

Please answer the following questions in 75 words or less.

1. The governor vetoed legislation to have the state back bonds for infrastructure improvements around the intermodal facility in Gardner. Should the county back those bonds?

County staff have worked with Gardner, BNSF and the Allen Group to phase the public costs into manageable components. In fact, I just voted with the majority to proceed with phase I of the project. Phase I commits the county to improve 191st St and back a portion of the infrastructure costs in phase. I expect the state to step forward, but on a limited basis I am willing to back the bonds.

2. **If property values decrease, and** the county has to make budget cuts because property tax revenue goes down, where would you cut?

Because of solid stewardship and passage of the public safety sales tax the county can weather the identified situation for 1 or 2 years using reserves and jail boarding savings. I'd support staff recommendations such as deferring non-critical maintenance and holding positions open as initial options for short term savings. For three years, I have been working to get the county and cities to sit down and discuss overlapping services to save all taxpayers money.

3. Should Johnson County be part of a regional transit plan?

Transportation is critical to our community. Few of us stay entirely within Johnson County; we travel regionally so we must participate in a regional transit plan. First, we must create a consensus within Johnson County on our participation. My work over 3.5 years on transportation has been focused on building this consensus through the Transportation Cooperation Council which has begun this work. In a second term I know we can succeed on developing the consensus.

4. Wastewater rates will probably go up because of a massive plan to improve sewer facilities in Kansas City, Mo. Should Johnson County improve/construct wastewater facilities here so we don't need to use the KCMO system?

Johnson County Wastewater (JCW) has been very diligent in monitoring this situation and developing contingencies involving the potential construction of additional capacity by Johnson County. If the cost of buying treatment capacity from Kansas City becomes more expensive than adding capacity then we will add capacity within Johnson County. This is purely an economic decision for the ratepayers served by JCW.

5. Grade County Chairwoman Annabeth Surbaugh on an A to F scale.

D

I agree and support Annabeth's vision of what our county government should be, but her style of leadership hampers the work toward achieving the vision. That said, we all have

our faults and I am always willing to work with every member of the commission to help improve our community for the people.