

## 2019 CANDIDATE PROFILE

### LENEXA CITY COUNCILMEMBER CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Name:** Emily Behrmann

**Candidate for Ward #:** 4

**Address:**

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Lenexa, KS 66215

**Campaign E-Mail:** emily@embehrmann.com

**Campaign Treasurer:** Ken Behrmann

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**Campaign Website:** www.embehrmann.com

**Candidate's Occupation:** GM, Carlsen Center, JCCC

**Work History – Last Five Years (25 words or less):**

Emily oversees operations at the Carlsen Center, booking professional artists from around the world to perform at Johnson County Community College.

**Most Recent Political/Community Experience (25 words or less):**

Executive Board, Lenexa Chamber of Commerce Lenexa Arts Council, 2014-present Advisory Board, Kansas Public Radio Leadership Lenexa, 2008

**Are you, or have you been, affiliated with a local or state chamber of commerce? If yes, please list chamber(s) and any leadership positions you have held (25 words or less):**

Executive Board, Lenexa Chamber of Commerce. 2014-2018

**Are you, or have you been, affiliated with any other business organization(s)? If yes, please list organization(s) (25 words or less):**

Executive Board, Lenexa Chamber of Commerce. 2014-2018

**As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues (25 words or less per line):**

1. Maintaining reasonable economic growth and development strategies
2. Maintaining Lenexa's infrastructure, focus on revitalizing Old Town
3. Enacting a non-discrimination ordinance for LGBTQ+ protections

**What are your views on the services and value Lenexa citizens receive for their local tax dollars?**

The return on the taxes we pay in Lenexa seems fair. I'm impressed by the services offered. Streets are well-maintained, residents feel safe and secure due to well-supported police and fire departments and parks and recreation facilities are top notch. Local government can have quite an impact on the lives of its residents. Amenities we have at City Center and other new developments are attracting businesses, jobs, and new residents. The balance of new vs. old should be kept equal, so we have work to do in the older parts of the city.

**What changes, if any, would you propose to the current City budget?**

I'd like to become more familiar with the city budget before suggesting any changes. Continued vigilance to keep the tax burden in line with services is something that will always be top of mind for me.

**What role, if any, do you believe the City should play in economic development to bring jobs and capital investment to Lenexa?**

The City should be willing to share the risk of initial site development and provide some property tax relief to attract businesses to Lenexa. My understanding of current deals is there is a good balance between the city, the developers and the businesses themselves.

**Lenexa continues to grow dramatically. As Lenexa considers future development and redevelopment projects, describe your views on how the City should manage this growth and balance the need for residential, commercial, and green space?**

As I campaign, I listen to residents' needs and wants. The City Council should be a conduit for making the voice of residents heard by the governing body. If elected, I will do my best to be a voice for Ward 4 as these decisions are made.

**What is your philosophy on the role Lenexa should play in terms of metro-area issues?**

Lenexa competes for businesses who are relocating from outside and within Metro KC. We should be proactively seeking these opportunities. Local chambers and CVBs work together to promote Greater Kansas City as a destination, so involvement in that area is important.

**Lenexa residents just completed a Vision 2040 process. What do you think are the greatest challenges and/or opportunities for Lenexa in the next twenty years and how would you address them?**

The focus areas for Vision 2040 - Healthy People, Inviting Places, Vibrant Neighborhoods, Integrated Infrastructure and Transportation, and Thriving Economy - each speak to the issue asked earlier - finding a balance between residential, business and green space for our community. Keeping our city walkable and uncongested by excessive traffic is important.

**What do you believe most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race, making you best suited to serve?**

I feel well-represented by the current Ward 4 council members. Like them, I'll be available, I'll listen and I'll be a voice for Ward 4. This isn't a stepping stone to higher office for me. I love my city and would be proud to serve.