



## Questions for Candidates for County Commissioner from the Conservative Coalition of Harris County

*This questionnaire will be posted onto the Conservative Coalition of Harris County website for public voter viewing.*

Candidate Name	Position for which Candidate is Running
Tom Ramsey	County Commissioner, Precinct 3

*Please give your answer to each of the following questions and please include your rationale with each answer. Please be concise and clear.*

1.	<p>Please describe the qualifications and experience that make you the best candidate for position for which you are running.</p> <p><b>Answer:</b> I have a long, verifiable track record of improving the safety, infrastructure, livability and financial health of my community during my tenure as Mayor of Spring Valley. I was able to reduce Spring Valley’s tax rate by 21%, invested more than \$38 million in infrastructure, and oversaw the City’s ascent to safest neighborhood in Harris County, according to relevant FBI statistics. I also currently service on the Harris County Storm Water Task Force and Imelda Assistance Fund Board, and look forward to bringing the knowledge I’ve gained from these roles to county government.</p> <p>I’ve been a successful engineer in the private sector for over 30 years. I served as Senior Vice President of Klotz Associates before selling the company in 2015. I was able to work on many major projects in and around the county, including the Hardy Toll Road, Brazoria County Master Drainage Plan, Galveston County Master Drainage Plan, Harris County Drainage Plan Update, Houston Safe School Sidewalk Program, multiple hike and bike trails for the Houston Parks Board, and successful infrastructure projects for more than 50 Texas cities and counties. I have the knowledge and first-hand experience to make the best, most efficient infrastructure decisions for Precinct 3.</p>
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2. Please explain what you believe are the most significant issues in this race, why you are running for this position, and what differentiates you from the other candidate(s).

**Answer:** My wife Marsha and I have raised our children and grandchildren in Precinct 3 over the course of the last 30 years, as well as having owned and operated a successful engineering business within the precinct. Both roles have shown me how important it is to have a good leader at the helm. As a father, I want my family to grow, live, and play in a safe neighborhood and attend the best schools. As a business owner, I want to operate my business in a competitive but fair environment with little impediment from local government. As a Precinct 3 resident I have been fortunate to have these experiences under Commissioner Radack's tenure as Commissioner, and I feel compelled to continue his legacy and good work by running to succeed him after his retirement in 2020. I want to ensure that my experiences will be shared ones with future generations in Precinct 3.

3. What will be your top 2 or 3 priorities during this upcoming term?

**Answer:**

- 1) Maintaining and improving the county's infrastructure and roadways
- 2) Continuing to operate under a balanced budget while keeping taxes affordable
- 3) Keeping our neighborhoods safe

4. Harris County Commissioner's Court handles an enormous budget every year. What skills and experience do you have that makes you the best person to elect for the County Commissioner in your Precinct?

**Answer:** I have owned a successful business in Precinct 3. I understand what it's like to manage and balance a major budget, to meet payroll every week, and to manage a large team of capable staff. I know that I can make the hard decisions when it counts and will always remember that I work for the tax-payer when making decisions that affect their day to day lives.

5. What are the primary functions that can be improved within the Commissioner's Precinct office? What sort of things can be done to improve relations, communication and services with the public?

**Answer:** Communication can always be improved. I would post a quarterly precinct update posted on our website focusing on flood control projects and other projects occurring in and around the precinct.

6. Are the local Law Enforcement agencies and the Harris County Jail adequately staffed and funded to handle the increasing population growth within Harris County?

**Answer:** I will always be a proponent of and advocate for our first responders. I want to ensure that each department has the resources needed to keep themselves and our communities safe. I believe that, currently, the biggest impediment that Harris County law enforcement faces is the District Attorney's office. The high level of repeat offenders that are being released without cause only compounds the difficulty of their job.

7. Should any changes be made to Harris County Departments (Infrastructure, Services, Law Enforcement, Justice, etc.) to improve productivity, reduce waste and increase efficiencies? Are there departments or services that can be combined or eliminated?

**Answer:** The current administration is adding new services and new departments that are outside the scope of county government. I will do everything in my power to stop this unnecessary overreach and reign in wasteful and excessive spending.

8. Harris County property values have substantially jumped in value over the last five years. What recommendations do you have that will roll back county taxes for the average citizen in your Precinct?

**Answer:** I believe we need to address how our appraisal system works. I will hold the line on any tax increase, just as Commissioner Radack has always done.

9. Are there any areas between state and county government that need improvements or cuts to reduce waste, or the duplication of efforts?

**Answer:** The state of Texas needs to avoid unfunded mandates to city and county governments, and there is a long list of burdensome requirements coming out of the State that needs to be addressed.

10. What sort of future programs or services will you create or offer within your Precinct in the upcoming term?

**Answer:** With the focus on safe neighborhoods, I am going to advocate for a multi-agency database, which will allow us to track the bad guys down and root them out of our neighborhoods.

11 . Is the bond money approved by the voters for hurricane Harvey flood control being spent wisely? Do you have any recommendations or ideas to improve how the funds are being spent?

**Answer:** I was the only elected official to appear before Commissioners Court and express my concern on Harris County changing the parameters for how the funding would proceed. The funds need to be spent according to the commitments made prior to the bond election, and they are not.

BY RETURNING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, THE CANDIDATE ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ANSWERS TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE. THE ANSWERS ON THE FOREGOING REFLECT THE CANDIDATE'S BEST EFFORTS TO ANSWER THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HONESTLY AND DIRECTLY.

PLEASE SAVE YOUR COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE TO YOUR LOCAL MACHINE IN THE EVENT THAT THERE ARE ANY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WHEN YOU ATTEMPT TO EMAIL IT BACK.

Once this questionnaire has been completed, please email it to:

[alex@cchc-pac.org](mailto:alex@cchc-pac.org)

\* **Please note:** You **must** return your questionnaire from the email address to which it was sent. Questionnaires returned from any other email address will be considered fraudulent and will **not** be recorded and no answers will be published in the voter's guide. CCHC-PAC deems a return from the proper email address as authentication of the correct respondent.