



2023 LOCAL  
PRIMARY  
CANDIDATE  
INTERVIEW

**GREENWOOD  
MAYOR**



**JOE  
HUBBARD**  
*Republican*

*Joe Hubbard for Mayor*  
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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?**

Downtown Greenwood has seen improvement in recent years, but there have been unintended consequences that should have been managed. Because of the irresponsible growth and development of downtown, traffic & parking has become a nightmare for our residents and this development has led to Greenwood being \$250 million in debt with TIF Districts. In order for downtown and Greenwood as a whole to be a thriving place to live, work, & play, we must prioritize public safety because if we do not address the rising crime in Greenwood, families and companies will not move here.

**QUESTION 2:**

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

High rise apartments are not the solution to Greenwood's housing needs. We do not have the infrastructure, such as roads & parking, to handle high rise apartments such as the Madison Project currently under development. As mayor, I will prioritize creating an environment to attract housing that promotes long term growth for Greenwood's future. I will also focus on revitalizing neighborhoods that need improvement. This will cause housing values to increase and benefit Greenwood residents.

**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?**

Evaluating cost will be one of the most important aspects when a new proposal comes across my desk. Greenwood is currently \$250 million in debt with TIF districts and we need to be responsible in evaluating projects to get our financial house in order. I will aggressively pursue federal grants and matching programs with INDOT to maximize Greenwood's resources. I will ensure that the public has their voice heard on projects and that the project strengthens our community.

**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?**

As Greenwood's next mayor, I will advocate for smart and responsible growth in our community. We have seen the current administration irresponsibly give out tax breaks to out of state corporations and developers and completely overlook our local businesses. Considerations I will take into account include ensuring we have the roads, parking, and infrastructure to handle this growth, along with ensuring our local small businesses have the same opportunities. In addition, I will control the number of warehouses coming in and attract high paying/skill companies. We also have to address crime and public safety or businesses and families will not want to call Greenwood home.

**QUESTION 5:**

**What opportunities do you see for improvement in any local regulatory processes that could eliminate red tape, save time, reduce duplication, and/or increase efficiency for businesses and local government?**

The role of city government is to create an environment where all businesses are treated equally and can succeed. Government should not pick winners and losers based on their relationship status with the Mayor. Greenwood's future depends on getting crime under control and managing and improving the city's crumbling infrastructure.



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**MARK W.  
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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?**

Yes, it is. Main Street has come back to life with many new businesses, restaurants and microbreweries. People are investing in the buildings and businesses and making it a great place to visit. I will have the construction on Main St. completed this year, which will widen the sidewalks, allow for outside dining and safer places to walk.

**QUESTION 2:**

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

Greenwood has almost no housing available right now. There are multiple luxury apartments and townhomes being constructed that will help supply some housing. However, we do need more single-family residences to fill the void. There are multiple homes planned over the next 5-7 years to be built on the east and south side of the city. This should help with the shortage.

**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?**

When road proposals are decided upon, it is best to have a traffic study done prior to any decision. This will let the engineers know the amount of traffic on the road and also project out future traffic so the road can be designed to meet future needs.

**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?**

Any economic incentives should be based on a case-by-case basis. Things to be considered are the amount of investment in the actual building, use of the building, number of employees that will be hired and the salaries of the employees. If the building is going to have a large amount of business personal property that carries a high dollar amount, then an additional abatement can be considered. It is also possible to use TIF funding instead of an abatement so that business will start paying higher taxes immediately.

**QUESTION 5:**

**What opportunities do you see for improvement in any local regulatory processes that could eliminate red tape, save time, reduce duplication, and/or increase efficiency for businesses and local government?**

The city is updating its Comprehensive Plan later this year. This will help give better direction to developers and city staff. This should eliminate the amount of variances that are currently being requested. Also, the increasing use of online forms and document submittal will help save time and be more efficient.