

**2019 CANDIDATE PROFILE GUIDE**

**DESOTO COUNCILMEMBER CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Candidate Name:** Diane Kehres

**Candidate for Ward #:** DeSoto, At-large

**Address:**

34015 W 90th Circle 15945 W. 160th Terrace,  
Olathe, KS 66062  
DeSoto, KS 66018

**Campaign E-Mail:** dianefordesoto@gmail.com

**Campaign Website:** www.dianefordesoto.com

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**Campaign Treasurer:** Tricia Kepka

**Candidate's Occupation:** Author (retired RN)

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

Retired from a 35+ year career in nursing (Bachelors in Nursing from the University of Kansas). Focus: management and supervision.

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

Campaign volunteer. Elected precinct committeewoman.

**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):

No.

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

No.

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

1. Infrastructure designed for safe, smooth traffic flow and public safety
2. A range of housing options, including affordable housing
3. Progress and thoughtful building and business growth

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

Overall, DeSoto citizens receive standard city services. Parks, maintenance of existing roads and infrastructure, water and sewers, top tier schools, business development. I would like to see our City move ahead of standard and create a 21st Century approach to growth and development in a systematic and thoughtful manner.

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

The budget proposed for 2020 has been presented to the current City Council. Changes would be applied as strategic planning adjusts and grows.

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

The City must create an atmosphere that encourages local business and the addition of industry that will grow the tax base and encourage jobs.

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

Affordable housing: it is essential that all citizens have an opportunity to obtain homes that are consistent with income and standard of living. Developers and builders must be incentivized to think outside of the box in creating affordable homes for all . Light industry and business can inflate the City tax base if thoughtful consideration is applied to inviting common sense businesses to our community. Creating infrastructure that can enhance the safety of all is essential. Sustainable surfaces, shoulders, curbs and gutters, proper flow of storm drainage are essential to safety and traffic flow.

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

DeSoto has an opportunity to take a lead in renewable energy and using alternative energy sources for City needs. Affordable housing will pave the way for growth. Inclusivity will enhance all aspects of City growth.

**What do you think are the greatest challenges and/or opportunities for the City in the next ten years and how would you address them?**

DeSoto has an opportunity to showcase the gentle nature of our community while at the same time paving the way for growth by creating an environment of safe streets, homes, neighborhoods, education, quality water, renewable energy, community involvement. It is essential that we are not satisfied with "good enough" but must insist on an outstanding approach to problem solving.

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

My agenda is the Peoples' agenda. As I have canvassed every area of our City, I have listened to ideas, concerns, praises, and criticism. As a member of the City Council, I see my role as a true representative of the citizens.