

- B. Education; textbooks, resource materials, and maintaining quality staff to student ratios. I would like to work with the Blount County Schools Superintendent to help build community efforts to supplement spending in areas that concern most parents.
- C. Deficit Spending; too much perceived and real extravagance. I would like to work with Blount County executives in identifying not only perceived wastes of resources, but other ways for the County to adopt conservation with minimal effect on public services. Keep the public informed of all progress on both of those fronts.

10. Rapid Growth

I have been concerned with the rapid growth of Commercial Districts, with little regard to their scenic surroundings. There are a number of empty commercial buildings throughout the county, and it concerns me that new ones are built and a lot of the old buildings are never re-modeled and re-used. I would like to explore avenues the county could take in either offering incentives for new businesses to renovate existing empty buildings or raise the empty buildings and re-plant the area back to its original habitat. I don't think many would be opposed to such smart growth practices, in lieu of the dramatic flooding we've suffered lately due to the clear cutting of our local environment that's already occurred.

11. The Pellissippi Parkway extension

- A. I do not support the extension of the Pellissippi Parkway.
- B. The needs of our local citizenry evolve. Methods and practices that worked in the 20th century, won't hold water in the 21st. Road taxes are drying up in our county, the state, and nationally; therefore, the ability to maintain or modify our existing paved roads is becoming more and more expensive. The price of paving materials alone, are captive to circumstances out of our control. Why would we want to burden the taxpayer with even more pavement to maintain? It's time this county makes a bold step in exploring other methods of transportation, and look outside our state for examples of solutions to transportation problems.

12. PPE's effect on county infrastructure

Much like the solution for paying off a multi-million dollar balloon payment; the local government *must* be open with the public, and outline in great detail how they plan on solving issues related to impacts on schools and public services, if the PPE is built. If elected, what I learn about our local issues I will post on the internet for my constituency. I will try my best to be forthcoming and expedient with relaying information pertinent to issues at hand.

13. GMAC proposals for preserving Green Space

From the GMAC report:

"Policy #1: Preserve the County's rural, small town, and

natural character.

- > Conserving trees and natural vegetation, open space, and natural features
- > Protecting farmland, the scenic environment, and the water quality of lakes, rivers, and streams
- > Fitting new development, including commercial development in Townsend and Tuckaleechee Cove, into the County's rural and small town character.”

I believe that this policy statement stands out among the others as the best reason to preserve the natural beauty of our county.

14. *Blount County's Policies Plan Five Guiding Policies*

If elected, I would want to work with several different groups within the county that have overlapping and contrasting ideas regarding Policy #3: Regulations versus Responsible Freedom. This issue has surfaced time and time again at a lot of county commission meetings, and both sides of these issues have logical points. I believe that now is the time to develop Land Use Regulations that would be acceptable to all groups yet not sacrifice the goal of preserving our natural heritage.

15. *Blount County 20 years from now*

I would like to see the results of responsible growth in our county. I hope that our county would have adopted sustainable practices similar to the GMAC study, and abandoned the practice of over-using our resources. I would like to see more responsible residential development with less sprawl.