

# Mayor and/or City Council 2021

Response ID:87 Data

## 1. Candidate Information

### 1. Candidate Name

Marge Vogt

### 2. Candidate for Ward # (if applicable)

Olathe City Council, Ward 4

### 3. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 18840 W 116TH ST

City/State/Zip : Olathe

### 4. Phone Number

9132690625

### 5. Email Address

marge.vogt@gmail.com

### 6. Campaign Website

www.VOGT4OLATHE.com

## 2. Candidate Background

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

Nurse Practitioner/Nurse Manager in Women's Health with a subspecialty in Reproductive Encocrinology and Infertility

### 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.

Olathe Chamber of Commerce

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

Olathe City Council -Ward 4 since 1997

President of the National Association of Regional Councils 2019 -2021 and remain an Executive Board Member

Chairman of Mid-America Regional Council 2012-2014 and remain an Executive Board Member

Board Member of Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farmstead

## 3. Issues and Policy

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

The most important issues to Olathe citizens, as noted in Drection Finders, are Safety and Transportation. I will continue to provide support and resources to ensure a safe community with excellence in service provided by our Police and Fire personnel. In regard to transportation, we must continue to address traffic flow, congestion, and maintenance of our streets. The expansion of 119th street interchange, project currently underway, is an excellent example of addressing a congestion problem by partnering with our federal and state elected and appointed officials. A third issue to be addressed is the

availability of affordable housing.

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

I believe it is the views of the citizens that are most important. The most recent Direction Finders survey found that 73% of the citizens surveyed in 2020 indicated that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the value received for their tax dollars and fees. Only 9% of those surveyed were dissatisfied. These results reflect the current Council leadership listening to the voices of their citizens..

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

I strongly believe that the current budget and CIP reflect city services and projects noted by citizens to be of most importance for current and future needs. The 2022 budget will again address traffic, police and fire, and quality of life projects such as the downtown library.

**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)**

The City of Olathe, together with the Olathe Chamber,of Commerce, have an important role in continuing to build a quality community by attracting businesses that provide good paying jobs and add significantly to the tax base. Together we must look at the long-term vision for our community, and seek to recruit those business that will help to provide sustainability for Olathe.

**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)**

Effective growth management is essential in order to provide a quality community where people can work, live and play while businesses thrive. This is achieved through zoning, policies that promote business investments and growth, as well as a resilient Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan, which will be updated in 2022, should address the need for sustainable development that emphasizes the interests of residents and businesses.

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

As a former Chair of the Mid-America Regional Council and former President of the National Association of Regional Councils, I strongly believe in regional collaboration to maximize resources and opportunities in order to maintain and enhance our transportation and infrastructure systems, grow our economy, provide for homeland security and protect our environment.

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

It is imperative that the City be nimble, innovative and financially sound to meet the needs of residents and businesses during an economic downturn as was felt by all during the pandemic. This was, and continues to be, accomplished by the current Council.

**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)**

Olathe continues to be one of the fastest growing cities in Kansas. The greatest challenges will be to continue providing excellence in services while expanding and maintaining our roads and facilities to accommodate the continued growth. Meanwhile, it is important that we also continue to focus on decreasing the tax burden on our residents and businesses. Another challenge, not just for Olathe but also the county, is the need to address the accessibility and affordability of housing for all our residents who wish to live and work in Olathe.

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

I have been known to say, that I will seek re-election only if I am having fun and making a difference. I have the passion and influence to represent the issues of importance to my constituents. There are several projects and initiatives that I intend to provide influence and leadership to accomplish these goals. It is critical that Santa Fe and I-35 undergo expansion. If

Woodland to 119th street project proceeds forward, every effort must be made to mitigate any negative impact on residents and green space. I will continue to provide the leadership to ensure quality housing and neighborhoods.

**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)**

As the Ward 4 Council representative, I have provided responsive leadership to citizens' day-to-day concerns and needs. I engage in participative leadership to ensure understanding the longterm needs of those I represent. Another hallmark of my leadership is to be visionary which is critical as our great city continues to grow and lead as one of the best cities in which to live. Finally, I bring experience and an understanding of the history that has contributed to Olathe's successes which is essential as we continue grow. Understanding one's history is important to to creating a better future.