

Faith2DirectAction Michigan 2023 Westland Candidate Survey

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Candidate for Westland City Council

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Tell us a bit about yourself:

I have 20+ years experience in management, which includes upper leadership, in both secular and religious institutions. I have ~6 years leadership in Christian Ministry Institutions. I am a community advocate, who stands to fight for the rights and fair and responsible treatment of community members. My goal is to see that members of our community prosper and that unnecessary burdens are removed, while also removing irresponsibility from the workings of our local government so that Westland stands out as an example and so that resources can be allocated to achieve these goals.

I chose to run because these things haven't been accomplished and the people are ready for change. In this, I will demand, and put in place, measures that include the members of our community, invests back into our community members, better positions our City to be safe, clean, and respected, and positions the government to be able to reduce the local tax burdens members of our community face.

Westland is my home, and being part of the community, I've built a vast network of relationships with our residents and business owners. They believe that I will bring about change for the betterment of each person so that they can truly thrive in this dynamic city. It's time that Westland becomes all that it was designed to be.

Upholding the US Constitution:

Our community deserves elected officials who will stand by, and protect, the Westland City Charter and the US Constitution. It is the voice of the people in official document form. It is necessary that how we conduct business reflects these documents that we are duty bound to uphold.

For the items listed for my interpretation (Red Flag Gun Laws, Hate Speech Laws, the 2020/2021 Masks Mandates, and the COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates), they are, for the most part, outside of the purview of the office in which I am seeking, as they are primarily laws and mandates being looked at and implemented at the State and Federal levels; not the local level. Regardless, there are impacts on the local level.

Red Flag Laws often are frowned upon by one section of our country and praised by another section. For some, it boils down to 2nd Amendment Rights protections. And, for others, it boils down the right to walk around and feel safe. My view is simple: I am a strong proponent for our

individual right to bear arms, but I also believe that bearing arms has a responsibility that many have not adhered to. While we should not be a country that legislates morality, we should be a country that protects one another, even through legislative means, that demands responsible gun handling.

My stance on the Hate Speech Laws are much the same as my stance on Red Flag Laws. In this area, we are often speaking to the 1st Amendment, which in this case is freedom of speech. While we should not legislate morality, we must understand the limits of free speech, which aren't absolute, and we must have a clear understanding of what the limits are. Too many people in our country have dealt with the trauma of hate speech. It is our duty as Americans to protect our people and not to allow harm to come to those who cannot protect themselves.

My stance on mask mandates is clear. Where necessary, they are necessary. We must stand to protect our community, especially the most vulnerable.

My stance on COVID-19 vaccination mandates is also clear, and it is different than my stance on mask mandates. I believe that people have the right to do with their body as they please, as long as what they do to their body doesn't harm those around them. I also believe that people have the right to stand in the same position as they were in which they were born. Specifically for COVID-19 vaccination mandates, it should be left to the decision of the person or person(s) with legal authority over said person.

In all of these areas, and because this is a Christian-directed inquiry, I shall speak to the Christian side directly. We must recognize that we stand under two systems: The Secular World and the Christian World. Because of this, there are different requirements under both, and we cannot force another to believe as we do, and vice versa. In other words, give unto Caesar what is Caesar's.... Because of this clear understanding, there could be consequences under each system for not following the requirements of each system. The choice becomes that of the people as to whether or not they choose to follow, and so, too, do the consequences. Our duty is to be the best we can be and not to be controlling over another. Just as we have choices, and had choices, we, too, must afford others to make their choices.

Position regarding the unborn:

My position here is clear: Life begins at conception. I also believe that we should not legislate morality, no matter what morality looks like to one over another. In the church, we manage the church and not the world (1 Corinthians 5:9-13). In addition, I believe that all people should have the right to choose, whether it be right or wrong. Could the 'right' or 'wrong' decision create concern? Yes, in all parts.

As it relates to advocacy on this topic: For the most part, this would be outside of the purview of the position for which I am running. As an elected official, I would be charged to represent the people, so I will do my due diligence to represent the people.

World Economic Forum's Agenda 2030 (Climate Change, Use of Fossil Fuels vs. other Sources, 15 minute cities, private land ownership as a concentration of wealth and contributor to social justice):

My succinct response to these areas is: We need to do what's in the best interest for our community now and in the future.

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My succinct response to this area is: It is necessary and programs surrounding such can help our society heal, grow, and develop in a way, when implemented well, that can benefit us all.

Endorsements:

The endorsement process is currently underway and would be premature to speak to them officially at this point.

FINAL THOUGHTS:

I find it is important to note that the Westland Politicians are deceitful and are acting in ways to benefit themselves and not the people. They do things to protect themselves politically, even down to whether or not they will answer certain questions. I am not a politician. I am a community advocate.

As I mentioned, or alluded to in my responses, I vow to be open and honest, and represent the people. While I may have a certain beliefs, I will represent the people, and that means to intentionally reach out to the people to see what the people believe and act accordingly. My personal views can only stand as one vote in the collective of community members, as I am to represent all people and not myself.