



media release

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Greater Mankato Growth Posts Candidate Biography and Profile Answers Online

Candidates Questioned on Issues Related to Business and Economic Vitality

MANKATO Minn. (July 20, 2010) - Biographic and profile information on candidates participating in area primary elections is now available in the Election 2010 area of the Greater Mankato Growth (GMG) website at greatermankato.com/gmg-election2010.php. The information was provided directly from the candidates participating in the primary elections on August 10 for the following races: Mankato Mayor, Mankato City Council Ward 1 (Precincts 7, 8, 9), Blue Earth County Commissioner District 2 and Nicollet County Commissioner District 1.

All candidates participating in these primary elections received a survey with **biographic** and **profile** questions. The **profile** questions were generated from a list of characteristics developed by GMG's Public Affairs Steering Committee, made up of individuals from diverse business backgrounds and political perspectives. The candidate characteristics that the committee agreed will represent the area well, relative to business, include:

- fiscal responsibility (efficient and effective use of financial resources)
- local and regional business issue awareness, appreciation and advocacy (for the economic development of the Greater Mankato area)
- ability and willingness to promote and participate in open communication among local governing bodies, business and community
- conscientiousness in researching issues (data driven, diverse information)
- visionary and independent thought process (open to a diversity of viewpoints; willing to listen respectfully, consider collaborative ideas and then make a decision)
- resolute decision making while being responsive to a changing environment
- capability to present and support ideas (strong communicator)

As part of GMG's ongoing commitment to providing information on all sides of issues important to the business community, the organization will distribute the biographic and profile questions to all candidates running for the general election. In addition, GMG will provide the business community with opportunities to directly interact with and give input to candidates through candidate forums, surveys and other vehicles.

"Through meaningful exchange with the entire business community, leaders can have access to the full spectrum of business ideas throughout the marketplace," said GMG President & CEO Jonathan Zierdt. "During the election season, our role as an information intermediary for the business community is particularly important."

About Greater Mankato Growth

Public Affairs is one of Greater Mankato Growth's eight strategic areas of work to advance business for a stronger community. The seven other areas include existing business support, new business growth, business promotion, talent development, community marketing, visitor attraction & servicing and civic engagement.

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