

#7

COMPLETE

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Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Gene Achziger
Position	Position 3 Des Moines City Council
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Q2

If you make it past the primaries, do you intend to attend the 2021 Public Officials and Candidates Night Reception from 5:00pm to 8:00pm on Wednesday, September 22, 2021?

Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar

Q3

Why are you running for elected office?

I've been sadden to see the decline in community spirit and willingness to participate in civic activities. De Moines has great potential, and the best way of realizing that is if we, in our individual and collective communities, make our voices heard and commit to helping each other. That is the key to preserving Des Moines' reputation as a caring community.

Q4

What do you consider to be our community's top challenges?

Obviously the impacts of SeaTac Airport on this and surrounding communities. We also face tremendous financial challenges due to the lack of retail sales taxes. But I really believe the top challenge is the apathy that has come from so many residents who feeling left out of the political process. When people are willing to invest time, energy and heart in making this a better place to live, we all benefit. The City should not only be making those investments easier, they should be empowering communities, both geographic and non-geographic, to get involved.

Q5

How will you work with the business community to find solutions?

Businesses and the retail sales taxes they generate are critical for this community's survival. We have to make them feel welcome and it starts with presenting a welcoming atmosphere. Too many people are saying "The Des Moines Building/Permitting Department is impossible to work with." I'm told over and over again by people seeking to locate here that the regulations are no different than anywhere else, but the problem is the attitude. I want to work to help change that. And, particularly what must change is the attitude among electeds that even acknowledging the problems is a slam on the community. You can't fix a problem if you don't acknowledge that one exists. Perception becomes reality when you don't sit down and address the problem.

Q6

Where can your constituents find more information about you and your campaign?

Gene4DesMoines.com
