

NORTHEAST CANDIDATES FORUM

*featuring candidates for the February 27, 2007 Kansas City
City Council At-Large Primaries*

VOTERS GUIDE

Melrose United Methodist Church

February 1, 2007







Sponsored by

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Associations, Melrose United Methodist Church, *The Northeast
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About your Kansas City At-Large City Council Candidates

1st District		Deb Hermann	<p>Name: Deb Hermann Occupation: Councilwoman Campaign Address: 7728 NE 51st Terrace, 64119 Campaign Phone: 816-454-3763 Campaign Website: N/A</p>
2nd District		Ed Ford	<p>Name: Ed Ford Occupation: Attorney Campaign Address: 110 NW Barry Rd., #201, Kansas City, MO 64155 Campaign Phone Number: 816-436-9550 Campaign Website: www.Ford4KC.com</p>
3rd District		Melba Curls	<p>Name: Melba J. Curls Occupation: Retired, State Representative Campaign Address: P.O. Box 300552, Kansas City, MO 64130 Campaign Phone Number: 816-923-2902 Campaign Website: www.curlsatlarge.com</p>
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	<p>Name: DeBorah "Dee" Williams Occupation: Retired from the City of Kansas City Campaign Address: P.O. Box 270202 (3033 Prospect, 64127) Campaign Phone Number: 816-241-7444 Campaign Website: www.Dee4kc.com</p>
4th District		Beth Gottstein	<p>Name: Beth Gottstein Campaign Address: PO Box 30592, KCMO 64112 Campaign Phone Number: 816-931-3955 Campaign Website: www.beth4kc.com</p>
4th District		John Tancredi	<p>Name: John Tancredi Occupation: Courier/Swing Driver, FedEx Campaign Address: 1007 W. 85th terrace, KCMO, 64114 Campaign Phone Number: 816-223-8821 Campaign Website: www.johntancredi.com</p>
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	<p>Name: Rita Valenciano Campaign E-mail: 'RVALENCIANO@aol.com'</p> <p>Other information unavailable at time of printing</p>
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	<p>Name: Michael E. Brooks Occupation: Senior Pastor Campaign Address: 5100 Cambridge Campaign Phone Number: 816-446-3498 Campaign Website: None</p>
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	<p>Name: Cindy Baker Circo Occupation: Small Business Owner/Professionally Licensed Manicurist Campaign Address: 4923 Harkness Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64136-1326 Campaign Phone Number: 816-373-3961 Campaign Website: www.cindybakercirco.com</p>
6th District		Cathy Jolly	<p>Name: Cathy Jolly Occupation: Former State Representative / Attorney Campaign Address: 632 108th Street, Kansas City, MO 64131 Campaign Phone Number: 816-943-1563 Campaign Website: www.cathyjolly.com</p>







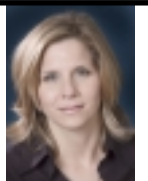
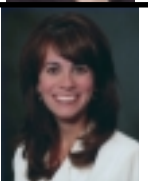
What makes you qualified to be a Kansas City, Missouri Councilperson?

1st District		Deb Hermann	Over twenty years as a neighborhood leader and community activist uniquely qualifies me to serve as a city councilwoman.
2nd District		Ed Ford	Eight years on City Council 1995-2003 including Chairperson of Planning and Zoning and Economic Development Committee 1999-2003. I have also served on boards of MAST and KCATA. I have also served on PIAC and Citizen's Budget Review Commission before election to City Council.
3rd District		Melba Curls	I served in the Missouri General Assembly for 7 years, so I know how to be responsive to my constituency. I know how to work with other elected officials to get things accomplished. I am also very involved in the community, so I have a good understanding of the needs in our neighborhoods. I am ready to work with this new council to put policies into place that will affect positive change throughout our community.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	Most importantly, I am respected by the people with whom I have worked and associated. Secondly, I have a high degree of people and negotiating skills in not just planning but getting things done. Lastly, I have been integrally involved in the City budgetary and legislative process in identifying funding for both City and neighborhood redevelopment. I have experience, competence and persistence.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	My passion, experience, education and love for this community uniquely position me to lead and partner within our City. My tenure in City Hall, nonprofit and private sectors, and foundation world allow me to hit the ground running once I reach City Hall. It's with professionalism, integrity and vision that I have fought to strengthen our community, never for personal gain. I have worked throughout the Kansas City community and can engage disparate groups to address our challenges and meeting our potential.
4th District		John Tancredi	I care about people and I truly enjoy serving. I am a lifelong Kansas Citian who has lived in every council district except 3 & 6. I have been active in our community for years. I presently serve as Treasurer of Ward Pkwy Estates Homes Assn and I serve on the Center Planning & Development Council Board. I was elected to the Center School Board in 2005. I have a very interesting story to tell concerning my upbringing and why I am qualified to serve as a Councilman.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	The things that make me qualified to be a Councilman is my concern for the Kansas City area, and my desire for this city to be the greatest in the USA. I have been involved in trying to improve the quality of life for the citizens of K.C. since my return in 1998.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	1. First and foremost is my passion to serve the community that I live in. 2. Being a small business owner for 25 years gives me an advantage in many ways. I want to help improve the process that small business owners go through at City Hall. 3. As president of my neighborhood association, I understand the needs of the neighborhoods and will be an advocate for their basic needs. 4. I have the skills to build consensus, negotiate and unify. I have a strong sense of "self" for the time when I will need to stand alone for what I believe in.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	My experiences as a state representative, former assistant prosecutor and attorney qualifies me. I am educated about many of the issues facing our City. I served as Vice Chair of the Appropriations for Transportation in the Missouri House and understand the gravity of a budget. I served as Ranking Member for the Crime Prevention and Public Safety Committee. Of great importance are my qualities I possess as a taxpayer, wife and mother, and concerned neighbor.








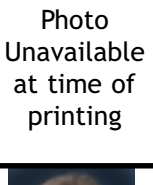
If you could point to one thing that you've done to date that you could say has benefited the people of Kansas City, Missouri, the most, what would it be?

1st District		Deb Hermann	On January 18, 2007, the city council adopted the recommendations for the Housing Policy and Oversight Committee by ordinance. This culminates an effort I began when I introduced legislation that required an independent audit of the housing programs to take place. After decades of mismanagement and corruption and three years of total dysfunction, the council now has a path forward for a housing program that is accountable and transparent.
2nd District		Ed Ford	In 1998, I sponsored the ordinance and chaired the successful campaign which doubled the number of street lights in our neighborhoods (with no tax increase).
3rd District		Melba Curls	As a Missouri Representative for the 41 st District, I gave people an example of how elected officials should be. I was always accessible and responsive to requests that were made of me, and I raised their expectations of how a true public servant should serve their community. I plan to continue that tradition of service, accessibility and responsiveness as I take on the additional responsibility of serving all of Kansas City.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	The development of the City's Minor Home Repair and In-fill housing programs are probably my biggest contributions to the citizens of Kansas City, Missouri. On one hand the Minor Home Repair program prevents homelessness (by repairing housing items that the owner cannot afford), while In-fill housing allows communities the resources to demolish dangerous buildings and acquire vacant land to construct new housing that is tax producing and owner-occupied.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	During my tenure at Jewish Heritage Foundation, I worked with over four hundred area nonprofits, assisting them in program design, operational enhancements, budgeting, systems delivery, performance and fiscal audits and resource development. We determined how to generate innovative collaborations to raise efficiencies and leverage funding with the private and governmental sector. Nonprofits in Kansas City serve nearly one-third of its residents. Heightened efficiencies ensure that Kansas Citians receive enhanced and expanded services.
4th District		John Tancredi	I am a good neighbor. My first home was at 501 S. Elmwood in 1988. Two neighbors, Angie Rinella & Mary Dolce, welcomed me to the neighborhood with homemade Italian cookies, pizza, and bread. I returned the favor by taking care of my home, driving Mary on errands, and assisting neighbors in need. After these ladies passed, I brought gifts to my new neighbors and I continue that tradition today. I believe in partnerships. Our school district has teamed up with Harvesters & local churches for the Operation Backsnack program. I donated 17 backpacks to needy children as our community supplies food for our children to take home on weekends.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	If I have to choose one thing I've done it would be working for the Swope Parkway Health Center, Homeless Department. While there I created and ran an outpatient substance abuse treatment program and the conclusion of the program gave individuals an opportunity to acquire a place to live.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	My commitment to the community for the past two decades. I have served in many different roles through my children's school, church and my neighborhood. In my early married years with my young son we would volunteered at a Northeast food pantry. My commitment continued when I served on a committee that helped develop a mixed income development in the east side of the fifth district. Most recently, I was on the Public Improvement Advisory Council (PIAC). This experience allowed me to understand the entire city and I was able to positively affect not only the fifth district, but the city as a whole.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	The biggest impact I have had on our community is crime prevention and public safety. I have had numerous legislation pass to keep our community safe. Some examples include toughening the sex offender registry to ensure more sex offenders are registered and increasing penalties for those that abuse children. I also Co-chaired the committee that created Missouri's AMBER Alert system. Keeping our children safe is a priority.







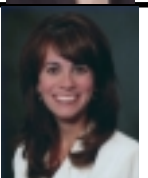
If you could point to one thing that you've done to date that you could say has benefited the people of the Northeast part of Kansas City the most, what would it be?

1st District		Deb Hermann	Construction will begin on a comprehensive storm drainage solution for the Northeast Industrial District in 2007. This district that used to employ over 11,000 people, now employs 8,000. This is due in large part to flooding that closed down businesses several times per year and caused immeasurable property damage. These first three phases will provide substantial relief to the business and trigger new growth and new employment opportunities.
2nd District		Ed Ford	I co-chaired the successful campaign for the 3/8¢ sales tax for improving the KCATA's bus service in 2004. Also see answer to #2, and my support of the Columbus Park Neighborhood in its battle with the Housing Authority.
3rd District		Melba Curls	While I did not specifically target the Northeast area, I worked towards extending the 3/8 cent sales tax that helped fund the Area Transportation Authority to sustain their routes in the Northeast Area. I also opposed legislation that would have adversely affected the lives of all Missouri citizens, such as the cuts in Medicaid, and the Voter ID bill.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	Again, it would be the In-fill initiative which allowed neighborhoods to assemble and build homes and the passing of a City resolution to scatter public housing to other in-fill sites outside of the northeast area.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	In the late 90s, during my tenure at City Hall, we matched COMBAT funding with Local Law Enforcement Block grant funds and Missouri Department of Safety funds to create an anti-truancy program. When the KCPD or school district found students truant, they delivered them to study centers instead of detention detail. The program entailed counseling for families, tutoring for truant students, and ongoing case management. We piloted the program at Northeast Middle and Northeast High School.
4th District		John Tancredi	I have given back to the community. In 2003, I participated in a Northeast neighborhood cleanup. I volunteered to clean up the hill just North of the Concourse and helped clean up a vacant lot on Saint John Avenue. Last year, I donated \$10,000.00 to the United Way and became a part of the Alexis de Toqueville Society. United Way serves over 100 area agencies. Many of these are located in the Northeast community, such as Don Bosco Community Center, Whatsoever, Salvation Army, & Della C. Lamb. I remain a member of the Young Leaders Society at United Way.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	The one thing I've done to date for the Northeast part of the city was working for Synergy Services. While employed there it was my job to conduct prevention classes in the High Schools and Middle Schools in the area. The prevention classes help in curbing the beginning of substance abuse and gave direction on how to handle living in a household where substance abuse occurs.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	I continue to support the Northeast area. Saturday afternoon mass at Holy Cross, going to David Remley to have family pictures taken, Bly's Bakery is hard to pass up and a trip to the Kansas City Museum. My husband has spent most of his firefighting career in Northeast at Station 23. You may have waved to him sitting out front as you drove down Van Brunt.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	The biggest impact I had on communities, including the Northeast, was as an Assistant Prosecutor working to close down drug houses. I have seen first hand the impact drug houses have on a community and how they destroy neighborhoods causing people to live in fear.

The Northeast resides in both East and Central Patrol Zones which are constantly understaffed. The Kansas City Police Department is no where near the number of qualified, commissioned, street officers it is supposed to have. As Councilperson, how will you work with Police Department Command Staff to address this issue and get more officers on the streets?

1st District		Deb Hermann	I have advocated for community policing since 1993 and am currently working to revamp the Community Policing Steering Committee to give this issue greater emphasis. The first meeting of this reconstituted group will meet on January 30, 2007. I will support recommendations from the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department to implement the Berkshire Report (Blueprint for the Future). I will also support the addition of twenty officers annually, as promised.
2nd District		Ed Ford	The Mayor and Council should establish a new standing committee called "Public Safety", to stay on top of crime issues affecting our citizens. It would be a first step in establishing local control of our police department.
3rd District		Melba Curls	I support allocating additional funding for police department staffing, and making sure they are properly trained, especially in-depth diversity training. I also support the expansion of community policing beyond just the Community Action Network (CAN) centers, and getting regular patrol officers more familiar with the communities they patrol so that they become more vested in those neighborhoods.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	The past Citizens Surveys have identified crime as one of the major concerns of both citizens and commercial interest. There is a real need for the City to develop a <i>city-wide</i> plan that identifies "hot spots", develops strategies to prevent crime, redeploys more police to community policing and allocates the necessary financial resources to make our city safe. I would enjoy taking a lead in this effort.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	I will rally the Mayor and Police Board and Department to examine the challenge. We must strengthen community policing and ensure that we continue to recruit bilingual officers. I will work with my peers to create a Northeast community anti-crime task force to identify other potential solutions. As I did during my City tenure, I will work with City staff to search for intergovernmental cooperative efforts that can strengthen the presence of law enforcement as well as generate crime prevention programs.
4th District		John Tancredi	I believe we have excellent police officers! However, we need to seriously look at revamping our Police Department, The model is broken and it needs to be fixed. We are not allocating police officers appropriately. There are over 320 square miles in our city, but most of the crime occurs in 15% of our city. We live in the 40th largest city in America, yet we have the 16th highest crime rate. I think we also need to look at possibly consolidating the Central & East Police Units.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	Having a fully operational police force is a dire need of the entire city. If understaffing is a problem, I would work with the Command Staff to create recruitment opportunities and provide incentives for quality people to apply.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	The first thing we need to accomplish is a constant and very clear communication between the council and the police department and I believe Chief Corwin has been taking measures to accomplish this. Community policing, along with sufficient staff levels need to be seen in the neighborhoods. There is no doubt that we need more police on the streets and this has to a priority for us.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	As a former Assistant Prosecutor I worked with the police and would help in this effort. I would work to ensure the police have the needed resources and staff. I am a strong supporter of community policing, including having officers available at CAN Centers and other community centers. I support having officers "out on the street" working with community leaders so that everyone knows one another and can play a part in preventing crime.







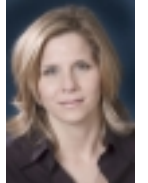
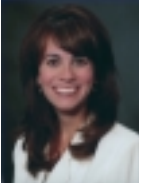
The single largest crime issue for Northeast residents is Property Crime. How will you work with KCPD and the Prosecutor's office to see that Property Crimes are dealt with more effectively?

1st District		Deb Hermann	Community Policing, working cooperatively with KCPD, the Prosecutor's office, and the neighborhoods to address citizens concerns. Property crimes are a symptom of greater neighborhood disorder and the effective delivery of basic services (trash, codes, illegal dumping, etc.) must accompany policing efforts.
2nd District		Ed Ford	Our Municipal Court is a disaster. I would favor establishing Community courts with probation officers and restitution and a regional jail to replace the "farm".
3rd District		Melba Curls	It is important for the police and prosecutors to know that most major crimes are committed by offenders who started off with small criminal actions, such as burglary and theft. First of all, it is essential for the police to properly and fully investigate these crimes. Then, it is up to the County Prosecutors Office to prosecute these offenders. The city also needs to work with community outreach programs, like High Impact, to try to give these offenders something positive to do so that they no longer see crime as their only option.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	A meeting with the Prosecutor's office, City Attorney, Police Chief, affected Municipal judges and City Council should be held to first determine if stiffer penalties can be given. Also repeat offenders should automatically receive stiffer penalties. It may be possible to do as some other cities, and have a similar "3 strikes you're Out" program like the Feds. The prosecution and higher penalties for petty crimes such as loitering and trespassing should be introduced because they often lead to property crimes.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	I will continue to work with neighborhood leaders to address experiences, ideas and concerns. Strengthened infrastructure, such as priority raised to the repair of streetlights, destruction of abandoned buildings, fines on illegal dumping clean up neighborhoods, raise pride and deter crime. Further deterring future property crime, the City can work with the Prosecutor's office to expedite prosecution, as the lag between arrest and prosecution is up to a year. We will also look for innovative funding for programs for youth, who are drawn to property crimes.
4th District		John Tancredi	My house was burglarized twice on S. Elmwood. I felt violated and very angry. It further troubles me, that many of these offenders often times when caught spend a very small percentage of their sentence incarcerated. We need more police presence in our community, more jobs, and we need to build a larger municipal facility to house these felons. In addition, we need to focus on our troubled youth and programs to help them, so they do not become burglars as well.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	Property is usually sold or pawned after it is stolen. The Prosecutor's Office has to have sufficient evidence for prosecution, so manpower will have to be designated to investigate more Pawn Shops. The criminal should then be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.
5th District		Cindy Baker	As a victim of property crime, I was disturbed to know that Pawn Shops are not reporting stolen goods that are brought into their shop. We need to enforce regulations on the places criminals sell their stolen goods. In addition, current response time to a home that has been broken into is not acceptable. Along with addressing response time, we need to have adequate staff on the streets and in the department itself.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	My experience as a former Assistant Prosecutor qualifies me to help fight crime. Involvement with the Prosecutor is important. I would want on going communications with the Prosecutor and officers to be kept abreast of the Property Crimes and help work on solutions ranging from advocating greater penalties to working with neighborhoods on deterrence. I am interested in working with municipal court on these issues and explore if the laws on property crime are adequate.







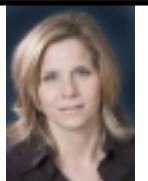
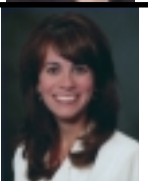
A significant number of the Northeast’s rental properties are owned and operated by those considered to be “Absentee Landlords”. Their lack of care transforms these properties into breeding grounds for a variety of crimes which often must be addressed by our respective neighborhood associations. As Councilperson, how would you specifically deal with absentee landlords?

1st District		Deb Hermann	The Missouri Legislature is now considering legislation that would permit Kansas City to apply civil penalties to property maintenance code violators, including absentee landlords. I introduced this as a priority to the Legislative, Rules and Ethics Committee and am very pleased that the committee included this in their legislative priority package. We have got to find a way to “hit them in the pocketbook”. Effective and proactive codes enforcement must also be in place.
2nd District		Ed Ford	Past efforts to license landlords haven’t passed because the biggest problems are with absentee landlords, who are beyond enforcement, due to jurisdictional issues. Several cities have licensed tenants. I am studying this approach along with requiring landlords to post a large security deposit for water services if they have no local agent.
3rd District		Melba Curls	I would recommend that the Council adopt the Landlord Accountability Policy which is outlined in the Mayor’s Commissions on Violent Crime report which would penalize absentee landlords who do not properly maintain their rental property. If the landlord continues to violate the policy, they would run the risk of having their property confiscated.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	Registered Agents of all non owner-occupied residential properties and all commercial properties should be mandatory within the City. Secondly, a more robust code enforcement program would ameliorate the majority of these problems. Also, the prosecution of any landlord that allows continued disrepair or illegal actions on the property.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	In order to stimulate economic development, the City must nurture safe and healthy neighborhoods. I will revisit last year’s property owner license and registration ordinance and determine why it failed. Presently our Codes Department is sorely understaffed and has experienced department shifts, further handicapping its efforts to perform. The municipal courts are presently understaffed and unable to effectively collect on fines and penalties, further deterring absentee landlords. I will work within the City and community to develop the resources to staff the courts and the Neighborhood Attorney Program.
4th District		John Tancredi	I support expanding the Neighborhood Attorney program who works with Neighborhood Associations to target these homes for legal action. I support a tougher more comprehensive ordinance to deal with this issue. I also believe that violations should be levied annually when the property owners pay their property taxes. I also will advocate that our state lobbyist inform our state elected officials that we need laws to address this issue.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	The council needs to ensure that there are ordinances on the books that deal with absentee landlords and that the ordinances are enforced and fines assessed to the guilty parties.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	One of the first steps we need to take is a comprehensive tracking or registry of “Absentee Landlords”. We also need enough staff and officers to have strict code enforcement and need to strengthen our code regulations.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	Working with City Codes to close drug houses, I’ve seen code violations bring down a neighborhood and contribute to crime. Some absentee landlords allow tenants to move in without “screening” them who then cause havoc. They allow their homes to deteriorate. The City must make it easier to locate these landlords to bring them to court. Changes in the law need to eliminate these landlords from receiving repeated chances to clean up their property.





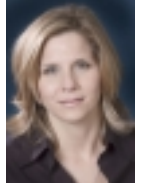
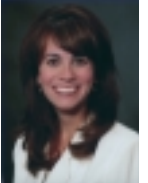
Last year, Kansas City produced a budget that slashed the amount of money for dealing with dangerous buildings which was only raised after public outcry. As Councilperson, how will you insure that the city's Dangerous Buildings Department receives adequate funding for ongoing demolition of problem properties?

1st District		Deb Hermann	Very simply - we need to fund it. I voted against the 2006 budget because of the lack of attention to basic services, including dangerous building demolition. In 2006 I held Neighborhood Budget Hearings at the Neighborhood Development and Housing Committee, which I chair. I will begin that process on February 7 for the upcoming budget. I hope that neighborhoods will join me to advocate strongly for Neighborhood Budget Priorities.
2nd District		Ed Ford	It would be a high budget priority. During my first term as Councilman I worked with Lykins Neighborhood to address their "Dirty Dozen" dangerous buildings and helped secure the necessary funds for demolitions.
3rd District		Melba Curls	I would try to look for ways to adequately fund the Dangerous Building Department. The 3rd District has a large percentage of those abandoned and dilapidated houses, and it is a serious public safety concern for the community. We cannot seriously deal with crime in our area without making these locations, which become a haven of criminal activity, a priority as well.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	The City's Dangerous Buildings program must be a part of an overall strategy to reduce crime and encourage people to relocate to our City. Dangerous buildings and vacant lots signal criminal activity. If we are serious about crime and the redevelopment of our neighborhoods, we will find the resources. <u>I am serious!</u>
4th District		Beth Gottstein	The Northeast has a long evolved problem and it is going to take smart hard working people to bring it to its potential. First, I will ask for an audit of current operations to ensure that Dangerous Buildings is working at top efficiency. It is also crucial to determine whether every dangerous building necessarily requires demolition or if it can be restored through private investment. That way property values go up, jobs are created which reduces crime, generating growth. Just having the taxpayers fund tearing down building and leaving lots with no or negative perceived value won't accomplish these goals.
4th District		John Tancredi	This problem is only to get worst under the current model that we have at City Hall. Currently, the City Council has discretion to spend roughly 14% of our 1.1 billion dollar budget. Troy Schulte, our city budget director, believes that figure will be roughly 10% in the next few years. Right now our city spends 70 million dollars(6.3%) for neighborhood livability issues. I propose that we increase that figure to 110 million (10%) over the next four years and so we can effectively deal with dangerous buildings and other matters that cause neighborhood blight.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	The city's budget has to ensure that the demolition of dangerous buildings is carried out. I would make sure the money is allocated to handle the problem.
5th District		Cindy Baker	Budget issues that deal with citizens' health, safety and quality of where they live will be left intact. We must be supportive of redevelopment by removing blight.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	As a former assistant prosecutor I have too experienced this frustration. I am experienced in this area and would absolutely work with you on the budget to make this a priority.







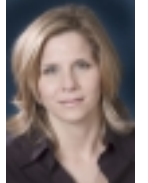
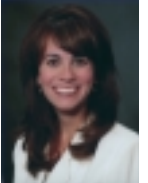
Kansas City's Minor Home Repair program has been under-funded and under-staffed for years. As Councilperson, will you commit to the proper staffing and funding of this program so that qualified homeowners can see improvements to their homes on a timely basis?

1st District		Deb Hermann	Yes!
2nd District		Ed Ford	Yes.
3rd District		Melba Curls	I recently attended a forum where this program was discussed, and I will definitely look into adequately funding this valuable program for those citizens who qualify.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	I am thoroughly committed to doing exactly that.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	Absolutely. This program has had great success in the Northland and midtown.
4th District		John Tancredi	Absolutely, In addition to appropriate staffing. I advocate that we have competent leadership in our housing department. I am hopeful we will soon see some improvement in this area. This is an area where we can work with our construction labor community, & not for profits such as C.C.O. to come up with some creative collaborative solutions to help in this endeavor.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	Programs that enhance the livability of our older neighborhood are desperately needed. I would ensure again that the budget includes sufficient funding of the Minor Home Repair Program.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	Minor home repair is a small step that the city can do to keep home ownership up in neighborhoods. I will be an advocate for these basic neighborhood services.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	Yes, I believe this is important and we need to fund it.




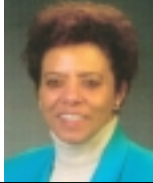



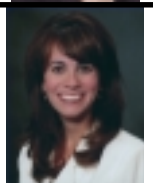
Over the past two years the HEDFC has been essentially closed down and the City's entire housing policy is being reviewed and rebuilt from the ground up. What vision do you have for Kansas City's Housing Department and how would you work with the City Manager to bring this to fruition?

1st District		Deb Hermann	My vision is contained in the recommendations of the Housing Policy and Oversight Committee. These recommendations need to be implemented immediately.
2nd District		Ed Ford	I would follow the lead of Councilwoman Deb Hermann who has championed this issue.
3rd District		Melba Curls	Given the past problems of the housing department, it is clear that oversight will be key to the success of Kansas City's housing program. Therefore, it is essential that we hire a new director of the Kansas City Housing Authority so that this new director will be vested in the structure and responsibilities of this rebuilt department. The City Manager will also need to closely monitor the progress of the new director and the department itself to ensure that it effectively implements the city's housing policies.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	My vision for the department would be the management capability to initially attack some of the most troublesome neighborhood problems within the first two years. After that, the department would concentrate on both small commercial and residential restructuring within neighborhoods. The department would also, with the coordination of the City Manager, direct other as needed resources of street maintenance, tree plantings and prunings and new public improvements, minor home repairs, etc.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	Quality housing is crucial to a community's health. Support for minor home repair and full staffing of codes is crucial. Affordable housing, utilizing low income tax credits, must be maximized to make this happen, as well as ongoing partnerships with the Missouri Housing Department Commission. The Council must set clear deadlines and expectations for City staff to follow the new housing policy and hold the staff accountable to it.
4th District		John Tancredi	My vision is competent leadership who do not look out for a chosen few and waste our tax dollars. I want leadership who communicates with neighborhood leaders, who are engaged in our urban community, and who care about quality housing in our city. I will support the Mayor and the City Manager if they are serious about addressing our housing problems. Otherwise, I will be a thorn in their side.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	Since the city has taken control the city needs to staff the department so that the good work and even better work continues. The vision I have would be to totally rebuild some of the city's older neighborhoods for the sake of our grandchildren and great-grandchildren.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	We must be vigilant over the organizations' who receive our housing dollars. Business plans, forecast and objectives of each organization must be available for review and audit. We must do it right this time around.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	I am aware of the problems with this agency. It is important that the City implement plans to address the problems. There needs to be more transparency and accountability with these funds. Ways to do this include but are not limited to: more audits, establishing citizen's advisory "watch dog" group to offer suggestions, more scrutiny over contracts and bidding processes.







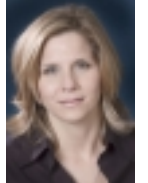
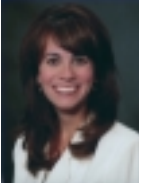
Stray dogs walking the Northeast are common occurrences. City Hall has recently dealt with Pit Bulls by ordinance but enforcement of current ordinances has always been a criticism. As Councilperson how would you deal with the issue of Animal Control ordinance enforcement?

1st District		Deb Hermann	Again, funding must be in place. I sponsored legislation to increase funding for Animal Control, which was intended to bring our staffing up to recommended levels. The City Manager has been very slow to implement this resolution but progress is being made.
2nd District		Ed Ford	Proper staffing and if necessary an increase in fees. We can only stretch current budget so far.
3rd District		Melba Curls	I would make sure that new pet owners are adequately informed of all laws and ordinances as they pertain to canines. That information needs to be distributed once a dog is purchased or adopted, and we need to make sure this is happening. I would also look into the efficiency of the current Animal Control office to see if there are better ways to increase the enforcement of these ordinances.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	Systematic Code Enforcement teams are the perfect conduit to not only identify housing deficiencies but to identify, report and submit for prosecution the non-compliance of other City ordinances. Also, these teams can immediately report strays for pick up by Animal Control. As with other minor offenses, penalties should increase to show that the City and its citizens want safe streets.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	Animal control is currently understaffed at the program level. We need to continue to search for funding and analyze existing operational level. As councilmembers, we need to monitor City staff to ensure that staff effectively implements our animal control ordinances. We must also do all we can to promote and encourage spay and neuter programs.
4th District		John Tancredi	We have to focus where there is a problem with stray animals in our city. In Northeast and near Swope Park we are seeing an increase of stray animals who in effect are homeless. This is a public safety issue. I support the City Manager as he has placed in this year's preliminary budget six additional officers. Once again, the officers should be deployed where there is a significant problem.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	I would have to see how the current ordinance is enforced and if more diligence is needed. I would definitely be in favor of making that happen.
5th District		Cindy Baker	Staffing is one of the answers. Public education on the health and public risk factor of not having you pet neutering or spayed is something else that should be addressed. One program I would like to enhance is a mobile spay and neuter clinic for those areas of the city that are not close to an animal shelter.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	Working to close down drug houses, I have seen many stray dogs and pit bulls being walked around with chains around their neck. We have all heard of the dreadful stories of our neighbors being injured and killed by stray dogs. You would have my full support to strictly enforce these laws and work on ways to give the community additional protections.







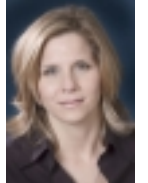
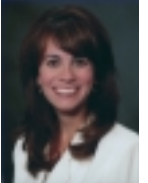
The Northeast is blessed to have one of Kansas City's most important treasures, The Kansas City Museum. What is your position concerning the ongoing restoration of its physical plant and the development of the museum and its existing collections as a publicly owned facility dedicated to the education and interpretation of the history and culture of our metropolis to the people of Kansas City and its visitors?

1st District		Deb Hermann	I have championed support and funding (nearly \$3 million) for the Kansas City Museum and will continue to as long as it remains a public facility.
2nd District		Ed Ford	I remain supportive of the Kansas City Museum and was an effective advocate for it when I was First District At Large Councilman and before that as a PIAC representative.
3rd District		Melba Curles	The Kansas City Museum is indeed one of the city's important landmarks, and I agree that both public and private monies are necessary to maintain the facility. I would also want to investigate the current issue regarding the ownership of the facility vs. the ownership of the collections so that all these items are resolved and do not hamper any efforts to support the museum.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	There is no other facility that maintains more of Kansas City's treasures and history than the Kansas City Museum. It is important for this city to send a message that its past is as important as its future. It will be necessary to invest in the preservation and long term maintenance of this public's history.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	The Kansas City Museum collection should remain with the museum. I encourage the museum to continue to seek private funding sources to supplement its public funding stream. The museum is a jewel. We should also strengthen how we incorporate it into our long-term promotional and marketing plan for downtown development.
4th District		John Tancredi	I have always liked visiting the Kansas City Museum. I have enjoyed the tradition of trick or treaters gathering at the Museum on Halloween of each year. Our deferred maintenance portion of our City budget is underfunded. I support using deferred maintenance dollars to restore the Kansas City Museum.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	Enhancing and maintaining the city's landmarks for the purpose of preserving history is important. I would be in support of the restoration and maintenance of the Kansas City Museum.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	As a PIAC member I was supportive of funding for the Kansas City Museum and as a council person I will continue that support. I have enjoyed taking my children to the Museum and it has an important role in our community.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	There are many concerns about the continued lack of maintenance of the KC Museum. I would work with the new KC Museum advisory board to explore how to restore the appropriate level of funding, needed building improvements and building management and get the artifacts back on display in the museum where the donors intended.





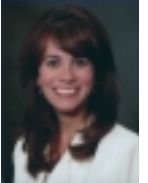
Kansas City Parks & Recreation has suffered immense losses in funding while seeing an increased responsibility in park acreage over the last thirty years. The Northeast is home to large amounts of park acreage including Kessler Park, Budd Park, Lykins Park and others. As Councilperson, how would you work to enhance Parks & Recreation's efficacy in managing our parks?

1st District		Deb Hermann	The Park Board has worked successfully with inadequate funding to create partnerships and other creative methods to maintain parks. Funding, again, must be addressed.
2nd District		Ed Ford	I would work with the 5 commissioners to try to find additional funding. I am on the board of Shoal Creek Living History Museum at Hodge Park, which has also been saddled with huge cuts.
3rd District		Melba Curls	I would ask the Parks and Recreation Department to do a thorough assessment of all parcels of land that it currently owns to determine if it is in the Parks and Rec's best interest to maintain the land. That would help to generate revenue if some of the parcels that could not be used efficiently as park space are sold, and it would allow for the remaining land to be more efficiently managed.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	Just as with any other City department or board, a thorough review of the line item budget will be necessary. That being said, the quality of our parks system makes Kansas City more livable. Larger "Reserves" must be established both within the City's and Parks budget to provide continued maintenance of grounds and facilities.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	Kansas City's parks and boulevard system has received national recognition. They provide recreational opportunities for families and provide a vital role in our neighborhood revitalization. I recommend we strengthen our efforts to seek private and cooperative governmental funding opportunities to supplement parks management and improvements. I will work with City staff to continue to raise its efficiencies with clean-up and maintenance, with budgeting, maintenance and upkeep.
4th District		John Tancredi	I will place more emphasis on our police patrolling our parks and encouraging our Parks Board to develop programs that help our youth to participate in activities held at our neighborhood parks. When our son was a toddler, we frequently took our son to Budd Park and we really enjoyed the park. We were however discouraged by teenagers loitering at the shelter house and people who littered.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	Budget items that have anything to do with improving or enhancing our neighborhoods has to be a priority. This would include the Parks and Recreation Department.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	I would hope to change the focus of only maintaining our parks to also include usability of our parks. Groups like the disk golf club have shown what a benefit it is for parks to partner with them. I will foster more relationships like this with Parks & Recreation.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	The park legacy in the Northeast area is a strong one, beginning with the park systems' first park. I would work closely with Park staff and Board to better maintain our parks. I would use my Jefferson City contacts to obtain state funding for the improvements to the Cliff Drive Scenic Byway. We need to properly maintain the new pool in Budd Park and the new improvements along Independence Boulevard.

Recently the Northeast Community Center Task Force has identified the corner of 9th & Van Brunt Blvd. as the best location for a Community Center, pending public hearings and final Park Board approval. Would you support the construction of a new Northeast Community Center and work with the City Manager to find a source of funding for it within your first term in office?

1st District		Deb Hermann	Yes.
2nd District		Ed Ford	I don't know that there would be a high priority given all the other needs in the Northeast and the city. We can't do everything. We may have to wait to pay off current bonds.
3rd District		Melba Curls	I truly believe that the Northeast area is long overdue for a community center. However, with the example of the Southeast Kansas City Community Center, we see that it can take years for a community center to develop from an idea to a built reality. I am definitely willing to investigate the funding needs of this community center, and get the process rolling with the council.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	Community centers help to focus many youth activities into positive actions. I would fight hard to achieve this goal of a Northeast community Center.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	Absolutely. The Center's construction has been delayed repeatedly. This would be a perfect project to leverage local private funds with federal, especially as general obligation bonds are in place.
4th District		John Tancredi	That is the first I have heard of the idea. I like it! Part of my platform is to be an advocate for youth in our community and to reduce crime in our community. For thirteen years I live just six blocks from the proposed location. I think 9th and Van Brunt is an excellent location. I encourage your community to submit a P.I.A.C. Request form to help pay for the infrastructure part of the proposed project.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	The absence of good community centers only increases the delinquency of our children. Yes, I would do all I can to get a center built in that part of Kansas City, during my first term in office.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	Yes, I think this is a positive step for Northeast.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	I am an advocate for Community Centers. There are remaining bonds that can be issued and the PIAC sales taxes need to be renewed within the first few months that the new Council takes office. When the citizens are approached to renew the tax, it is likely that numerous projects will be listed. I would support early funding of the new community center, and try to get that community center in the listed projects.







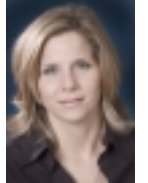
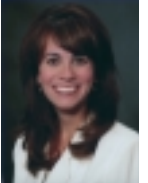
Many of Kansas City's older boulevards and green spaces are located in prime traffic locations, making it highly attractive for real estate developers and retailers. Do you believe that development of our boulevards' green spaces for commercial use is appropriate and, if so, under what criteria do you believe this development should be done?

1st District		Deb Hermann	I do not support commercial development on boulevards. A commercial project proposed for a boulevard would have to have strong neighborhood support and demonstrate significant public good for me to consider it.
2nd District		Ed Ford	I would be open to development at major intersections if it were the right development and not too disruptive of the green spaces.
3rd District		Melba Curls	Kansas City's boulevard system helps give the city its character and hometown feel. I think it would be a grave loss to the city if those green spaces were traded in for gas stations and shopping malls. I would definitely try to limit how many of those green spaces were used for economic development projects, but it would have to be judged on a case-by-case basis.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	Commercial development on our boulevards has been allowed without upgraded design guidelines. The proliferation of quicktrip type stores, liquor stores and gasoline stations that do not contribute to the boulevards will only serve to deteriorate neighborhoods. I can only think of one example (63rd and Paseo /Car Rental) where guidelines were even considered. These should only be considered on a limited basis and must include stringent design guidelines of signage, parking screening, building construction type and use.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	I think it's case by case. The City needs to establish uniform standards for commercial development on boulevards and greenspace. Some greenspaces and boulevards may merit development. Others may not. For those that merit consideration, the Parks Board, working with the EDC, can determine whether a commercial project is appropriate for the area.
4th District		John Tancredi	I am against commercial development on on our boulevards' green space!!!
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	I don't believe commercial developers should target boulevards and green spaces, because they are one of the things that make our city unique. The developments should be in alternative locations.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	The city should protect its green space and boulevards. In the areas of the city were they are highly maintained, you can see the benefit to the neighborhood. We should have the same expectation with all of our boulevards and green space.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	The City is currently undergoing a revision to its zoning and subdivision ordinances. Part of that revision are new parkway and boulevard development standards, intended to make developments on those parkways and boulevards better quality than in other parts of our city. Independence Boulevard needs redeveloping but we also need to work with the businesses currently located there so that they are not just displaced.









For the past few years the City of Kansas City's budget has been tight with projected expenditures generally higher than projected revenues. As Councilperson, what would your budgetary priorities be and how would you work with the City Manager to execute those priorities?

1st District		Deb Hermann	Basic services (codes, animal control, trash, illegal dumping, deferred maintenance, dangerous buildings, etc.) are my top priority. Honest and open budget discussions are needed. I have been appalled at the amount spent on consultants and increased bureaucracy that has been hidden in previous budgets. I have extensive experience making tough budget decisions but I must have full and accurate information.
2nd District		Ed Ford	Public Safety, deferred maintenance and neighborhood revitalization would be my top three priorities.
3rd District		Melba Curls	My budget priorities would focus on improving the delivery of basic city services, increasing public safety in high crime areas, and neighborhood development and preservation (which contributes to increased public safety).
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	My first budgetary priority would be an analysis of the budget to determine what items are duplicative and unnecessary. My second priority would be to identify as many resources as possible for residential redevelopment areas to start constructing 100 houses per and to support that effort with an upgraded Minor Home Repair program. I would lead a discussion with all members of City Council and the City Manager to remind them that there is not one district in this city that does not require some redevelopment funds to stabilize its neighborhoods.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	Infrastructure, light rail and returning the reserves to the GFAO's recommended level of 8%. I will work to ensure that we return as many outsourced projects as possible back under the City's departments so that we can better monitor their efficiencies. The City needs to carefully monitor any new projects and ensure that ongoing maintenance is built into the budget. We must carefully navigate how we finance and implement our proposed light rail system, so that it doesn't negatively impact services or our deficit.
4th District		John Tancredi	As I indicated earlier, I believe we need to increase Neighborhood livability expenditures to 10% of our budget. We have to look at ways to consolidate areas of our government perhaps within existing city departments and county departments. I believe the police department can be more efficient. I look forward to handling these challenges in an amicable manner with all parties involved. In addition, we have to address infrastructure and deferred maintenance needs within our city.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	My budgetary priorities would be neighborhood/economic development. The city has proven it can take on major projects like downtown and find a way to make them successful. I would work with the City Manager to make sure the same diligence is given to enhancing and improving our neighborhoods. Further we need to ensure the citizens of Kansas City are the ones performing and benefiting from the work. That in and of itself would improve the economic conditions.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	My priorities will be Deferred Maintenance, Neighborhood Services and fiscal responsibility. I will lobby for all council people to have a clear understanding of each part of the budget before it is approved.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	<u>Maintenance /neighborhood services:</u> Including capital maintenance, deferred maintenance, street preservation, curbs, sidewalks. Code enforcement, dangerous buildings and vacant homes is a priority. <u>Public Safety:</u> Law enforcement must be equipped to protect our citizens. And the City can empower neighborhoods to be a part of crime prevention. <u>Budget:</u> City Council must develop a policy on how the debt will be repaid and those payments should not be made in lieu of funding current neighborhood services.







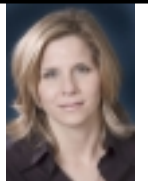
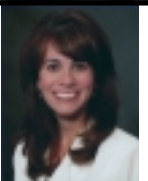
Tax Increment Financing and other economic development tools have been used with great fanfare and results for Downtown. Under what circumstances should City Hall use TIFs and, more specifically, which areas of Kansas City need them to spur growth?

1st District		Deb Hermann	I do not support geographically assigning or restricting economic development tools. Projects must be independently analyzed, meet the “but for” test and create substantial public good (jobs, tax revenue, neighborhood improvement, etc.).
2nd District		Ed Ford	The council first must adopt an economic development and debt policy using FOCUS plan principles in order to properly evaluate a TIF plan. Competition, job creation, public infrastructure should be factors in any policy.
3rd District		Melba Curls	I would like the city to utilize economic development tools to achieve development and redevelopment in truly blighted areas, instead of just in economically underutilized areas. Using TIF to redevelop the area around Bannister Mall in the 5th District, or to assist in building low-income housing would be an appropriate use of TIF. I would also like the city to come up with an economic development policy that would allow us to more objectively scrutinize which projects would qualify for TIF funding.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	TIF’s should only be used if the project can meet the “But For” benchmark. Assuming that the reviewing authority (the TIF Commission) has a standard and qualifiable test, the TIF benefits should be limited to the minimum required to develop the project. In general, TIF’s, and other such incentives, should only be used in areas where costs exceed the proforma value. These areas are usually termed transitional, redevelopment areas or blighted areas. I would suggest that the exception to this would be a development that has a social need, ie., a low income tax credit development in a high income area.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	The new charter mandates that the City generate an economic strategic plan and debt management policy. The City has contracted with a consultant to initiate the process. We must ensure that the community has input and buy-in to the plan and policy. Once it is in place, we need to stick to it.
4th District		John Tancredi	First, we truly need a TIF policy. I am not critical of the TIFS that have been used downtown. They were necessary for economic development and to enhance our city. I am critical of the TIFS that have taken place on the Plaza. I was always under the impression that TIFS were designed to be used in blighted areas. The Plaza is not blighted! I stand for balance in the TIF process. I am leery of seeing maximum incentives being distributed to developers that may cause our taxpayers to pay more.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	A recent report shows that the majority of the TIF projects have been in affluent neighborhoods. The TIF should be used to enhance blighted areas and encourage business development in those areas. I would make sure the areas of the city that are the most blighted get the attention they have long needed.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	I am supportive of TIF projects that address blight areas, spur growth or bring jobs to an area. There are many areas in the city that would benefit from TIF. Each project will need to be judged on a case by case basis. In the past, in certain instances, TIF has not been used properly. We must be responsible when using TIF.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	Incentives may be considered when they are needed to further the City’s strategic plan and the developer complies with City and State laws. In determining whether a project is strategic, consideration should be given to whether the project will add jobs, increase tax base, the project redevelops an area that is a priority, and if the project fills in a “missing piece” in an area like housing. Equity for the school district must be a consideration.


In the past Kansas City has given local groups, particularly neighborhood community and economic development corporations, an important role in economic development. Given the budget climate, are you in favor of providing Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for operating expenses so that these organizations can continue their redevelopment activities?

1st District		Deb Hermann	Operating expenses are appropriate if they are included in a performance based contract and the agency has demonstrated adequate business practices.
2nd District		Ed Ford	Yes, I support funding organizations such as Old Northeast and Northland Neighborhoods, Inc., for operating expenses out of CDBG funds.
3rd District		Melba Curls	I believe that neighborhood groups and associations along with CDCs should still be involved in the decision making process for city hall, and I would look into the feasibility of utilizing CDBG funds to support the operating expenses of these organizations.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	This question limits the possibility of only providing funding through CDBG. May I suggest that as with the funding of EDC, such organizations could also be funded with General Revenue. In many ways Old Northeast, Inc. is merely a mini EDC, that promotes and activates business retention and residential redevelopment. I support the funding of administrative costs for CDC's for such activities.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	At the Jewish Heritage Foundation, we, along with other area foundations, recognized that operations were an implicit part of program and capital design. No program can efficiently function without administrative overhead.
4th District		John Tancredi	Yes, as long as the local groups are spending the money responsibly.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	I would support any group that has as its goal community development. I would be in favor of providing block grants to neighborhood community and economic development corporations.
5th District		Cindy Baker	If a CDC is performing at a professional level, under strict guidelines with high productivity I think the funding is appropriate.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	Absolutely.

What economic development tools do you believe are warranted for the Northeast area and would you put your office behind efforts to bring those tools to reality?

1st District		Deb Hermann	All applicable economic development tools are appropriate and should be researched. I wholeheartedly support the Scarritt Renaissance Neighborhood's Urban Renewal Plan. This plan provides a blueprint for future economic development. I am currently working with Pendleton Heights Neighborhood and the EDC to identify a location on Independence Avenue for development.
2nd District		Ed Ford	All tools should be available. The key is private investment to partner with city tax incentives. Without private investment, tax incentives are useless.
3rd District		Melba Curls	I believe one potential economic development tool for the Northeast Area would be to establish a Community Improvement District for the Truman Road Corridor and/or Independence Avenue to assist in development along those areas.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	A few development tools come to mind. 1). Down zoning of some extreme and outdated commercial areas to aggregate businesses within commercial nodes, 2). Condemnation (353 or chapter 99) and land assembly of noneconomic properties for the purpose of redevelopment, 3). CID's as an assessment method to implement design standards in commercial areas such as Independence Blvd. and 4). TIF's to attract new business. I would support all of these.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	All warrant exploration. CIDs and NIDs merit focus as the entrepreneurial community and neighborhoods have experienced revitalization. A recent feasibility study for a private investor, in the Northeast, concentrated on market density and potential. Studies, while targeted, can be useful for the City in its planning.
4th District		John Tancredi	Let's not limit ourselves. CID'S, NID'S, 353'S, Enterprise zones, TIFS, etc. There are enough tools to help Northeast. It is just a matter of whether your elected officials will support your neighborhood's wishes. I will be supportive of Northeast.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	The tools already assessable are TIF funding and the block grants and I would be in favor of those dollars being used in the Northeast area.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	Tools like TIF's, NID's, CID's can help an area in need. But, there are many forms of economic development. Neighborhood leaders and business people need to be creative when pulling financing together for a large redevelopment project.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	All of the appropriate tools that are available and will strategically help the Northeast should be examined. Specifically the use of Community Improvement Districts and historic preservation tax credit can be utilized.

If you could do any one project and money was not a concern, what project would you do and why?

1st District		Deb Hermann	I would bring every property in Kansas City in compliance with all property maintenance codes and nuisance ordinances, through funding of home repair, dangerous building demolition, and enforcement. This would significantly raise property values, support the school districts, improve the quality of life of residents, and attract economic development.
2nd District		Ed Ford	Build out Northland Blvd. and Parkway system. Growth and tax base would be phenomenal. Everyone says the future of Kansas City is the Northland. This would be a worthwhile investment that would benefit the entire city.
3rd District		Melba Curls	I would provide funding for neighborhood associations through a grant program. They could directly apply for grants for various activities, from purchasing abandoned properties for community-initiated improvements to funding a community-based tutoring program for students within the boundaries of that neighborhood association. That would empower the communities to determine what is best for them, and give them the means to implement those improvements.
3rd District		DeBorah Williams	True redevelopment within the "KC Gateways" area bounded by the River to 47th Street, and Troost to Indiana. Its entry points must 1). Be cleared and redesigned with attractive brick/stone bollard entryways, 2). down zone long commercial corridors and restructure them into concentrated commercial nodes and, 3). Construct attractive single family housing along the remaining portions of the corridors. This redevelopment offers the greatest impact.
4th District		Beth Gottstein	I would create strategic home ownership programs for low income families, with abated taxes. We could partner with the state to fund it, and offer 0% financing on mortgages. With strengthened codes enforcement and minor home repair, our engaged neighborhood organizations, partnered with our area nonprofits' financial literacy programs and, the City could ignite revitalization at very low cost.
4th District		John Tancredi	I would look at redeveloping the area at the old Armco/GST plant. Let's bring more real jobs to Northeast. I also would lobby state officials to reinstate usury laws on the books. So we can put an end to payday loan and predatory lending institutions that take advantage of our society.
4th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Rita Valenciano	Questionnaire answers not received in time for printing.
5th District	Photo Unavailable at time of printing	Michael E. Brooks	If I could do one project and money wasn't an issue that project would be to over fund the education of our children. This would include teachers being paid at least double what they make currently. Education is the key to all the success this nation and city can provide.
5th District		Cindy Baker Circo	Neighborhood redevelopment: I have refurbished a 100 year old house before. It not only takes passion but a lot of dollars and because of those dollars, many of our core neighborhoods are deteriorating. We are not only losing livable neighborhoods but historical architecture as well. Preserving these neighborhoods will bring population back to the core of the city, and in turn, bring revenue.
6th District		Cathy Jolly	There are many needs from crime to housing to combined sewer and drainage issues. However, one project that would certainly be a nice and needed amenity for your community would be a Community Center.

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