

County Supervisor, District 5: David Markel

May 21, 2022



1. How should the homeless crisis be addressed? Should Del Norte County buy more motels to convert to homeless shelters?

We needed to help families that have become homeless due to no fault of their own. We need to get service members off the streets and into the military programs that will help. People with mental problems need better one-on-one, in-person programs, not a counselor on a computer screen. Addicts on the streets need to be put into a program to dry these people up. If this doesn't help, we needed to lock them up in jail until He or She is Dry. Repeat offenders stay longer in Jail. No more homeless motels.

2. What can be done to improve morale within the Sheriff's department? How can the Sheriff's department more effectively recruit, hire and retain experienced deputies?

The need to have better pay for officers, and better pay for office help in the sheriff's department will improve morale. The pay should be comparable with other departments in the area. They need to be able to lock Criminals up for more than five seconds, the paper is not dry before the criminal is let loose on the street and ready to be lock up again.

3. What can be done to avoid the "catch and release" back into the community of criminal defendants before their matters are resolved by the courts? Should the 48-bed Juvenile Hall – with only one or two persons in custody – be repurposed as an adult facility?

LONGER JAIL TIME! Yes, this would help with catch and release, this would work until these people go to Court and this will help with the morale. To keep these people in jail longer, the use of the 48-bed Juvenile Hall will help. We need to repurpose this facility for these criminals.

4. What is the most pressing problem in your supervisorial district? What do you propose as a solution?

Roads need to be fixed. Put them into the road system, or call them a county-maintained road, or just run a road grader down these streets. Homelessness is a real problem that needs to be fix and these homeless people are often druggies and criminals who need to be put in jail. These steps will solve most of the problems in District 5.

5. How can Del Norte County become a place where young people want to remain, to raise a family, to start a career, and become a vital part of this community? What will you do to bring about these changes?

Bring back better paying jobs, like in the fishing industry, Right now the Harbor Commission is trying to get rid of the fisheries and Fashion Blacksmith, which has been a boat builder and repair shop for decades, and provides good paying job for its employees. Jobs like this make lots of money and employs a lot of workers. This is good for the tax base and would keep some of the younger people in this county, This will create more new business, followed by new retail shopping.

6. Should Del Norte County impose additional controls and fees on short-term rentals? Should short-term rentals be confined to commercial or multi-family zones, or to owner-occupied properties?

NO Bad Business, NO Del Norte should not impose any fees at all, I think a land owner should be able to rent properties when he or she has the space to rent, within reasonable county guidelines. The county is always trying to take their cut; we must stop the county from having to much control over private property

7. Should Del Norte County turn down state and federal grants with strings attached that dictate how local government must solve local problems? Under what circumstances should Del Norte County confront problems without outside funding?

Yes, we should turn down federal grants that take control of county government. We don't need someone telling us how to run our law enforcement. Our problem may not be the same, as theirs. Del Norte County doesn't need to take in homeless problems from different counties or other cities for money. Those cities need to solve their own problems, not give them to Del Norte County. The county needs to solve its own problem and get help with no strings attached. Our issues are not always the same as other counties; one fix doesn't always fix all the problems.

8. Should the Measure R sales tax increase be repealed? Why or why not?

YES Measure R should be repealed. This is a Business and Job Killer. Who wants to start a business in Del Norte County with high taxes when you can drive 20 miles and pay no sales taxes at all. People are not going to shop in Del Norte County or Crescent City. I know a lot people who shop out of the town so they don't have to pay high taxes. I see a lot of people driving around town so they don't have to go into Crescent City We are losing business. The roads they are using to bypass Crescent City are not design for this kind of traffic. Measure R, hurts the county in long run, by destroying county roads which the county doesn't want to repair in the first place.

9. Briefly explain, Why are you the best candidate for a seat on the Board of Supervisors representing your district?

I care what's happening in District 5, I know what the problems are with the roads and homeless, I am the person that can solve problems in District 5, and I will working for every person in District 5, not for special interest groups. I have lived in the same place for 40 years in Bertsch Track, helped build the fire station in Bertsch track. This has helped with fire insurance for Bertsch residents. I helped the sheriff department step up patrols in the Bertsch Track area as a member of the sheriff advisory committee. I will help the rest of District 5 in the same way.