

2019 CANDIDATE PROFILE GUIDE

OVERLAND PARK CITY COUNCILMEMBER CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Candidate Name: Terry Happer Scheier

Candidate for Ward #: 1

Address:

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Overland Park, KS 66212

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Campaign Treasurer: Steve Scheier

Candidate's Occupation:

Work History – Last Five Years (25 word limit):

I have been a city council member in Overland Park since 2001

Most Recent Political/Community Experience (25 word limit):

Overland Park city council since 2001. President of city council Neighborhood Executive Committee
Juvenile Justice Advisory Board Representative

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 word limit):

Yes I am the Overland Park city council President which works with the Overland Park chamber.

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

Yes I am the Overland Park city council President which works with the Overland Park chamber.

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

1. Encourage Redevelopment in Older Areas as well as New Development throughout the city to strengthen our Economy and Neighborhood.
2. Maintain our infrastructure which includes parks and with strong emphasis on streets and sidewalks.
3. Keep our taxes low while maintaining our current services

At 13.566 mills, Overland Park's tax rate is approximately half of our neighboring communities and remains the lowest of any first-class city in Kansas. Do you believe Overland Park citizens receive quality services and value for their tax dollars? What improvements, if any, would you make to the existing City budget?

I believe the citizens get great value and services for the taxes they pay. That said I am sure improvements can be made in the city budget. We are always trying to better our services we deliver. Overland Park has a triple-A Bond rating which is achieved by careful spending of the Funds.

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

Every year the city council reviews the proposed annual budget in all departments. We evaluate the existing programs and proposed changes in spending as requested .I believe there is need For increased police operations and Public works for increased street and sidewalk repairs. We could also include property code compliance officers. Fire operations is adding new stations in the North and South. IT technology has to upgrade many facets of operations to keep OP functioning with ever changing World.

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

The city needs to continue to work with the Overland Park chamber to attract quality Businesses. This includes encouraging the Chamber searching for out of the four state area as well.. We need to offer strong infrastructure including streets and quality neighborhoods. We also need to continue to partner with our schools districts to offer families support and choices.

What is your philosophy regarding the appropriate mix of residential, commercial and green space in development and redevelopment projects and the use of incentives for these projects?

Regarding the usage of incentives for mix of residential, commercial and green space Development and redevelopment is to evaluate them case by case. We have TIF and CID options available with specifics on how they are to be used. I have supported usage of TIF and a CID on some projects in DTOP that I felt merited them and what they ultimately will bring to support the vitality of the neighborhood. TIFS have also been used on new development which I have supported as I felt that they were within the guidelines and the project has merit to Overland Park.

What do you think the three greatest opportunities are for Overland Park's economy in the next ten years and how would you capitalize on them?

Greatest oppotunities for OP/10 years Retaining current and increasing the health sciences industries located in OP. This will help to attract highly educated personnel jobs .Work with chamber to achieve this. Ensuring the City budget and CIP are balanced so that city services are maintained along with AAA bond rating achieved through responsible budgets and services. Increase affordable housing within the city by developing partnerships with developers willing to build affordable housing units in previously undeveloped areas or through redevelopment off existing areas in city.

What specific elements of Forward OP's Action Agenda do you consider to be among the highest priorities for implementation?

Specific elements of the Forward OP Action Agenda I find important to achieve first would be affordable housing options with smaller houses with Shared common spaces . This could also include Condos or row houses ideas as well. Promoting and growing outstanding educational opportunities as well as giving priority to business innovation and entrepreneurship.

As the second largest city in the metro, what is your philosophy on the role Overland Park should play in terms of metro-area issues?

As the second largest city in the metro I feel Overland Park should be working on the Affordable Housing agenda to up with possible solutions. This might be achieved through Mid America Regional Council by developing a connection with Kansas City streetcar system and or some form of transportation. On the Kansas side Overland Park should continue to bring in large businesses from outside the metro area.

Why are you seeking public office? What do you believe most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race, making you best suited to serve?

am seeking reelection to continue serving my constituents. Having experience in office, I have been involved in all aspects of being a council member. That includes Public Works, Public Safety, Community Development issues, and Finance and Administration committees. I have helped develop our city by making policies and programs within the committees that are making Overland Park the desirable place to Live Work and Play. I am also involved with our citizens and do my best to be available to help make Ward 1 a strong and vibrant place to reside.