

Williamson County Elections – May 4, 2010  
Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name: Cheryl Wilson

Office/District: Williamson County Commission, Fourth District

1. What is your motivation in seeking election to the Williamson County Commission? How does your background and/experience qualify you to hold this position?

I want to continue to serve the people of the 4<sup>th</sup> District as their Commissioner. I believe my record the past eight years is consistent and solid and qualifies me for another term.

2. What should be the top priorities of the Williamson County Commission over the next several years? How would you address and/or fund these priorities?

Our priorities must be low taxes and excellent schools. We must maintain our position as a low tax county, which will allow us to maintain our position as a top location in the country for locating new businesses. We must also support our county schools and hold our position as the best school system in the state.

3. What is your vision of residential and commercial development within the unincorporated portions of the County over the next 5-10 years?

We must be a county that support smart growth. This means encouraging and supporting our local builders and development that makes sense while protecting open spaces and the rural appeal of our unincorporated communities.

4. Williamson County has realized tremendous success in terms of economic development and corporate recruitment efforts over the past several years. How would you propose to continue and/or enhance these efforts?

What makes Williamson County so appealing is our low taxes and world-class school system. We must keep our commitment to these as our foundation and also continue to be proactive in recruiting new businesses. More jobs means more opportunities for Williamson County residents to work close to their homes and families.

5. Do county governments within Tennessee need broader taxing authority granted from the state legislature? Does Williamson County? If so, what specific revenue-generating options would you support?

The best decisions are always made locally. I would support any effort that allows Williamson County to determine what is best for its citizens.

6. Under what circumstances should local government exercise the power of eminent domain? Is there a need to limit or expand this power on the federal or state level?

Any government's power to exercise eminent domain should be used only on a very limited basis. There is no reason to expand this power on any level.

7. How important is the development and preservation of diverse housing options within Williamson County? What role, if any, should county government play in this effort?

County government should play a significant role in encouraging affordable housing while keeping in mind that these opportunities must make economic sense for the builders and developers who will provide such housing. We need to be a community that offers workers in Williamson County the opportunity to also live here.

8. Do you have issues or concerns regarding the County's current sign ordinance? Please explain.

I have no issues with the current sign ordinance, but I am willing to listen to the concerns of our local businesses and citizens on any problems they may be encountering.

9. How should elected officials in Williamson County balance the need between economic development and the protection of our natural resources and the environment?

As stated in the question, balance is the key. We must listen to the concerns of all parties as we make decisions that impact growth and development.

10. Should Williamson County government advocate or promote initiatives aimed at improving environmental sustainability? If so, where should these efforts focus?

County government should promote sustainability that makes financial sense for the citizens of the county and businesses that are located here. There are many environmentally friendly practices that can produce cost savings for county government and businesses. We should focus on these and not on efforts that add costly regulations to our local businesses.

11. Other comments

I have had a record the past eight years as county commissioner of supporting low taxes, promoting quality education, and protecting Williamson County businesses. I have the experience Williamson County needs on the County Commission during a time when our economy and many of our citizens are hurting.