

Mayor and/or City Council 2021

Response ID:31 Data

1. Candidate Information

1. Candidate Name

Mike Kelly

2. Candidate for Ward # (if applicable)

Mayor

3. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 5700 Roeland Drive

City/State/Zip : Kansas City

4. Phone Number

913-908-1811

5. Email Address

mike@kelly4mayor.org

6. Campaign Website

mike@kelly4mayor.org

2. Candidate Background

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

Husch Blackwell, LLP

Senior Counsel

McDowell Rice Smith & Buchanan

Shareholder

8. If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list which organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held.

KCMBBA

9. Other recent political/community experience (50 words or less)

Mayor of Roeland Park

3. Issues and Policy

10. As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues? (100 words or less)

Economic Development

Community Resilience

Parks and Green Infrastructure

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

Roeland Park's tax dollars are well spent and meticulously accounted. Our staff per capita keeps Roeland Park competitive. The parks, streets, aquatic center and community center all provide great value to our residents.

12. What changes, if any, would you like to see to the City budget? (100 words or less)

I would like to continue to explore ways to ensure the property tax burden and resulting financial strain can be alleviated on Roeland Park residents.

13. 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)

In a build-out city, the city can have an incredible impact in maintaining and welcoming thriving businesses to the community.

14. 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)

The city should welcome new businesses that add value and character to the community.

15. What is your philosophy on the role the City should play in terms of metro-area issues? (100 words or less)

While the city can definitely have an impact in its own jurisdiction, many of the biggest opportunities are trans-boundary issues. We must cooperate and take advantage of partnerships to expedite action and achieve efficiencies.

16. What do you believe the takeaways for the City should be, if any, from the COVID-19 pandemic experience? (100 words or less)

We can never plan our challenges with certainty. Thus, we need to invest in people and infrastructure

17. 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)

Our biggest challenge will be to continue economic development in our built out community. Any changes or additions need to be intentional, as opportunities are limited. We also need to be vigilant to the potential financial challenges of appeals to commercial property values ("Dark Store" theory), housing availability and affordability; and the challenges presented by a changing climate.

18. Why are you seeking this public office? (100 words or less)

We've achieved so much in the City of Roeland Park in the past four years. I look forward to continuing the progress and finishing objectives we've started.

19. What do you believe makes you uniquely qualified to serve in this position and most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race? (100 words or less)

Experience matters.