

CANDIDATE PROFILE

Overland Park City Council

Ward: 6

Name: Rick Collins

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Committee Name and Mailing Address:

Collins For Council

15423 Woodward, Overland Park, KS 66223

Campaign E-Mail: rcollins31@kc.rr.com

Occupation/Work History (last five years – 25 words):

Currently retired.

2004-2014 Manager of Operations for the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, a non-profit, professional association.

Attorney with a business consulting practice.

Most Recent Political/Community Experience (25 words):

Overland Park Chamber of Commerce Board 1995-2001, Chairman 2000

OP Planning Commission 2001-2011, Chairman, 2010-2011

OP City Council member 2011-2015

Pres. Kingston Meadow HOA 2010,11,14,15

Are you, or have you been, affiliated with a local or state chamber of commerce? If yes, list chamber(s) and explain your level of engagement (25 words or less):

Yes. Member of OP Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors 1995-2001, and Chairman 2000

Are you, or have you been, affiliated with any other business organization(s)? If yes, list organization(s):

Member of Missouri and American Bar Associations

As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues (10 words per line):

Maintain and improve infrastructure and public safety of OP

Manage growth responsibly to maintain OP's highly rated quality of life Encourage

funding of schools to maintain first class educational opportunities

I am seeking public office because (50 words or less):

I want to leave OP a better place; OP has provided all of us with an outstanding quality of life, and quality environment in which to work and play. I want to build upon my predecessors' efforts to keep it that way.

What role, if any, should the City play in economic development to bring jobs and capital investment to Overland Park? (50 words or less):

Good jobs are critical to OP's quality of life. They contribute to the family structure, economic tax base, and our ability to grow in a meaningful and positive way.

At 12.837 mills, Overland Park's tax rate is approximately half of our neighboring communities and remains the lowest of any first class city in Kansas. Do you feel Overland Park citizens receive quality services and value for their tax dollars? What improvements, if any, would you make to the existing City budget? (50 words or less)

Our low crime rate attests to the quality of our police protection. Our fire department is nationally accredited. Our streets are well maintained. Our credit rating is AAA. We have our budget under control, and our reserves are increasing.

As Overland Park considers its future and new development and redevelopment projects being proposed, what is your philosophy regarding the appropriate mix of residential, commercial and green space in those projects and the use of incentives for their developers? (50 words or less):

OP has a successful blend of residential, commercial, office and green space. This contributes to our high tax base, low mill levy, and high quality of life which we enjoy. Some developments deserve well thought-out incentives to reduce the threat of blight and create opportunities.

What role should Overland Park play as the region's second largest city in terms of Metro issues that impact the local and regional economy? (50 words or less):

OP should maintain its leadership position with its fiscal responsibility, job growth, affordable housing, providing good roads, parks, schools, and amenities such as the Arboretum, Deanna Rose, and Soccer Complex. OP can serve as an example to other cities in these efforts.

What do you think the three greatest challenges/opportunities are for the Overland Park economy in the next ten years? (50 words or less):

Maintain and improve our infrastructure for future generations. Balance growth with our ability and capacity to absorb it. Advocate for quality education to enhance our culture, work force, and family values.