

## Candidate Profile

**Candidate:** Aidan Rosenau

**Years in Estes Park:** 2 years, since moving in with my husband.

**Prior Experience - Career Information:** I work for Peak Flooring (previously Park Flooring), Estes Park's local flooring store. My current position focuses on graphic design and marketing.

**Previous Participation on Town Boards or Committees:** Although I have not yet had the pleasure of serving on a town board or committee, I like to attend town meetings whenever I can fit it into my schedule. When I am unable to attend, I often watch live streams of town hall meetings online.

**Educational Background:** I graduated from Pikes Peak State College in Colorado Springs in 2019, holding a degree in Interior Design. I am an avid lifelong learner and have been studying government and economics for the past few years by reading and auditing online classes.

### Narrative: \*

I come from a working-class background and was raised by a single mother who showed me how hard some people have to work to keep up in our country. Grants and scholarships enabled me to attend college, but I had to work multiple jobs at once to make it work, driving beat-up cars that would break down and leave me stranded on the side of the road from time to time. Before moving in with my husband in Estes, I was a renter in Colorado. I have seen firsthand how difficult it can be to make it. Here in Estes Park, there are a lot of people who are doing well, and there are many people who work in our town who cannot afford to live here. I have personally met several people who work in Estes between 40 and 60 hours a week and cannot even afford a simple apartment here in town. I want to stimulate the economy in Estes in a way that benefits everyone who lives here. First, we need affordable housing and affordable childcare. Besides the fact that providing these resources is simply the right thing to do, it will also help our economy as a whole. Think about it: what happens when much of our workforce lives outside of town? Their money goes elsewhere, instead of circulating in our own economy. Now consider this: imagine you are a working-class parent in Estes Park. Your partner works to support the family, but you are scraping by. You would like to get to work, too, but don't have anyone to take care of the toddler. What is the single thing that would increase your chances of economic prosperity? Affordable childcare. In addition to these issues, I believe we should invest more in our local businesses and increase our budget for marketing and tourism. Last, let's invest in clean energy, which can create jobs, help the planet, and reduce energy bills for residents.