

# Overland Park City Council 2021

Response ID:8 Data

## 1. Candidate Information

---

### 1. Candidate Name

Jeffrey Cox

### 2. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 18075 Goddard St.

City/State/Zip : Overland Park, KS 66013

### 3. Phone Number

913-207-5270

### 4. Email Address

jcox10@kc.rr.com

### 5. Campaign Website

<https://www.jeffcoxford.com>

## 2. Candidate Background

---

### 6. Occupation/Work History (last 5 years - 25 words or less)

I am a consultant advising clients on alternative risk strategies.

### 7. Please list political, community and business organizations with whom you have been affiliated and any leadership positions you have held.

President/COO - Lockton Affinity

CEO - Haake Companies

CEO - Marsh & McLennan Agency - Overland Park

Director of Alternative Risk - Thomas McGee Group

## 3. Issues and Policy

---

### 8. List your top three policy issues? (100 words or less)

1. Proper management of development in Ward 6.
2. Elimination of the use of chip seal.
3. Proper use of tax incentives.

### 9. What are your views on the services and value the City's citizens receive for their local tax dollars? (100 words or less)

While it is generally positive, the use of chip seal is a major problem and needs to be eliminated.

### 10. Regarding the City's budget, a 1-mill property tax increase to fund the recommendations of the Mental Health Task Force has been proposed for 2022. Do you support the task for recommendations? Do you support increasing the mill levy for this purpose? Discuss why/why not and how you would fund the recommendations if you support them but not the mill levy increase. (100 words or less)

1. I need more details on the task force conclusions, including some honest feedback from the police chief. I am skeptical that

this may be over-kill and in some ways virtue signaling due to the emotions over one unfortunate event.

**11. What changes, if any, would you like to see in the City's proposed budget for 2022?**

1. I think we need to revisit the priorities of where the dollars are being spent before increasing the mill levy. This should include where revenue is being lost to tax incentives and priorities on spending, such as the money being spent to commercialize the Arboretum, which the nearby residents oppose.

**12. What role, if any, do you believe the City should play in economic development to bring jobs and capital investment to the community? (100 words or less)**

I believe the priorities of the City Leaders should be to serve the desires of the residents, who vote them into office. Any development should be to provide the services wanted by the residents who live in that area. The focus of City Leaders should be to serve the people who already live here vs. someone who might want to move here.

**13. As the City considers future development and redevelopment projects, describe your views on how the City should best manage and balance growth? (100 words or less)**

Growth should occur in an organic way vs. thru tax incentives, unless it is a blighted area needing re-development. If residents want to sell their land to developers who in turn want to develop that land within its existing zoning and permitting rules, then they are free to do so. We should not be using re-zoning and tax incentives to drive development, particularly when it is opposed by the nearby residents.

**14. What do you believe are the greatest challenges the City faces over the next ten years and how would you address them? (100 words or less)**

1. By far the biggest challenge is to manage the growth in a way that does not allow density to ruin what we all love about OP, particularly in Ward 6.

**15. Do you believe the current city manager form of government we have is appropriate for Overland Park or would you favor a "strong mayor" form of government? (100 words or less)**

I don't have a problem with the current form of government, just many of the individuals who currently occupy those leadership positions.

**16. It is estimated that replacing chip seal road resurfacing with a method similar to surrounding cities will cost more than \$20 million per year. Do you favor eliminating the chip seal process, and if so, how would you pay for the increased cost? (100 words or less)**

1. That figure is just part of the propaganda being pushed by the current City Leadership and is baloney. I am 100% against the use of chip seal. How much could we save if we just went back to gravel roads? A first class City does not use chip seal.

**17. What specific proposals do you have to support the goal of providing access to affordable housing throughout the City? (100 words or less)**

None, As stated earlier, my goal would be to serve the residents who currently live in OP, vs. driving down their property values with "affordable housing".

**18. Since its founding in 1960, Overland Park leaders have had a long history of visionary planning. What do you believe the City should do today to ensure the City's prosperity for the next 60-years? (100 words or less)**

As stated before, we must manage development in a way that does not allow density to ruin all that we love about OP, particularly in Ward 6.

**19. Do you believe the City of Overland Park is headed in the right direction?**

In some ways yes and in some ways no, it is not a binary choice.

**20. Do you believe the City of Overland Park City Council is responsive to the needs of the community? What is your approach to governance?**

No, I believe the current leadership does not really care what the residents want - and are arrogant and indignant when challenged. My approach would be to provide honest information to the voters and then honestly try to discern what they want. The current leadership decides what they want and then provide manipulated or false information to justify their actions.

---

**21. Why are you seeking this public office?**

Because my neighbors and I have zero confidence in the current leadership, particularly Newlin. I was asked by my neighbors to provide an alternative to someone who does not represent us.

---

**22. What do you believe makes you uniquely qualified to serve in this position and most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race?**

1. I have a 30+ year career serving in senior leadership positions.
  2. I understand budgets and financial statements.
  3. I have no agenda, other than to serve the residents of Ward 6.
  4. I am a strong and independent individual who will vote his conscience.
-