

1. The City is a large and complex organization; tell us about your experience and how it has prepared you to successfully oversee city operations.

I was born in Lincoln and I've lived here my entire life. In fact, I bought a home one block from where I grew up. I love Lincoln and I want what's best for the city and its people.

For 12 years, I've managed an international business. My wife and I grew the business from an idea to a one of the top education consulting firms in Vietnam. During much of that time I worked another full-time job, managed multiple rental properties here in Lincoln, and have raised a family. I know how to manage my time and my responsibilities and I work hard; I take pride in all that do. As a self-reliant business owner, I know accounting and I know efficiency. As a computer programmer, I have a unique ability to understand complex systems. I know I'm prepared to stand by my beliefs as I oversee operations in Lincoln and I know I'm the best candidate to represent the great people of Lincoln.



Eric Burling

2. Lincoln is a growing and vibrant community with citizens engaged in varied interests and pursuits; how will you bring disparate groups together to build consensus? How will you set a standard for civility?

My beliefs and decisions are always based on facts and common sense and those both go a long ways toward building consensus. Our government's duty is to the people it represents and every single Lincolnite deserves to have his voice heard. To that end, I will listen to everyone and make decisions based on what's best for the people of Lincoln.

3. The Citizen's Transportation Coalition recommended and voters approved an increase in the local option sales tax to help finance Lincoln's streets infrastructure needs. Are you supportive of the quarter-cent sales tax and Advisory Committee on Transportation?

I'm not supportive of any measure that increases taxes. I am, however, in support of properly financing Lincoln's streets. We don't need to increase taxes in order to do that. I'm certain there are improvements that can be made to boost efficiency. Additionally, I believe there are other ways in which we can raise funds for maintaining our streets. How about our own ride-share app? The 25% that goes to Uber/Lyft could stay right here in Lincoln and go towards funding our streets. It's not an outrageous idea. The mayor, as part of her climate plan, is already suggesting piloting a rideshare program to assist StarTran with picking up people in locations the bus doesn't reach.

4. What strategies would you pursue to keep the city affordable to live in?

I believe in the free market and its ability to properly price the goods and services in Lincoln. Our government shouldn't intervene to keep Lincoln affordable by increasing government spending and becoming more involved. Instead, we will keep Lincoln affordable by lowering our existing taxes and cutting government spending. I'll never choose to raise taxes.

5. Lincoln is expected to receive additional revenue from casino gambling revenue. What should the City of Lincoln do with the additional revenues?

Additional revenue collected by the city should be used to fund existing responsibilities of the city so that we can reduce existing taxes. Other uses for the additional revenues would be funding entrepreneurial programs and education. We can grow our economy by increasing our entrepreneurial resources in the city and encouraging local start-ups.

6. What do you see as the City's role in retaining incumbent businesses and attracting new businesses and employees?

Our city budget must prioritize local-first spending. If we can't buy the goods in Lincoln, then we should look statewide, and then to America. One person's spending is another person's income, so if we keep our spending local, we grow our economy and we all prosper. I want to grow Lincoln by investing in Lincoln. Let's keep Lincoln great by keeping our greatest assets in Lincoln.

7. What will you do to drive innovation in the Lincoln community?

My focus will be on increasing entrepreneurship in Lincoln through incentives for start-ups and small businesses and by promoting entrepreneurial spirit in our school programs. With the Raikes School at UNL, I believe there are many opportunities waiting to be explored. Additionally, I plan to increase the quality of our workforce through STEM education programs in our schools and community. I will create opportunities for all students in Lincoln to learn and explore technology