

**2019 CANDIDATE PROFILE GUIDE**

**MISSION COUNCILMEMBER CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Candidate Name:** Trent Boultinghouse

**Candidate for Ward #:** 1

**Address:**

4841 Horton Street  
Mission, KS 66202

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

**Campaign Website:** trentforkansas.com

**Phone:** 6202380394

**Campaign Treasurer:** Rose Mulvany Henry

**Candidate's Occupation:** Data Analyst

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

Data Analyst, Epiq Global, Inc. Team Lead, Cerner Population Health Analyst, United States DoD - Pentagon, USD(AT&L)

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

Regularly attend Mission city council meetings, knocking on doors of neighbors in district, volunteering translation services across the metro area

**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. Maintain core services and proactively invest in infrastructure
2. Retain and attract businesses that honor the spirit of Mission
3. Promote sustainability and environmentally sound policies

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

The city recently received a credit upgrade which allows us the luxury to provide greater services to our citizens as it frees up budget dollars. I think Mission residents' taxes are used appropriately and as a councilmember I'll make sure they're used to improve the quality of life in town. A recent curbside limb removal project was successful and is an example of a service a well-functioning city should be able to provide to residents. I want to be proactive in our investments and ensure the city continues to be an enticing place to put down roots.

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

I was present at the city's 5-year budget planning meetings in 2019 and was happy to see that supplemental requests to the sustainability commission and city employee wages were honored. I would further advocate for more line items in the budget to tackle affordable housing and to work on surface treatment and road maintenance that is designed for long-term use and not to be retreated in a few years.

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

I think the city's success is dependent on its image as a tolerant, thriving city. Mission should promote its strengths through marketing campaigns to attract residents and businesses, especially the local, culturally significant hubs of the downtown Johnson Drive stretch that attract families, tourists and residents alike. Improvements to bike lanes, green spaces, and the potential for a dog park are attractive incentives to the growing professional class that is moving to Johnson County from the state. The city can also work to sustain affordable housing options to ensure the city can be enjoyed by all residents.

**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?**

1. Mission's parks, upcoming Gateway project (assuming its completion), and events like the Sunflower Fest are examples of entertainment opportunities that can be a magnet in the metro. 2. The Johnson Drive downtown corridor of the city is unique within the county compared to the big-box nature of other cities. Incentivizing activity in this area, such as the Mission Market, is something I will preserve. 3. Highlighting local products and boutique commerce like the new Sand Hills Brewery and the corresponding Johnson Drive Brew Fest instill civic pride and are important for a city's attractiveness to young professionals and others.

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

I believe Mission to be a bellwether city for initiatives in Johnson County. Last year, the city was one of the first in JoCo to pass a non-discrimination ordinance that is only now being debated in larger cities throughout the county. Proponents cite Mission's work in their push to install similar ordinances in other cities. We should embrace this role and continue to lead our neighboring cities in work such as sustainability, walkability, affordability, and inclusivity.

**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?**

The website Simply.Thrifty.Living recently named Mission the best city for the middle class in Kansas due to affordability, proximity to the metro, and access to quality education. However the affordability could be threatened with the emerging development of luxury entertainment and condos popping up in the city. I want to incentivize development that prioritizes affordable housing and ensure that safeguards are in place in our residential neighborhoods to avoid "McMansion" artificial price-gouging on property values.

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

My unique background makes me the most qualified to serve Mission: I worked in our nation's capital at the Pentagon before receiving my advanced degree in a foreign language and country. I understand firsthand the importance of cooperation and problem-solving in order to be successful. I've hardly missed a city council meeting, I've developed relationships with local leaders and legislators, and knock

the doors of my neighbors to learn their concerns, including our renters and non-English speakers. I am prepared to be effective on day one having done the work to earn the trust of my neighbors.