



Shawnee County Republicans Local Candidate Primary Survey

1. Tell voters about yourself:

My name is Gabriel Killman, and I'm a lifelong resident of Topeka. As a local woodworker and passionate student of history, I believe deeply in preserving the American way of life and the values that have shaped our nation.

2. What is the state of the Topeka economy and what is the biggest thing the mayor or city council can do to improve it?

One of my greatest concerns about Topeka's local government is the significant overspending and the resulting debt burden on our community. If elected, I will work closely with the City Council and independent auditors to reduce unnecessary spending and prioritize responsible budgeting aimed at paying down our debt.

3. Roads are a major concern to the residents in the city of Topeka. What is your plan to address this major concern?

To address the ongoing issue of road maintenance in Topeka, we need a comprehensive, long-term solution. Rather than relying on temporary, short-term fixes, we must invest in infrastructure projects that ensure roads are durable and cost-effective over time, reducing the need for constant repairs every season. Additionally, road construction should be strategically distributed throughout the city to minimize disruption to businesses and daily life. Lastly, it is essential that we prioritize repairs in neighborhoods, where roads are in severe disrepair and have not seen attention in far too long.

- 4. How satisfied are you with the current City Council's demands of property tax collection and their use of public funds? And compared to the current Topeka City Council, what, if anything, would you seek to do differently concerning property tax demands and the spending of taxpayer dollars?**

The current city council has made a critical error by relying heavily on property taxes, rather than implementing a more balanced and equitable tax structure. Additionally, the decision to burden residents with increasing debt and new fees to cover that debt only perpetuates the cycle of overspending without addressing the root of the problem. We need a more responsible, fair approach to budgeting and taxation that promotes long-term financial stability for our community.

- 5. Do you agree with the purchasing of Hotel Topeka and are you in favor of or opposed to the continuation of taxpayer dollars being used to maintain it. Why or why not?**

Strongly disagree with the decision to purchase the hotel. Government involvement in private business ventures is not the role of local government, and such actions only lead to the mismanagement of taxpayer dollars. This unnecessary spending must be halted to ensure our resources are used wisely and effectively for the benefit of the community.

- 6. Should DEI be utilized in the hiring/recruitment process of city employees or government contracts?**

As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. so powerfully said, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." This quote embodies my belief that hiring decisions should be based on an individual's qualifications and abilities, not on superficial factors. We must ensure that our hiring practices prioritize the best candidates for the job, fostering a fair and merit-based system.

- 7. What lasting thoughts would you like to leave with primary voters and what is your message of why they should vote for you in August?**

This upcoming primary, I ask for your vote because I'm tired of seeing the same problems year after year. Many of you share the frustration that our current system has eroded trust, leaving citizens feeling neglected and like the government is no longer working in their best interest. I'm committed to restoring that trust and bringing true accountability back to the city of Topeka. Together, we can make real change.