

Springfield City Council Candidate Survey

Jeremy Dean (he/him/his) – City Council General C

I believe in a community where our economy and democracy work for all of us, not just the wealthy few.

Strongly Agree

I believe all should have a voice, and all should have equitable access to a fulfilling life. The economy should work for the people, and not the people for the economy. We know that the economy grows best from the middle out, not the top down. I will work to close the gap by implementing strategies and policies that help working people and are proven to increase worker pay and economic stability within municipalities.

Public transportation should be expanded to meet the needs of the community.

Strongly Agree

We should be expanding frequency and coverage of routes, as this is essential in fixing our currently broken system. Neighbors are unhappy with current transportation costs, area coverage, frequency, and reliability. I am dedicated to listening to neighbors' concerns and working hard with various entities to ensure we create a reliable and effective system.

Public transportation should be free at the point of service (i.e., on the bus).

Strongly Agree

Springfield should offer fare-free public transportation to all.

The right of workers to join unions to negotiate fair wages, benefits, and working conditions without employer interference should be protected.

Strongly Agree

The ability to collectively bargain is a fundamental ideal, and should be respected and protected. I am on the side of working people, and believe all deserve dignity and respect at work.

All workers should earn a living wage of at least \$15 per hour.

Strongly Agree

I believe Springfield should work to ensure that residents are earning family wages. As the Queen City of Missouri, we should lead by example. We should do more to promote the economic benefits of paying our workers a family wage, ensuring fair and equitable treatment, which will ultimately make Springfield a desirable place to live, work, and play.

Workers should have access to earned sick time and family leave to care for loved ones in times of crisis.

Strongly Agree

Sick time and family leave should be a reality for all workers. The first step would be to ensure all future contracts the City makes with businesses are leading by example and offering this to their workers. By doing this, we will influence and pressure other businesses to follow suit and provide what I believe is the bare minimum of what workers should be guaranteed.

Every Springfield resident should have a safe, accessible, and truly affordable place to call home.

Strongly Agree

We must work to ensure that all needs are met for all people. We can't expect a functional community, if we have neighbors continuing to fall victim to the economic hardships present in our community today. Implementing this value looks like protecting renters rights, investing in affordable housing opportunities, and working with various nonprofit and advocacy groups to create and implement strategies. I believe in the power of collaboration, and we should bring diverse perspectives to the table including those directly affected.

The city of Springfield should contract with businesses who pay at or above prevailing wage rates and have a proven track record of respecting and protecting workers on the job.

Strongly Agree

One of the first policies I plan to push for if elected is local preference. Local preference policies can be written to ensure the City of Springfield is only working with businesses that pay at, or above, prevailing wage rates. Through the work of the Community Involvement Committee, we can create standards and gather data to build a point system that allows us to know each business's track record on work place rights and protections.

The city of Springfield should prioritize contracts with businesses that employ local workers who have access to apprenticeship training.

Strongly Agree

I am dedicated to working with and prioritizing local businesses. I have seen firsthand the impact of apprenticeship training and believe we should be investing in our local workers.

City leaders should champion policies that eliminate racial disparities and racial injustice in traffic stops and other police interactions, as well as in income, housing options, and public health and safety.

Strongly Agree

It is important to speak to our current policies present in our city. We need increased training and education. Through implementing strategies that introduce the use of social workers when facing situations, we can promote a system that is helping our neighbors, instead of hurting them. Reducing racial disparities in Springfield is essential to uplifting our entire community. Wages, housing, access to healthcare, and transportation are all connected to addressing these present disparities. We must address the barriers our neighbors face, listen to their experiences, and work everyday to understand how the decisions we are making having lasting affects on neighbors livelihoods. I believe full heartedly in diversity, equity, and inclusion. This means that all neighbors deserve a voice, and a seat at the table.

Would you be willing to sign a pledge based on the items you indicated agreement with? This pledge would be shared publicly. Candidates who choose not to sign the pledge may also be made public.

Yes

Is there anything else you would like for us to know?

Why I'm Running for City Council, General Seat C: Young Voices - Springfield has a large population of young people. We deserve to have a council-person that understands what it is like to be a young person in Springfield today. Protect Homes - Springfield has plenty of under/non-developed commercially zoned land. There is no reason that developers

should be overtaking homes and neighborhoods for the means of self advancement. We should be listening to our neighbors, not silencing their voices. Invest Locally - Maintain a healthy business environment within Springfield. Invest in businesses that encourage use of local resources and services. Support employers that champion workers rights, prevailing wage, and respect and dignity on the job.