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If I were mayor, I would make sure Cedar Falls is a safe and healthy place for children to grow up in. My priorities would include efficient and clean transportation, organizing volunteer opportunities, and ensuring homeless animals receive the care they deserve.

The first thing I would do if I were mayor is make sure that everyone has a way to get where they need to go. In Cedar Falls, the public bus only comes to each stop once an hour. That means that you get on the bus and arrive at your destination either very early or very late. To fix this, I would raise funds to get more buses, including electric ones, which are cheaper than gas buses in the long term and they're environmentally friendly. I would also install affordable and convenient electric bike and scooter stations around the city for people to have easy access to clean and efficient transportation. This would also save gas usage on short trips that can otherwise be avoided. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, if the human population walked or biked for just half of our trips that are under a mile long, we could save \$900 million in fuel and auto repair costs and 2 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions every year, which is equivalent to reducing the number of cars on roads by 400,000!

I would also do my best to improve the volunteer programs and events in Cedar Falls. As someone who has volunteered locally, I believe that an inclusive volunteer program would be very beneficial. I've noticed that many volunteer events have an age limit like 14 or 16, and while not all programs can be open to younger kids, it's equally important for them to have opportunities to volunteer and make positive changes in our community. To fix this, I will organize events like trash clean-ups and volunteer opportunities at Hartman Reserve and George Wyth State Park. In this way, I can achieve three goals at once by cleaning up our town, helping young people influence our community in a positive way, and teaching them responsibility.

After I prioritize the humans living in our city, I would turn my attention to the animals living here that don't have homes. Too many pets are either stray or living in shelters and this is a big problem not just in Cedar Falls but across the world. Recently, our local humane society announced that they have no kennel space available and they are not accepting any more pets. Fixing this problem can include setting aside funds to extend the humane society building, advertising, and creating an outreach program to inform people about adoption rather than expensive breeding programs and how to be a responsible pet owner so fewer pets are abandoned in the first place.

In conclusion, I would work hard to ensure Cedar Falls becomes a responsible, clean, and caring community for both residents and animals by improving transportation, providing volunteer opportunities, and providing homes for the pets that don't have them.