



Historic Denver, Inc.

## 2019 Municipal Candidate Questionnaire

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**CANDIDATE NAME: Veronica Barela**

**1. Do you have a personal connection with historic preservation?**

In the past and currently, I am working with Historic Denver on historic preservation issues in La Alma/Lincoln Park.

**2. What is your favorite example in Denver (or in your district) where historic preservation, economic redevelopment and strategic reinvestment were successfully combined to create something new?**

Unfortunately, District 3 isn't home to any historic districts and only 3 landmarks. I hope to see this change if elected. I spent my career working with NEWSED CDC, and we were directly involved in the revitalization of Santa Fe Drive, which included saving historic buildings and incorporated new development. This includes one Landmark on Santa Fe and 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.

**3. Neighborhoods across Denver are facing intense development pressure, and Denver's population is expected to increase in the decades to come. What specific ideas do you have to balance new infill with our historic built environment?**

Density need not come with Demolition. Accessory Dwelling Units, the development of empty lots, and the conversion of single family homes to multi-family are all solutions that preserve the character of neighborhoods while adding density. Design review tools within the zoning code can also be used to help new development fit better into the character and context of neighborhoods.

- 4. Identify the most critical historic preservation challenge/opportunity in your district. At-Large and Mayoral candidates: you can pick anywhere in the city.**

The development pressure is what endangers historic preservation in my community the most. We have a real opportunity to create several Cultural Districts in District 3, and to landmark buildings such as the New Saigon Center.

- 5. Please finish this sentence: *"I believe historic preservation in Denver can be strengthened by..."***

Educating and empowering residents to identify and protect their own culture and history.

- 6. Extra & Optional: We think historic preservation is most authentic as a personal and visual experience. *Show us in 1 or 2 images (no more than 2, please) what historic preservation means to you.***