

Chamber County Commissioner questions Joseph Tiseo 6/4/24

What is your vision for economic development in Charlotte County?

Part of a healthy tax base is a blend of residential and commercial development. I will continue to support and use our economic development office to promote commercial growth in areas suitable for such development. As we continue to see robust residential construction the commercial infill will follow creating employment opportunity and a healthy job market. I also support the tourism industry through use of the tourist development tax which is paid by people staying in our local hotels. According to our tourism director the industry provides 13,000 jobs, \$333 million in salaries and saves property owners \$1000 in property taxes per household. I support the construction industry which provides high paying jobs and a healthy stream of tax revenue. Land use also plays a critical role in sustainable economic activity. As a commissioner I supported our commercial growth mixed use designation in select areas of the county to allow for residential and commercial densities to create walkable livable communities while at the same time adding to a vibrant economy. I also support the county comprehensive plan which is a road map to managing growth over the next several decades. As we continue to grow, we can review the plan to see where zoning needs to be addressed to provide for economic corridors to service the expanding population in the appropriate areas. Infrastructure is very important to supporting our economy. I will continue to apply for grant funding and legislative appropriations as funding sources to augment our local budget to provide for roads and utility infrastructure which is the foundation for economic development.

Do you support the penny sales tax and why and why not?

Yes, I support the sales tax. During the 2020 sales tax referendum approximately 75,000 people or 62% of the voters supported the measure. The tax is paid in part by people who don't live here and don't use the sales tax projects on a regular basis. This creates great value for locals in the form of a discount because the tax projects are partially funded by people just passing through. The tax also helps keep your property tax bill low because these capital improvements would otherwise be funded through the county ad valorem taxes or special assessments.

Why are you the right choice for County Commissioner?

Without a doubt my experience is unmatched in my race for District 5. I have been a small business owner and general contractor for over 30 years dealing specifically in land acquisition, finance, budgeting, civil and structural engineering, project development along with contracts and agreements. I exclusively performed all the due diligence necessary to move tens of millions of dollars' worth of projects forward to

completion. Many of the items that come before the Board of County Commissioners are directly impacted by my experience to navigate the issues and ask the right questions. My experience has made me a better public servant and that means I can serve our residents better. I have also made my constituent engagement a top priority. If I am contacted by a resident that wants to speak to me, I will get back to them in 24 hours or less. I have held this standard my entire time in office because I have never forgotten who I work for.