

## **Jonas Schrodtt (D-At-Large) Responses to Heading Home Candidate Survey for the May 2, 2023 Bloomington Council Primary Election**

### **1. What do you see as the most effective strategies to strengthen housing security in our community, ensuring that everyone has a safe, stable place to live?**

We have to allow for diversification of housing. We won't increase affordable housing through only large complexes and single family neighborhoods. The UDO went a long way to opening up housing options. We could further make room for tiny home lots, or transitional housing. Increasing affordable housing stock is key in ensuring housing security. We should also look to increase housing subsidies, especially in cases where an individual or family is at risk of losing their housing. Financial intervention at this stage is important, but utilizing already existing programs in our city to help people at risk of becoming unhoused is crucial at that point as well.

### **2. What are your top 3 council legislative priorities to address the scarcity of low-income housing in Bloomington?]**

There is no reason that the city can't ensure low income housing on the land that we already own. The Hopewell neighborhood is a perfect example of this. We should be using a significant portion of future housing at that site for families and individuals in need.

Opening up zoning for tiny home sites, or transitional, or semi-permanent housing sites would help with affordable housing stock. Further ensuring that there is adequate public transportation to these sites, and that these sites are within walking distance to grocery stores and other necessary amenities is essential.

Providing housing subsidies, through existing programs and through collaborating with local non-profits and with the state.

### **3. What actions should the City of Bloomington take to reduce homelessness, and what would you do on council to implement those actions?**

We need to provide shelters and services to our unhoused neighbors of course, but we also need to be providing medical care and mental health care. Collaborating with existing groups that already go into camps to provide these services and supporting those groups is important. It is important to also provide help to people who are not yet homeless but are at risk of losing their housing, as well as helping people find alternative housing before they are forced onto the streets. Most importantly none of this can be done without treating our unhoused neighbors with respect and dignity.