it from being damaged, you have to keep people from camping on it. All of that stuff needs to go on. So some place to get some money to, to, uh, help us with the process of paying back the bonds for the 41 million would be lovely.

Can you afford to be on city council right now? City council takes up a lot of time.

Well, fortunately for me, I'm already—for the last 15 years especially—been spending a whole lot of time on the city hall, the city council meetings, the city planning commission meetings, dealing with everything that is coming up and trying to figure out what is the correct thing. And then I go to the city council meeting and lose that night of sleep anyway. So yes, it will take a little more time. It's one of the reasons I didn't relocate my office with Coldwell Banker Company to Point Dume. I wanted to stay in the Civic Center and I'm with Pinnacle now, which is maybe three-and-a-half, four minutes away from City Hall?

Mmm.

So yes, it will take some time, but I'm spending that time on it anyway.

Council members are more and more becoming targets of both local and sometimes national disdain. Are you ready to field the level of scrutiny that Malibu's council can expect from the role at this point?

I've been pretty out there in the public for the last 40 years. I'm not afraid of, having opinions and having 'em be known. I think it's essential that we remember always that we're here to make sure Malibu works for the people in Malibu. And I was disappointed to—that—the—that Mikke's letter in support of an admirable goal, money for small cities, ended up having enough

words in it that they could pick out something to make a media moment with. And that's, you know, it's unfortunate and it's—I'd like to think I won't ever make that mistake, but who the heck knows?

OK. Here's my last question. It's a two-parter.

OK!

What do you think is the No. 1 issue facing Malibu today and what will you do in your first year in office to tackle it?

I think what most people are upset about this summer is parking. People hate the way people behave here on summer weekends. I think that that's something that has some very reasonable solutions that can be enacted pretty quickly, hopefully before next summer. I think we need to raise the fines for parking in a tow away zone and idiotic parking. We need to have the sheriffs be very aggressive about every time they see somebody doing an illegal U-turn, going through a red light, they need to be pulled over. And when the groups of vehicles come through with no mufflers, they shouldn't be able to get from one border to the other without a whole bunch of 'em being stopped. It's ridiculous. It's as if the vehicle code doesn't exist in Malibu. We're a no-go zone for that. That's something that would improve the quality of life, very easy to do, and it's easy to accomplish quickly. We have other more intractable problems like sea level rise and stuff like that, FEMA maps, and all of those are long slog type problems. And let's face it, most of the city problems are long slog problems. Getting the park open across the street here on Las Flores Canyon was ... took 13 years from the time we first started studying what we were gonna do with it. And it's disappointing to—I worked on that, that task force and there are people who did it who, you know, were, had toddlers they were hoping to bring to it. Well, their toddlers were outta high school by the time we were able to open it. You know, you hope that there— we go through life, we should constantly be thinking about planting a tree not so that we can sit in the shade but that our children and grandchildren can sit in the shade. You gotta be building something, so ... but immediate needs are immediate needs. So. People aren't really that concerned about what I'm gonna be able to do in 30 years, they're really much more concerned about, "what can I do tomorrow?" And is that both parts?

Mmhmm. That's it! Thank you.

Yeah. Alright.