

like the Brown County Redevelopment Commission and Hometown Collaboration Initiative, I believe we have a real opportunity to enter into the future with a clearer vision and to develop a working plan for decades ahead.

FOX: I will support any plan as long as there are no benefits to one company or individual. Any plan that requires a major amount of funding should be voted upon as a referendum in the election. There is always a need for future planning, but transparency and fiscal management must always be a concern. Many county residents don't want to support everything that benefits Nashville.

BIDDLE: The current comprehensive plan was completed in 2012. Further development of the comprehensive plan should include adding additional tools, such as area infrastructure maps, to our existing comprehensive plan. The missing piece is an up-to-date zoning code to complete the 2012 comprehensive plan. This update is presently underway.

KENNARD: Support the development of a county comprehensive plan. I agree except we need the public's buy-in, not just the dreams of a few people with their own agenda.

SANDERS: One example is the Maple Leaf project. It needs to have a sign on it "will build to suit," but sell it. When the county has to borrow money to do something like this, it's putting the county behind, not forward. At \$12.5 million, the county could sell it and make about \$2.5 million to \$3 million on it and put the property on the tax rolls and get about \$3 million over a 10-year period. I think that would be better than paying about \$6 million in interest over a 10-year period. What sounds better to you, the people? Another way is if we had been putting the innkeepers tax money in a county fund. We would have almost \$8 million in it. That would have gone a long way on infrastructure. What about the Stellar project? It would have been \$10 million or \$12 million the county and town let get away.

4 PLEASE IDENTIFY THREE KEY COUNTY CHALLENGES THAT REQUIRE ACTION BY OUR

OFFICIALS. WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR ADDRESSING THESE, INCLUDING THE STEPS TO TAKE, THE PARTNERS TO ENGAGE, A GENERAL IDEA OF TIMELINE AND HOW TO FUND?

BIRKEMEIER: Infrastructure: Brown County has made significant leaps to address the lack of high-speed internet. I will work to continue the progress. I hope to revamp the county website, not only providing transparency for county meetings and actions and contact with officials, but also creating a map of internet availability showing where future development is planned. I will work the commissioners to provide better oversight of analysis of county budgets and funding to find cost savings and new funding sources for road maintenance projects, and develop a plan for future funding that doesn't rely on bonds and emergency funding. I will work with the health department to create a better septic plan, one that does not use draconian fees to punish homeowners, but helps people fix their issues and gives oversight to the actions of septic inspectors. I will explore new opportunities for funding and lobby the state legislature for a share of state park gate fees.

Vision, planning and oversight: So many of our problems are the result of a lack of vision and planning and our loose organization structure. We need not only to create a strategic comprehensive and economic development plan, but we need to fix organizational problems in our county government including updating policies and job descriptions, setting and achieving goals for employees, better training and funding and other organizational issues. Again, many steps of have been outlined by the League of Women Voters including the need to foster a better relationship between the county and town of Nashville, Recognize, protect and incorporate Brown County's many assets in planning. Use vision documents such as Vision 2020, develop a joint county-town five-year plan with incremental steps tied to resources, and seek opportunities for public-private

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