

**2019 CANDIDATE PROFILE**

**LENEXA CITY COUNCILMEMBER CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Name:** Julie Sayers

**Candidate for Ward #:** 4

**Address:**

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**Campaign Treasurer:** Scott Sayers

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**Candidate's Occupation:** Senior Project Manager

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

I am an interior designer working as a senior project manager in a commercial furniture dealership.

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

I have held Board Leadership positions with the International Interior Design Association and the Center for Architecture and Design.

**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):**

No

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

No

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

1. Transparency & engagement
2. Revitalization of Old Town Lenexa & Ward 4
3. Sustainable, walkable/bikable community

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

Most Lenexans enjoy living here and feel that the city takes good care of their needs through public safety, strong municipal services, a variety of community programming, and beautiful parks.

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

I have reviewed the proposed 2020 budget and would not have any recommended changes at this time.

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

TIF funded projects have been a major topic of discussion throughout the region. I do support the use of this practice to encourage such development and job creation, but I believe it is the city's responsibility

to evaluate these projects critically for approval and provide a basis against which the success of the projects can be measured.

**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?**

I believe that we need to re-balance the priority when considering projects to those that will add value to older parts of the city. City Center has been a wonderful development for the city as a whole, but does not serve the need of families in Ward 4 who would like to bike or walk to amenities located closer to their homes.

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

Johnson County is a community unto itself that Lenexa should play a part in leading as a region. It can only be to our benefit to engage with and measure ourselves against our neighboring cities to ensure success of regional issues such as transportation and climate change.

**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?**

A major theme that stuck out to me was ensuring a healthy, sustainable future for Lenexa by developing walkable/bikable connections between smaller neighborhood nodes and commercial properties. I believe this can be done with expansion of existing trails, addition of strategically placed bike lanes, and revitalization of existing commercial/retail property and housing stock.

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

As a commercial interior designer, I believe I am uniquely qualified based on my history of protecting the health, safety and welfare of the public. Designers are trained to listen to the needs of clients and help develop solutions for complex problems within the constraints of budget and schedule. The empathy and critical thinking I derive from these years of experience, I believe, makes me suited to serve constituents and engage in open dialogue.