

ACTION-BASED INITIATIVE **TRANSPARENCY**



Transparency is essential. Government must be transparent about all processes. The public has a right to know how and why decisions are made. I have always worked to engage with citizens and include them in the decision making process. I have supported improvements to the city's open records process, endorsed whistleblower protections for employees and worked on the state law that helps citizens know if an elected official has a substantial interest in a policy decision.

I am the only current elected official in Topeka and Shawnee County who hold regular Open Office Hours to get input from Topekans, I have done this the entire time I have been an elected official.

As Mayor, I will fight to keep City Government open and transparent.

OPEN OFFICE HOURS: As the only elected official in Topeka or Shawnee County who holds open office hours several times each month, I will continue to do this as Mayor, providing you a direct opportunity to speak with me about the issues important to you.



I will be out in the community and regularly available to meet with you.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Elected officials should use Social Media to communicate directly with citizens, disseminate information and let you know my positions on issues. I will continue to utilize social media so you can communicate with me.

MAYOR/CITY MANAGER PRESS CONFERENCES: Currently, the Mayor and City Manager hold a joint press conference once-a-month. I will continue to hold this press conference.

Media Meetings: On a regular basis I will meet with members of local media to provide information on issues they are covering, or respond to questions they are getting from Topekans.

MAYOR PRESS BRIEFINGS: I will hold an additional monthly press conference, exclusive to the Mayor's office.

NEWSLETTER: I will publish a regular newsletter with information from the Mayor's office, directly from me.

TRAINING: The City must work with groups, such as the Kansas Press Association, to develop transparency training for public officials so they better understand open records laws.

PODCAST: I will host a regular podcast to discuss the most pressing issues in our city, and include citizens to ask me the questions most important to the community.

OPEN DOOR POLICY: A Mayor must regularly meet with citizens, groups, organizations, neighborhood associations and all Topekans.

