

Johnson County Public Policy Council
2018 U.S. Congressional 3rd District Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Mike McCamon

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Political Party Affiliation: Democrat

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Campaign Website:

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Campaign Video Link: N/A

Occupation/Work History (last 5 years – 25 words or less):

Career technology and nonprofit executive. Inaugural CEO of Bluetooth and on leadership team that launched Water.org.

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

N/A

Other recent political/community experience? (25 words or less)

Elder Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. Volunteer and ongoing donor for a variety of causes that address poverty and hunger in our community.

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

Restoring civility and compromise to our conversations and government. Affordable healthcare for everyone. Making the region prosperous, safe, and well educated.

What are your views on the federal tax policy changes approved last December, known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act? (100 words or less)

While some benefited from the Act, I believe the policy is very short-term focused. I am very much in favor of a simpler tax code, but just like in our own homes, I would like for us to have a larger conversation about our federal spending priorities before we cut revenues in a way that only really benefit a small number of our neighbors.

What are your views on long-term funding solutions for transportation infrastructure? (75 words or less)

We must make this commitment. The ideas I have been circulating have been to (1) pass real federal budgets and not rely on continuing resolutions, (2) establish a multi-year fund for these type of projects, and (3) create a Infrastructure Project Grants process that allows federal dollars to be directly allocated to specific projects - like widening of 69 highway.

What are your views on international trade and tariffs? (75 words or less)

It is naive and dangerous to have an "America First" agenda when much of the world's economy is interconnected. Our threats, markets, and workforces are all global. Therefore our government should look to grow international trade, not find ways to restrict or further tax it.

What role should the federal government have in determining workplace employment practices and benefits offered to employees? (50 words or less)

Generally I believe the role of the federal government should be restricted to protecting current and future employees from discrimination and harm.

What are your views on national environmental policy? (50 words or less)

Our leaders must acknowledge and embrace science that shows human behavior is impacting our ecosystems, some in unchangeable ways. The US should chart an aggressive path to energy independence with discrete and measurable goals for renewables and the retirement of the combustion gasoline engine.

What do you see as the federal government's role in workforce development? (50 words or less)

Historically K-12, higher ed, and continuing ed have been state issues and I would like for that arrangement to continue. However, we need to start now discussing how we retrain workers displaced by automation. I do believe we need to reform college student debt.

What are your views on national immigration policy? Do you support employment-based immigration reforms to assist with workforce shortages in specified industries? (50 words or less)

Long time neighbors make our country better so helping them gain citizenship and be reunited with their families should be our priority; not arbitrary enforcement designed to destabilize our neighborhoods. One important path to citizenship should be employment-based to address workforce shortages.

What are your views on the Affordable Care Act? (50 words or less)

It was a good first step. Our government should work towards improving the legislation while supporting it's key points of affordability, protecting those with pre-existing conditions, universal coverage, and simplifying an overly complex healthcare delivery system.

What do you believe is the appropriate balance between data privacy and national security? (50 words or less)

I believe our data privacy laws should reflect how we treat privacy in "the real world." Probable cause with the approval of a judge has a long history of protecting systems - mass surveillance does not and should be outlawed.

What project have you been most proud to work on? (50 words or less)

I helped to make Bluetooth mainstream. In 2002 I left Intel, returned to KC and opened their first office here in Overland Park. We had to lead 2,500 companies from around the world to make the technology what it is today. It required artful consensus building.

What do you believe most distinguishes you from your opponent(s)? (50 words or less)

Real world experience of getting things done. I worked 28 years in tech and the latter half of that in leadership roles and spent six years in nonprofit. I have the temperament and experience to be successful in Washington while reflecting the values of our community.