

Johnson County Public Policy Council
2018 Johnson County Commission Chair Candidate Questionnaire

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Occupation/Work History (last 5 years – 25 words or less):

I have been in the insurance industry for over 15 years. My current role is Contract Administrator for Medicare Advantage Plan in Kansas City.

If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list what organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held:

Chamber memberships and activities I have been involved with over the years have all been through companies I have worked with at the time (Lenexa chamber and Greater Kansas City Chamber). I have been an active member of the KC Urban Core, WIRE and NBMBAA.

Other recent political/community experience? (25 words or less)

I am active in my community as a member of Habitat for Humanity, Harvesters and numerous organization activities mostly through my church and current employer.

As a candidate, what are your top three priorities for Johnson County (10 words or less per issue)?

A. Strategic plan for Waste Water Treatment. B. Proactive review of the growth and development of mass transit and participating counties. C. Affordable living for seniors and low-income families.

Johnson County continues to grow dramatically. Recognizing that county government must respond to our county's continued population growth and the need to invest in services and infrastructure while, at the same time, dealing with state-imposed limitations on funds and revenue sources available to local units of government, please describe how you would approach managing the county budget (75 words or less):

Planning is required to afford things needed tomorrow that require investing today's dollars proactively. It is very important to maintain today's standards without increasing tax burdens, but there are responsibilities in the process where small or short-term tax additions may be needed to fund the future. Funding resources are also possible for use in the right economic climate and for the right reasons if the need warrants and can possibly avoid needed tax increases.

There has been much discussion about regionalism. Please explain your views on regional cooperation (75 words or less):

This is a broad spectrum question on a topic that is multifaceted. Regionalism just inside the local community area where the issues or project desired span multiple counties and include Missouri communities have been working for some time now. Some of the projects experienced a little

success but some have been tabled due to lack of organizers understanding of the requirement that those participating (especially monetarily) must have decision-making representation.

Describe your views on the balance between the distribution of costs and services between incorporated and unincorporated areas of Johnson County (50 words or less):

Obviously as an incorporation of areas occurs and the cities/municipalities are formed, they provide an instrument for assessment to pay for services through the municipality. The cities/townships formed to grow and begin to provide more services the county had provided. Either way, the landowner pays their share.

What are your views on the County-Assisted Road System program (CARS) and other county/city infrastructure partnerships? (50 words or less)

The CARS program is a program with very well defined guidelines to keep it on track. Needs grow with as the population. An annual audit of successes and failures should be part of the county's operation. Funding grows for this plan but lags behind the need and likely always will.

Describe your views on the county's support of social services and the increased demands on the county created by limited state funding? (50 words or less)

Social Services support by the county should always be there even though the state reduces funding due to it's own budget issues. The county cannot make up the difference and needs to review for efficiencies before cutting services. Critical services rendered may need fee participation by some of the recipients.

What would you describe as the top five functions of county government? Please list them in your order of priority. (75 words or less)

Safety and protection - Fire protection and law enforcement; Environmental - Wastewater and waste management Infrastructure (not part of above); CIP projects and Additions/changes; Health and Human Services - pressures of requirements and funding; County support services and tax management

What project have you been most proud to work on? (50 words or less)

I work with the senior citizens nearly daily and most proud of helping to contract with quality providers and facilities to our health plan and to ensure that proper health services are provided to this segment of our population that typically exists on limited and or fixed incomes.

What do you believe most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race? (75 words or less)

I am a new and proactive approach to the future of this community. We have become complacent and satisfied with rebuilding, patching and repairing when it is also time to look deeper into the changing needs of our populous as it grows and the demographics rapidly change. I want to see a more true representation of the actual citizens who make this, JOCO, their home.