

Thank you, to the civic League, for being engaged citizens and for the opportunity to respond to your question.

I appreciate what the North Bay Civic League does in terms of voter education.

I believe in order for our community to survive it needs economic stability. If that stability isn't present then I believe we cannot meet the social and environmental concerns/needs of our community.

I initially got involved in Municipal Government because of my concerns regarding our economy, something I continue to work on with my council colleagues.

The Business Retention and Expansion program of the Chamber of Commerce, an initiative I participated in, is an excellent example of progressive planning. I think we need to assist existing businesses remain competitive and successful.

I also believe you target new business/industry that fits your community profile. This is something we have done with some success.

Ideally, I would like to get to a point where we are municipally selfsufficient enough to provide all we need for our citizens, without reliance on transfers from senior levels of government. The best way to do so is through the innovative use of economic tools such as the Airport Industrial Park, the aggressive and proactive recruitment of new industry, reaching out to existing employers, encouraging our youth to return to North Bay to begin their business careers and by growing our tax base. It's a collaborative effort.

Thanks for hosting this forum. Judy Koziol

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