

2019 CANDIDATE PROFILE

LENEXA CITY COUNCILMEMBER CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: Courtney Eiterich

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Candidate for Ward #: 1

Candidate's Occupation: Substitute Teacher

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

USD 233 - Substitute Teacher Traveling Vineyard - Director / Wine Guide Off the Vine - Marketing / Sales

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

National MS Society - Government Relations Advocacy Chair - KS Manchester Park PTO - Treasurer Cub Scout Pack 3087 - Treasurer GKC Panhellenic - Delegate

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):

As an employee of Off The Vine, I attended Overland Park Chamber Meetings on their behalf but never held leadership positions with the Chamber.

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

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

1. Access to Municipal Government that is fair and responsive.
2. Smart residential and commercial development that balances green space while maintaining the character of the neighborhoods.
3. Creating and Maintaining a welcoming community that is inclusive and diverse.

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

The residents of Lenexa are generally happy. They LIKE Lenexa. Our city does things that are innovative while keeping our historical traditions alive. All generations find value in the services that they receive from the city. Our infrastructure is maintained well and our parks and recreation department does a great job. Right now, with the shift of the city going west of 435, the residents who live east feel that the city's efforts are leaving them behind and they would like to see more redevelopment in eastern Lenexa.

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

We currently have too many capital improvement projects and not enough money in that particular budget. I would like to find more ways to raise money (without raising the mill levy) to meet the needs of all of the projects.

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

I think that the city should always look for ways to bring economic development to Lenexa. Our proximity to other suburbs and the highway system make us a prime location for adding businesses. As far as incentives, I would be in favor of areas that are needing redevelopment or may not be initially profitable otherwise for the investor.

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?

That is just it, a balance. Lenexa is growing rapidly and we need to continually look at how to accommodate those needs. With an increasingly diverse population, affordable housing options should be addressed as well as creating and maintaining green space.

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

Lenexa should be included in metro-area issues. It is smart to share ideas, learn from other cities, and to collaborate to find solutions that benefit the entire region.

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?

Lenexa has the opportunity to be a leader for a greener, more sustainable city. A clear plan for ways we can promote green initiatives should be addressed and implemented. Lenexa can set an example for our region by making this a priority.

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

As a journeyman electrician with a public administration degree, my background encompasses construction, labor relations, city governance, and development. As an educator, I know how to listen and communicate effectively. As a mom and volunteer, I know how to problem-solve, time-manage, and get things done. I bring something different to the city council. I am not afraid to ask the tough questions, to roll up my sleeves and do the work, and to fight for what is best for Lenexa residents.