

Ward 1 Council Candidate Information Form

BIXBY CITY COUNCIL

Name as it will appear on the ballot: **Carol L. Judd**
Address: **9154 E. 114th St. S., Bixby, OK 74008-1718**
Phone: **918-369-5011**
Occupation: **Engineer, Retired**

Community Leadership /Political Experience:

Former councilman and school board member in a small bedroom community in Missouri, and HOA president of Southwood Neighborhood Assn.

As a Candidate, my top priorities are:

Orderly growth that doesn't cannibalize established neighborhoods; Renewed attention to the maintenance and extension of infrastructure; i.e. Police and Fire Protection, Water, (drinking & storm), Sanitation, Streets, and as the budget allows, those items that promote the Quality-of-Life for our present and future citizens, visitors and guests.

I am seeking office because:

I hope to be a positive force on the Council as it resolves the issues common to most City Governments in pursuit of a Vision or Plan that ensures the future of its citizens and its Business Community.

What specific experience makes you attuned to the needs of our business community?

I have managed people and budgets during my engineering career and successfully met deadlines while contributing to the bottom line of a profit and loss ledger. I'm a Reagan capitalist who is currently invested in the private sector of our economy. I have always admired those who are willing to risk their personal equities in search of gain or profit. I believe the small business operator is a major and sustaining force in our local and national economy.

What can the City Council do to encourage more businesses to open in Bixby?

Continue those practices that encourage the retention and growth of strong neighborhoods, (consumers) while removing pockets of urban blight. Promote strong leadership by the Council and Public Administrators while maintaining a good working relationship with the Chamber and other civic minded organizations. Lower the barriers that impede commerce; i.e. taxes, regulations and other risk factors such as flooding, poor planning, poor access and egress, traffic control, etc. Probably the most limiting factor is the lack of bridges across the Arkansas River. The council should make every effort to develop a river plan that includes one or more bridges across the river, preferably within the Bixby fence line and before 2015.

Bixby is obviously in a growth pattern. How do you feel about the expansion and growth? How would you balance the needs of the City versus the concerns of the community?

Neighborhood flooding and traffic congestion suggests we were less than diligent with our plan or its implementation. However, I think it is unwise to suggest that the needs of the City are necessarily at odds with the concerns of our Community. Our mission and vision should be inclusive to offer the best chances for success. It takes both commercial and non-commercial ventures to build a City like Bixby. That is why a stable Master Plan, free from undue pressures from special interests, is needed in order to produce a community that meets the needs of all its citizens.

What do you think that the three greatest challenges or opportunities are for the Bixby community and economy in the next 5-10 years

Reduce the general apathy toward civic affairs that often grips a majority of our residents. Survive the current economic down turn without mortgaging our future unnecessarily. Building on the successes of the past while correcting (and learning from) our mistakes. Promote accountability and integrity throughout City Government. We have good public servants who are doing the right things. We, (council and city administrators) need to recognize and promote only those who merit our praise or commendation while providing sufficient resources to underwrite their success.