



RICK TETER

Candidate for City Council Ward II

Fast Facts:

Age: 67

Occupation: Retired Fire Chief

Years lived in Commerce City: 65

Years lived in Colorado: Native

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Questions & Answers

1. Why are you running for council?

I have been committed to serving the great people of Commerce City for most of my adult life. For 34 years, I served as a volunteer fire fighter for the South Adams County Volunteer Fire Department. And now for the last four years I have had the pleasure of serving as your Ward 2 City Councilman. It would be my honor to continue to represent the people of Commerce City for the next four years.

2. What do you see as the three biggest opportunities for Commerce City?

I think one of the biggest opportunities for us is the Victory Crossing Development. Denver has already reached our southern boundaries at 56th Ave with their development. Now we need to continue marketing this area to bring more businesses and retail into Commerce City. South Adams County Fire has committed to being the first new construction building in the area, with the addition of their new administration office. I look forward to seeing other businesses follow.

The second opportunity I see for Ward 2 is the redevelopment of the already purchased Mile High Greyhound Park. We were very pleased to announce our first partnership to this development with the addition of the Suncor Boys and Girls Club. This will greatly benefit our citizens. Although our first attempt to bring a developer into build new homes and businesses in this area failed, we are currently working with another developer to move forward in this area. We must continue to pursue to redevelop this area.

Commerce City is moving ahead in the 21st Century. With this the current council is happy to be a part of the first FasTracks rail station that will be rolling into our city. As the city grows we have to move forward to bring alternative means of transportation into



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our area. The current council has been working on design and land for our new station, and the development of this to continue to bring jobs to this area.

3. What do you see as the three biggest challenges facing the city?

The current city council has done a great job moving this city forward the last 4 years, with the completion of two of our 2K projects. The completed projects were the wonderful Paradise Outdoor Water Park located at 60th and Monaco, and the beautiful 19.8 acre Fronterra Park in the northern area.

We are continuing to move forward on the additional 2K projects with the widening of Tower Road and Hwy 2, each road being widened to four lanes. But one of the biggest challenges we have faced with these projects is the infrastructure. South Adams County Water is choosing not to put the water and drainage lines in at this time and wanting to wait until development occurs. The current council does not want to wait on placing the infrastructure in at a later date and does not want to inconvenience the citizens twice by having to tear the roads up later to put in the infrastructure. This will be challenging for us to maintain a balanced budget to get the infrastructure placed and complete these projects but we are willing to make the cuts to make it happen.

I see the schools as the next big challenge facing the city. Both of our school districts that we have in our city have big challenges facing them. School District #14 continues to be monitored by the state for low test scores. The 27J School District is facing heaving overcrowding issues and the creation of split scheduling to try to accommodate all the students. We need to figure out how to invest more into the future citizens of this city and improve the education systems. These issues in the school district challenge the city council on several levels as we try to bring development into the city. When companies and people consider relocating their business and homes to Commerce City they pull the reports on our school systems and it becomes a negative for the city. We owe it to the citizens to try to do what we can to improve the school systems in our area.

Finally, Retail, Retail, Development, Development, Jobs, Jobs. We need them!

4. What does a “Quality Community for a Lifetime” mean to you?

Quality community for a lifetime means something different for every single person. For me mine is my health. I have my health back. In April, I went through an unexpected triple bypass surgery. Thankfully, my recovery has been great. Part of my ability to recover so well was using the cities amenities like the parks and walking trails to improve myself. We need to make sure we have in place services to help our citizens with recreation centers, walking paths, transportation, stores, and safety. A community THAT cares for all of its people.

5. What is your favorite aspect of the city?

Without hesitation, the people of Commerce City.