



2023 LOCAL  
PRIMARY  
CANDIDATE  
INTERVIEW

**GREENWOOD  
CITY COUNCIL  
DIST. 5**



**J. DAVID  
HOPPER**  
*Republican*

*Committee to Elect  
J. David Hopper*  
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**QUESTION 1:**

**Do you think your main street / downtown is healthy and successful? What would you do to support continued success or help create the change you want to see?**

We have made tremendous strides and downtown Greenwood is without question more healthy and successful now than it was before I took office 11 years ago. One need look no further than the exploding property values in Oldtown Greenwood to see that our efforts are paying off. Beginning with the renovated City Center, City Center Park and splash pad the administration and council have poured significant resources into revitalizing downtown Greenwood. We have replaced and repaired sewer infrastructure, made Madison Avenue a more pedestrian and business friendly corridor and completely revamped Old City Park. The Greenwood GROW program is a huge success. All of these efforts culminated in The Madison development which includes the fantastic Greenwood Fieldhouse. Our work is not done. It is disappointing that our effort to update Main Street has encountered setbacks that are no fault of the City but ultimately that work will also make downtown Greenwood better. The RDC has been the primary driver of these efforts and I look forward to serving 4 more years on both the Council and the RDC.

**QUESTION 2:**

**What are the community's housing needs and how do we address them?**

Based on the number of proposals I receive, there would seem to be a lack of rental housing in Greenwood. I'm not sure that is the case but certainly high interest rates have made owner-occupied housing a challenge for every community as consumers have become accustomed to 3% or lower rates. I think there is a lack of Executive level housing in Greenwood. I continue to monitor legislation at the state level that would allow the use of residential TIFs to make new housing developments more affordable for consumers.

**QUESTION 3:**

**If you received a proposal to build a new piece of public infrastructure in your community (road, bridge, trail, etc.), how would you evaluate whether that project was worth implementing?**

Can the City responsibly afford it? Does it make a positive impact on the quality of life in Greenwood? Does it address a current or future need? Do the positive aspects outweigh any negative impact it might have on property owners?

**QUESTION 4:**

**As you evaluate future development projects, what do you think are the most important considerations in granting economic development incentives, and what types of incentives are you most supportive of?**

What is the business? Will it have a positive impact on the City? What is the AV of the project? How many new jobs will be created? What do the jobs pay? How long has the land been vacant or for sale? What is the financial ask from the City? I have supported a variety of incentives: tax abatements, using TIF to pay for infrastructure and developer backed TIF bonds.



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**DALE Q.  
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*Republican*

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Council District 5  
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**QUESTION 1:**

**Do you think your main street / downtown is healthy and successful? What would you do to support continued success or help create the change you want to see?**

Every year, our mayor claims to have saved downtown. Right now, we have empty lots on Main Street from the railroad track going west. The city purchased these, but will not announce a purpose. I expect more apartments such as "The Madison". Downtown lighting is poor, no holiday lighting, no tree lighting.

I would be open as to the planned use of the empty lots. Time for lighting, paint windows of the empty store fronts. We can't have successful downtown without disposable income. Mayor Myers gave us poor employment and food taxes.

**QUESTION 2:**

**What are the community's housing needs and how do we address them?**

The warehouses want and need very low, and section 8 housing for their workforce. I am told we have over 1,000 apartments under construction. Many a neighborhood have multiple families living in single family homes.

To move the city forward, we need middle and upper middle-class single-family home. More apartments will continue to send the middle class away. With housing for middle class, perhaps Greenwood could obtain quality employers.

**QUESTION 3:**

**If you received a proposal to build a new piece of public infrastructure in your community (road, bridge, trail, etc.), how would you evaluate whether that project was worth implementing?**

One can't look at US31, Indiana 135, or Main Street, Madison Avenue, or West Worthville Road, without saying Greenwood has failed. Above Marion county we see the success for road infrastructure. Greenwood needed to lobby for road work rather than food taxes, and the ill considered tax on churches and not for profits. The excessive road work on Old Meridian for the high density "luxury!!" apartments has been resource draining. The city debt, with TIF backed bonds, is difficult. All projects cannot be dedicated to warehouses.

**QUESTION 4:**

**As you evaluate future development projects, what do you think are the most important considerations in granting economic development incentives, and what types of incentives are you most supportive of?**

I need to represent the current citizens. To receive city support, the future development must improve citizen employment, schools, and life opportunities. The current development schemes hurt citizens. I support single family home development. I support roads, trails. I support medical office and nearly all positive development. Greenwood has over built disruptive warehouses. I will work to prevent projects that decrease quality-of-life for our citizens.