

Clayton County Youth Commission

Candidate Forum District 3 Commissioner

Additional Questions for Timothy Vondell Jefferson

1. If elected, what will you do to ensure that we have additional judges and court staff added in the courthouse to handle the rising number of cases?

There has got to be a meeting with the state representatives and senators that represent Clayton County down at the Capitol. The state pays most of the judges' salaries and that is where the funding must come from. The Governor has a \$11 billion dollars surplus therefore with the right elected citizens the funding should be attainable.

2. How do you plan to reach out to the youth?

Currently I have partnered with several organizations regarding youth. The United Premier Soccer League now playing their games at Hines Wald Stadium and Drew High School. Evans Oglesby Foundation, formerly an NFL player, I brought his organization to Clayton County as well mentoring Girls Flag football and many other events focused on the youth. Finally, The Chris Tucker Foundation mentoring. Grants, gift cards and toy giveaways. Also partnered with the Jonesboro Marching Band to help raise funding for their trip to the Thanksgiving Day Parade in 2024.

3. How do you plan to change the image of Clayton County with highways being trashed with litter and garbage?

We must hold GDOT accountable as they proceed with work on our highways, we must obtain street sweepers to beautify our curb cuts, beautification is critical to transforming the image of Clayton County. Universal trash collection has got to happen under my watch and business owner accountability for their exterior maintenance of their property.

4. What type of programs would you like to introduce to help ex-convicts be more productive and find sufficient housing, if they show improvement in citizenship?

Workforce development must be mandatory course for them take once released back into society. Programs must be implemented in the jails and prisons to ensure that they have a fair chance to be productive citizens. Theres federal funding to create more half-houses as transition back into society. As District 3 Commissioner that will be a high priority to secure all this grant funding that's available.

5. What actions or policies have you implemented within the last 6 months to improve the quality of life for Clayton County residents?

I personally worked diligently on tractor and trailer parking in our shopping centers, working closely with the City of Lovejoy and Clayton County code enforcement to ensure the current policies are enforced and we were very successful in that endeavor. Again, my focus is beautification.

6. Mental illness is a growing problem nationwide, sometimes leading to increased crime etc. What is your take on tackling this crisis?

I have personally partnered with Judge Latrevia Kates-Johnson to establish a misdemeanor court for the mentally ill. Securing funding is critical to bring this concept to reality, were working with the airport to assist

us with mental ill person they arrest and being housed at the Clayton County jail. Top of my agenda we must establish a mental health hospital locally to ensure there are wrap around services to help our citizens with their condition.

7. What have you done as a resident of the community to improve the quality of life for the people of District 3?

By attending most board meetings and city council meetings, I have personally been holding elected officials accountable on behalf of the citizens of District 3. Which have helped tremendously as I stated in questions 3 and 6.

8. What is your vision for Clayton County and District 3? How will you implement your vision?

Currently, I am doing that in my personal business as a consultant (Faith Excel Economic Development Group LLC). Bringing sit down restaurants and hotel development to District 3 along with senior and veteran housing. Most importantly collaborate with other elected citizens to move this county forward in the spirit of excellence.

9. What would you do or implement in accountability and transparency to not allow a theft of taxpayer's money by a company like Roman United to steal \$559,000 from the taxpayers?

Vett, vett and vett everything that comes across my desk that requires my vote. Do the due diligence required before spending taxpayer dollars. Currently, I am trying to secure a warrant for the Roman United Group as we speak. Secondly, we must hold MARTA accountable for our tax dollars over 100 million dollars, under my leadership being physically responsible for taxpayers is a high priority.

10. What type of programs and efforts have you established or planned by District 3 and the county as a whole?

Senior housing, veteran housing and workforce development through the Clayton County Housing Authority partnered with Cycle Works Sanitation to establish a program in elementary schools to teach the importance of not littering. Therefore, they can hopefully correct their parents on the importance of not littering.

11. What strategies will you employ to enhance community engagement and ensure the voices of all people are heard?

Holding unrestricted town hall meetings for the citizens of District 3 and being very transparent when possible. My constituent aide will be in the office full time serving the citizens of District 3. I will personally sit on days of the week just to meet citizens and address their concerns.

12. How would you make yourself available to the citizens and residents of your districts?

I believe I addressed that question in question 11 answer.

13. How familiar are you with the county's strategic initiatives, and do you plan to assist with ensuring the county is achieving those initiatives?

I am very familiar with all the strategic initiatives; some are outdated we must revisit. The plans with the thought of a more 20-to-30-year plan that brings the vision more in line with 21st century and beyond.