

**Responses to League of Women Voters of Collier County / American Association of University Women Greater Naples Branch Survey
Candidates for County Commission District 2
July 2010**

	QUESTION	Gina Downs		Joe Foster		Georgia Hiller	
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
1	Do you support the practice of religious invocations at the start of County Commissioner meetings?		1	x			1
2	Do you support affirmative action programs as a means of achieving equal opportunities for women and minorities in Collier County government?				x		2
3	Do you support mandatory diversity training for all Collier County personnel?				1		3
4	Do you support Collier County government funding of social service agencies?				x		4
5	Do you support Collier County government providing funding to increase the number of affordable housing units?				2		5
6	Would you support requiring affordable housing units in new developments?				x		6
7	Would you support the passage and implementation of a non-discrimination ordinance for Collier County which includes the investigation, enforcement, and adjudication of complaints of discrimination in the areas of housing, education, accommodations, and employment, based on age, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, disability, familial status, veterans status, marital status, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, or physical characteristic?				3		7
8	Do you support stronger measures for enforcing water conservation?				4	x	
9	Do you support stronger measures for controlling water pollution?				5	x	
10	Do you support prioritizing land conservation and the protection of endangered species and habitat over development?				6		8
11	Would you support expansion of local services for the mentally ill "in crisis" as an alternative to incarceration?				7		9
12	Do you support the adoption of a charter for Collier County?					x	10
13	Do you support the addition of two county commissioners elected at large?			x			11
14	Do you support the following proposed constitutional amendments that were sponsored by the Florida Legislature:						
a	Repeal of public campaign financing requirement (#1)?			x			x
b	Homestead Ad Valorem tax credit for deployed military personnel (#2)?			x		x	
c	Property tax limit for non-homestead property: additional homestead exemption for new homestead owners (#3)?			x		x	
d	Standards for Legislature to follow in Legislative and congressional redistricting (#7)?				x		x
e	Revision of the class size requirements for public schools (#8)?			x			n/a
f	Health care services (#9)?			x			12
15	The Florida Legislature also proposed Balancing the Federal Budget -- a non-binding referendum calling for an amendment to the United States Constitution. Do you support this referendum?			x		x	
16	Do you support amending the Florida Constitution to eliminate "No revenue of the state or any political subdivision or agency thereof shall ever be taken from the public treasury directly or indirectly in aid of any church, sect, or religious denomination or in aid of any sectarian institution"?				x		13
17	Do you support constitutional amendment #4 - Hometown Democracy?				x		x
18	Do you support constitutional amendments # 5 & #6 - Fair Districts?			x			
19	Do you support asking Collier residents to fund Jackson Labs?				8		14

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Gina Downs Comments

1. The 'survey' is formatted in a way that I can not properly and sincerely answer. An insubstantial response is being asked for important and involved questions. These are not questions that lend themselves to simple yes or no answers. Most of the issues are complex and would require careful judgment based on both the content of the actual motion or legislation proposed. Also to be considered would be the financial and environmental situation at the time the action was proposed. Many of the questions are valid subjects for discussion. Vast and relevant discussion. I welcome such discussion when time allows.

Joe Foster Comments

1. I support diversity training for employees, but I would want to know more about the program, its costs, how it was going to be funded, the amount of time it would involve for individual employees, and more about the proposed implementation before I could fully support the concept.
2. To the extent that grant money is available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that is managed by Collier County government, I support that program.
3. I support the complete and full enforcement of current state and federal non-discrimination laws.
4. Water conservation is incredibly important to our region and to our future. However, we must strike a balance between conservation efforts and costs.
5. Our water supply is very important both for our future drinking and household uses and also for our tourism industry. We must insure that we protect our natural resources and be good stewards for ourselves and future generations.
6. Our natural environment is a large part of what makes Collier County an extraordinary place to live. So it is important that we protect our natural resources and be good stewards for future generations. With that said, we must develop a fair balance between our environmental stewardship and private property rights.
7. I do support this an alternative to incarceration, but only if it can be done in a cost-effective or cost-neutral format.
8. I support giving Collier residents a say in whether county funds are used to support the Jackson Labs project. If we decide to support Jackson Labs, I support a policy of no new taxes to fund the project. We should reduce our spending if we want to support the project.

Georgia Hiller Comments

1. This great nation was founded on the principal that we are one nation under God and therefore I support religious non-denominational invocations.
2. I support equal opportunities for women and minorities in all instances, not just in Collier government.
3. I support diversity in all activities of Collier County personnel.
4. It depends on the social service.
5. Not in the manner in which it is being provided today.
6. I do not support inclusionary zoning.
7. No. This is already provided by state and federal law.
8. I support the protection of endangered species and the environment as well as development. All are essential to our community.
9. Yes, as is provided by law.
10. Under absolutely no circumstances. There is nothing to be gained by a Charter in Collier County as it exists today.
11. I support examining the issue.
12. Further clarification required.
13. I support the Florida Constitution being consistent with the US Constitution.
14. I would only support Collier County funding Jackson Labs if such funding was approved by the voters of Collier County in a referendum.