



JAMES M GREEN

POLITICAL PARTY: DEMOCRATIC

POLITICAL RACE: LOUISVILLE METRO COUNCIL

WEBSITE: [FACEBOOK](#)

What are your top budget priorities as a member of Metro Council?

Getting small businesses open and their employees back to work. Metro can only generate three types of taxes:

- 1) occupational taxes on wages and net profits of businesses. Total rate is 2.2% of which 1.25% goes to Metro, 0.75% to JCPS, and 0.2% to TARC.
- 2) insurance premium taxes on car, home, malpractice and other types of insurance premiums.
- 3) property taxes—county rate is about 12 cents per \$100 of assessed value and about 36 cents in the urban services district (USD). Remember USD residents pay both the 12 and 36 cents since they reside in both taxing jurisdictions.

The transient room tax is collected by the Metro Revenue Commission (Sinking Fund) but per state law, 100% is sent to the Convention and Visitors Bureau. They use that money to pay off the convention center bonds and promote tourism.

We don't collect any sales taxes. There are no local options sales taxes that Metro can collect that would support our general fund.

It may be time for a bond issue so people can invest in their community.

What steps do you think Metro Council should take to address racism and inequality in Louisville?

As a former district and family court judge I've witnessed the good and bad in society. While policing is important and most effective when administered at the community level block-by-block, we know that we cannot police our way out of the violence. That's not to say I am in favor of defunding the police, it's just that police can't prevent all types of crime. The poverty that plagues areas with violent 'hotspots' is unimaginable to most of you. I witnessed it for years on the bench and nothing much has changed. My approach would focus on educational and workforce development, proven ways to change societal behavior, instead of a life fueled with drug-driven violence. We have to put energy and resources behind finding people a family-sustaining job since automation continues to squeeze low-skilled workers.



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What are your top transportation and infrastructure priorities for your district?

Whether it's high density development or traffic congestion, decisions made by Metro affect our neighborhood's connectivity and community fabric. Since the city of Prospect is the district's only suburban city with zoning powers, Metro Council's planning and zoning decisions affect most of us. We must conserve land by proactively adopting neighborhood plans which preserve existing residential neighborhoods, and steer future developmental proposals. For new development proposals, traffic congestion and flooding/runoff will guide my decisions. I want to cautiously grow our environmental footprint while expanding our land and tree preservation efforts. Neighborhood and corridor plans provide a way to be good stewards of the earth and smartly grow our area.

What are your views on the state of land development and redevelopment in Louisville?

See answer number 8. In addition, District 16 has grown astronomically and entrance/exit corridors are few. One accident on 42 handicaps the entire District. Traffic on 1694 around Norton Commons Elementary and St. Mary Academy can be a nightmare at times - as is the 42 overpass at 264. These issues must be addressed when contemplating development.

What are your top economic development priorities for your district?

The only economic priority at this time (in District 16) is to bite the bullet and do what it takes to get businesses fully operational and fully staffed with employees. Customers, businesses, and employees are all dependent on each other. We have to do what it takes to boost the economy.



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What steps do you think Metro Council should take to address homelessness and housing in Louisville?

I am with a group of men and women who do a community outreach every weekend feeding as many homeless we can - usually about 150 recipients. As a rule, they are gracious and grateful - sharing with each other. My approach would focus on educational and workforce development, proven ways to change societal behavior, instead of a life fueled with hopelessness and fear. What they want is a chance. We have to put energy and resources behind finding people a family-sustaining job since automation continues to squeeze low-skilled workers.

What policies would you support to reduce violent crime and make Louisville a safer city?

I asked a former police chief this question, and his response was: "child care." Places where children are safe, fed, and actually view the world as a safe place. Simple Attachment and Bonding principles. This also permits parents to get jobs, earn money, gain dignity, and support themselves. My approach would focus on educational and workforce development, proven ways to change societal behavior, instead of a life fueled with drug-driven violence. We have to put energy and resources behind finding people a family-sustaining job since automation continues to squeeze low-skilled workers.