



2024 Survey for Kansas Public Leaders and Candidates

Name

Kyle Beauchamp

Office:

Kansas House of Representatives

Party

Democratic

District

HD82

Home City

Derby

Ballot City

Derby

Policy and Strategy:

Kansas Housing Resource Corporation's 2021 Housing Needs Assessment found that "A shortage of quality, affordable housing is an undeniable barrier to economic growth and development in any community, and particularly in rural communities in Kansas." How likely are you to support increasing funding for affordable housing development?

Neutral

Comments:

I don't believe that public funding of housing is a necessary criterion to solving the housing crisis; I do believe I know what most of the criteria are, and am very motivated to get to work on those items.

That said, I'm not necessarily opposed to providing funding for Affordable Housing projects/programs.

Inadequate access to mental health and substance use treatment programs contributes to homelessness in Kansas. How likely are you to vote to expand mental health and substance abuse treatment programs?

Very Likely

Comments:

I would work hard to ensure that these matters are thoughtfully and boldly addressed, including by funding new/existing programs that I'm confident will return the desired improvements.

How likely are you to be in favor of limiting annual rental increases?

Likely

Comments:

I don't have a well-informed opinion about this yet, but it seems like it could be a good idea. I would be somewhat concerned about unintended consequences (e.g. decreased housing stock on the market, should lessors decide to invest in another way like listing on Air BNB, etc.) Once concerns are assuaged, I'd be interested in making moves on this policy idea.

Kansas has no statewide plan that comprehensively addresses homelessness. How likely are you to support the implementation of a statewide affordable housing plan to address homelessness?

Very Likely

Comments:

This is a matter of great interest to me, on which I'm excited to get to work writing and sponsoring legislation. For example, one policy that can help with this is a state-level abolition of city-level minimum parking requirements. Minnesota has a bill that would do this, and policy experts say that it could significantly improve housing affordability affairs.

How likely are you to advocate to allow for more affordable housing developments in urban and suburban areas?

Very Likely

How likely are you to be in favor of establishing a state-funded rental assistance program to stabilize low-income renters and support property owners?

Likely

Comments:

I may prefer limiting rent increases over funding them, but this is still on the table. I'm not an expert in this area, and want to learn more.

How likely are you to support legislation or programs to provide legal assistance to tenants facing eviction?

Very Likely

How likely are you to support increasing funding for domestic violence shelters and services to prevent homelessness?

Very Likely

What funding sources will you prioritize or advocate for to support homelessness programs and services? (Check all that apply)

Federal grants and programs (e.g., HUD Continuum of Care, Emergency Solutions Grants)

State Government funding initiatives

Local government budgets and funding allocations

Private donations and philanthropic foundations

Corporate partnerships and sponsorships

Social impact bonds and other innovative financing mechanisms

Public-private partnerships

Tax revenue initiatives (e.g., bonds, levies specifically for housing and homeless services)

Comments:

I'd want to have some conversations with you about what you see as the ranking of these potential sources of funds.

Housing Solutions

Kansas does not have enough shelter space; nearly two thousand Kansans sleep outside or in their cars in dangerous weather conditions. How important is it to increase funding and capacity for emergency shelters to meet immediate needs?

Very Important

Comments:

Two thousand is a manageable number! We can absolutely find a way to house these people at least through extreme and dangerous weather at the least.

How important is it to develop more transitional housing programs to bridge the gap between homelessness and permanent housing?

Neutral

Comments:

I'm not very familiar with the concept of transitional housing.

How important is it to expand permanent supportive housing options with integrated services for long-term stability?

Neutral

Comments:

I am interested in this policy idea, but need more information.

How important is it to implement a low barrier approach that prioritizes permanent housing with support services?

Neutral

Comments:

Low barrier sounds good! Permanent housing sounds good. I just don't quite follow the support services part, yet. Open to conversation about it.

How important is it to collaborate on the local level to ensure a coordinated response that addresses homelessness?

Very Important

How important is it to use data-driven strategies to allocate resources based on current demand and long-term outcomes?

Very Important

How important is it to create a flexible funding source that allows communities to address local needs?

Important

Collaboration and Partnerships:

Will you establish regular communication channels with local nonprofits to address homelessness?

Yes

Do you plan to participate in a workgroup or advisory council that addresses homelessness that includes representatives from key stakeholders throughout Kansas?

No

Comments:

I don't currently have plans to do that, but I'm not saying I wouldn't. I just don't know the details, including what the rest of my schedule will look like. All else being equal, I would do this.

How important is it for state entities to collaborate on homelessness initiatives?

Very Important

Comments:

State leaders need to have a common vision and road map in order to best cooperate.

Employment and Education:

How likely are you to be in favor of creating state incentives for businesses that hire individuals experiencing homelessness?

Likely

Will you support job training and vocational programs tailored to the needs of homeless individuals?

Yes

Do you support the creation of a statewide initiative to simplify the process of obtaining a state ID for homeless and low-income individuals?

Yes

Comments:

Experts have told me this is important.

Health and Well-being:

Do you advocate for Medicaid expansion to increase healthcare coverage for low-income individuals?

Yes

Comments:

YES!

How critical is Medicaid expansion for increasing healthcare coverage for low-income individuals in your view?

Very Critical

Will you support the integration of healthcare services within shelters and housing programs?

Yes

Comments:

As long as resources are being wisely allocated and the programs will be effective.