

**Compiled Coralville
Questionnaire Responses**

Tom Gill (Incumbent seeking reelection) *Tom's responses are transcribed via phone and may be incomplete or unclear. If so, it is not the candidates fault*

1. Please describe why you are seeking this office, what qualifies you to hold the position, and three goals you would have for your time in office? (*this answer can be up to 500 words*)

Seeking office to improve economic development, public safety and infrastructure. Other things drop off. Support building out infra to make city run well, support police and firefighters, supportive of eco-devo for 30 years. (UI Hospital, 1st ave infrastructure completion, redoing sewer plant).

2. What are your thoughts on the role of economic development incentives (TIF, Workforce housing credits, etc..) in continuing the growth of the Coralville? Would you support continued use of these incentives to further spur growth in the region?

Always been supportive of TIF and unapologetic of it, workforce housing credits have been great for further eco-devo 808 fifth street turned from trailer park to developed land.

3. Transit has been a long-standing issue for employers and employees in the region. What would you do to improve Coralville's transit system, and to improve coordination of this system with other regional governments?

Not supportive of merging bus systems, IC pays out of parking fund, CV comes out of general fund. NL bus system didn't work. Transit is different among the different communities, CV can't afford to cover as much land as IC. Scratch where it itches approach to bussing. Park and ride system being implemented. Very against merging system.

4. Affordable housing continues to be a hot button issue in Johnson County. Access to affordable housing is important to the business community, because it contributes to the quality of life for employees and their families, and helps attract and retain the best workers. How will you work to address the affordable housing crisis in Johnson County?

Supportive of affordable housing. What is affordable housing though? Too many definitions of what AH is. Work often with habitat for humanity, help renovate/rehab housing, not in favor of excessive money being spent to address affordable housing. Taxes from bond issue being

5. The general business environment in Johnson County will always be a key issue in mind for the Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce, including the responsible use of regulation on business. How would you work to ensure business has a seat at the table, and regulation is well thought out and places minimal burden on our community's small business owners?

Always been in favor of small business, run his own dental practice. Will do anything to help small businesses thrive. Difficult in CV to help because there is limited land to develop, but investing in infrastructure. Support the Chamber.

Laurie Goodrich (Incumbent seeking reelection)

1. Please describe why you are seeking this office, what qualifies you to hold the position, and three goals you would have for your time in office? (this answer can be up to 500 words)

I am seeking re-election for a second term to the Coralville City Council because I'm passionate about continuing to direct our city government to be the best it can be. I feel a responsibility to give back to a community that has invested so much in our family over the years. I want to see seniors, young families, recent graduates and all those in between continue to enjoy services they have grown to expect, as well as find economic security in sustainable projects and growth. As a resident of Coralville since 1984, I am committed to capitalizing on Coralville's strengths, advancing current goals and having a positive impact on the lives of Coralville residents. My experience in serving Coralville include:

- Part-time Administrative Employee for Coralville (1998-2007)
- Coralville Riverfront Master Plan Committee (2011)
- Coralville Comprehensive Community Plan Steering Committee (2013)
- Iowa League of Cities Municipal Leadership Academy Graduate (2015)
- Coralville Hospitality Committee (2014 to present)
- Parks & Recreation Commission Member & Council Representative (2009 to present)
- East Central Iowa Council of Governments Board of Directors (2014, 2017)
- Johnson County Access Steering Committee
- 2017 Citizen's Police Academy Graduate
- 2017 Certified Elected Municipal Official

Leadership and decision making for me as a council member is consistently attending meetings and volunteering for activities in all areas of the community. This keeps me in touch with people and the current issues and I make an effort to respond to individuals who contact me with concerns.

I believe continued public safety priorities, an infrastructure of roads, water, wastewater, and storm water projects, and continued economic growth at the Oakdale Research Park, The Iowa River Landing and other areas in accordance with the Coralville Land Use Plan are essential benefits to Coralville's well-being. Tax Increment Financing has been a useful tool for driving business development and now in the next couple years when these TIF areas are released we will see benefits by paying down the debt the City incurred.

I enjoy every part of being a Coralville City Councilor and would like to use the knowledge and experience I have gleaned to serve four more years. Thank you!

2. What are your thoughts on the role of economic development incentives (TIF, Workforce housing credits, etc..) in continuing the growth of the Coralville?

Yes - TIF, Workforce Housing Credits and New Market Tax Credits are useful tools to refurbish land that was otherwise flooded, brownfield and not in use. It puts properties back on the tax

role. Would you support continued use of these incentives to further spur growth in the region? Yes. Some of these programs are very complicated and explicit in nature, so it takes just the right project.

3. Transit has been a long-standing issue for employers and employees in the region. What would you do to improve Coralville's transit system, and to improve coordination of this system with other regional governments?

I see Coralville transit continuing and growing in its wide range of time offerings and pick up drop off sites using BONGO for route communication. I'm confident Coralville transit is doing the best possible job coordinating with ADA Johnson County Seats, Iowa City Transit, University of Iowa Transit and is functioning well with East Central Iowa Transportation Organizations. The new intermodal facility provides park and ride options and bike lockers and is the current hub for Megabus. Possibly light rail will come to our area soon

4. Affordable housing continues to be a hot button issue in Johnson County. Access to affordable housing is important to the business community, because it contributes to the quality of life for employees and their families, and helps attract and retain the best workers. How will you work to address the affordable housing crisis in Johnson County?

I'm involved in looking at and initiating various avenues of affordable housing, from programs for rehabbing/ weatherizing/adding on to older homes in established neighborhoods to maximizing and including affordable homes in new construction. Seniors (over 55) have more opportunities for economical housing in Coralville than ever before and if they do chose to move/downsize, this can free up homes for young families.

Work force housing in the 808 on 5th project, various home options in Bridgewater, West Coralville and possibly Sturbridge developments give us room for growth in affordable housing. Habitat for Humanity has a seat at our table. I support and attend meetings for the housing umbrella organization called the Housing Trust Fund Community and recently attended the Iowa League of Cities where I explored other communities' ideas for housing.

4. The general business environment in Johnson County will always be a key issue in mind for the Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce, including the responsible use of regulation on business. How would you work to ensure business has a seat at the table, and regulation is well thought out and places minimal burden on our community's small business owners?

I attend as many of the ribbon cuttings and other business events in Coralville as possible, as a means of showing my support and also to introduce myself as a resource for business owners. It is important to have business owners involved in decisions that affect the business community and our city. Letters go out to owners when something is going on that may be of interest to the nature of their business. I have been a part of open invitation strategic planning meetings where many business owners have attended and for some planning meetings there has seemed to be only a few attendees.

The Chamber is a useful resource for information and training and networking. Council meetings, planning meetings, informational meetings and the building and engineering departments at City Hall are always open for discussion. That being said, regulations are an important means of providing a safe business environment for the public and working environment for employees. The Coralville Land Use Plan provides a robust framework for areas of business growth and, working with business owners, we can continue to ensure a positive business environment in Coralville.

Meghann Foster (Seeking election to one of three seats)

1. Please describe why you are seeking this office, what qualifies you to hold the position, and three goals you would have for your time in office? (this answer can be up to 500 words)

I am running for the Coralville City Council because I love my community. I have lived in Coralville for 16 years and I'm grateful to be raising my five children in such a vibrant and caring place.

I am qualified for this position for a variety of reasons. Through the years, I have maintained an active presence volunteering at numerous community events. I serve on the Board of Directors of the Coralville Food Pantry and am a frequent volunteer at pantry events such as our community meals. In addition to my work on the board, I serve on the pantry's communications and fundraising committees. I've served as an advisor to the Johnson County Affordable Housing Coalition, helping them develop effective messaging strategies. I was also the keynote speaker at their recent summer mixer. Additionally, I was one of the founding members of the Coralville Affordable Housing Committee. I am an active volunteer with the Parent Teacher Organization at Coralville Central Elementary and have been a contributing writer for the Iowa City Moms Blog for four years. I'm also member of the City of Coralville's Planning and Zoning commission.

Coralville is growing by leaps and bounds. I want to make sure that our growth is inclusive and that, as we grow, we're not leaving any citizens behind. I believe that community development and economic development go hand-in-hand. I'll focus on both in the following ways:

- Citizen-centered economic development: Economic development involves more than just creating and attracting revenue for an area. It's a complex ecosystem that encompasses many things. As such, we need to make sure that our economic development plans benefit the entire community. Jobs that pay a living wage, affordable housing, and community development impact are all things that need to be considered. My focus will be on attracting growing industries that bring high-paying jobs to the area. I also want to make sure that the businesses we attract treat their employees equitably as well. These are the foundational pieces of a strong economy, which in turn leads to a strong community.
- Innovative solutions for affordable housing: Safe and stable housing is the bedrock of a healthy community. Many families in Johnson County are housing-cost burdened and Coralville is no exception. Housing is a difficult issue that will require out-of-the-box thinking. I want to find citizen-driven, creative solutions for addressing this issue. Some ideas include partnering with local organizations to renovate and rehabilitate at-risk units, creating a fund to supplement grant dollars that may be available, and finding ways to stabilize older neighborhoods without gentrifying them.
- Expanded community development: Through my work with the Coralville Food Pantry, I've learned that there are many citizens in Coralville who need services but have difficulty accessing them since many are located in neighboring communities. I want to

find ways to oversee the process of identifying needs and bringing necessary resources to Coralville. I also want to make sure we are including all of our citizens in community-driven activities, outreach, and more.

2. What are your thoughts on the role of economic development incentives (TIF, Workforce housing credits, etc..) in continuing the growth of the Coralville? Would you support continued use of these incentives to further spur growth in the region?

There's no doubt that Coralville has been assertive in their economic development practices. The thriving growth and community amenities we enjoy are the result of many of the investments we've made in our community. I believe that Coralville has made smart investments as we see the results of decades of planning as these projects come to fruition. However, as we move forward, we need to pursue other innovative and organic means of generating growth.

We also need to find opportunities to pay down our debt quickly. The city has taken several steps in the right direction. I am not in favor of adding new TIF projects until current debt is paid down. If we consider TIF and other similar tools in the future, the projects should be thoroughly vetted for meaningful economic impact at the local level. It's not in the best interest of our community to use incentives if there's no clear benefit to the community. Examples of this impact include projects that would generate high-paying jobs, using local vendors and contractors on projects, and more.

3. Transit has been a long-standing issue for employers and employees in the region. What would you do to improve Coralville's transit system, and to improve coordination of this system with other regional governments?

Transit is key in linking community development and economic development. In addition to attracting and creating jobs, we need to make sure that our local workforce throughout Johnson County can get to and from those jobs. While we're fortunate to live in a region that is experiencing growth at the pace of Johnson County and the Corridor, it's also presented transit challenges for our interconnected region. Unlike most communities of comparable size, Coralville is lucky to have a wonderful bus system. I would be in favor of expanded busing as funding allows. Additionally, the Intermodal Facility in the Iowa River Landing has tremendous potential to serve as a model for community transit hubs in our neighboring municipalities.

Moving forward, we need to continue to work collaboratively with city, county, and federal governments to better integrate Johnson County's various systems and to continually identify transit needs as they arise. We also need to ensure adequate roads and infrastructure and explore innovative ideas such as rail.

4. Affordable housing continues to be a hot button issue in Johnson County. Access to affordable housing is important to the business community, because it contributes to the quality of life for employees and their families, and helps attract and retain the best workers. How will you work to address the affordable housing crisis in Johnson County?

Housing impacts people across the income spectrum at every stage of life — from working families to the elderly. Like transportation, housing is another key factor in connecting economic development and community development. Coralville has a tradition of being an affordable place for people to live. As we grow, we can't price people out of our community. That's why I'm in favor of the city overseeing innovative projects and facilitating partnerships with developers and other community partners and stakeholders.

We also have to marry the need for innovative housing solutions with the need to stabilize our older neighborhoods by reinvesting in them. We have to protect these historic parts of our community and keep them from falling into blight. Safe and stable housing and neighborhoods are the bedrock of a healthy community and a key issue that we need to address with continued focus on public-private partnerships.

5. The general business environment in Johnson County will always be a key issue in mind for the Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce, including the responsible use of regulation on business. How would you work to ensure business has a seat at the table, and regulation is well thought out and places minimal burden on our community's small business owners?

Again, community development and economic development go hand in hand. As a small business owner, I believe that a vibrant economic environment helps create a stronger community. From our standing-room-only economic update lunches to our well-attended weekly Coralville chamber roundtables, the business community in Coralville is stronger than ever.

As a city government, we can build on this by continuing to listen to the innovative entrepreneurs and business leaders in our community. If there are regulations, ordinances, or infrastructure obstacles that prevent growth, the city needs to hear about them. In the past, Coralville has worked collaboratively with organizations like the Chamber and CVB on wayfinding, retail mapping, and more. The city could establish a Coralville business committee, a small standing group made up of a cross-section of small business owners and large employers to more rapidly gather feedback on the local business environment.

When our businesses are able to grow, our citizens benefit. That's why the big-picture economic ecosystem is a three-legged stool that includes a living wage, affordable housing, and integrated transportation for our local skilled workforce. The city can foster this environment by establishing a leadership role in addressing these critical community and economic development drivers.

Cindy Riley (Seeking election to one of three seats)

1. Please describe why you are seeking this office, what qualifies you to hold the position, and three goals you would have for your time in office?

My name is Cindy Altmaier Riley and I have a long history in the Coralville area. I grew up in this area and I strongly believe Coralville is a community worth investing in. I attended Northwest JR High and West High School and I currently have a small business in Coralville, Winans Chocolates & Coffees. Having a small business here has given me first hand experience in how to establish and grow a small business in Coralville. In order to build a strong economy that will give Coralville residents the opportunity to earn a good wage and raise a family in a beautiful Iowa town, I will work with community leaders to continue the careful development of small and large businesses. I will push to obtain a gold level bike community rating and will strongly support our parks and other recreation facilities. While focusing on building a community we can all be proud of, we must not overlook the importance of a good education for our children, and affordable housing and affordable childcare for Coralville families.

Adding to my qualifications to be part of our City Council, after graduating from West HS ('79) I earned a Bachelors degree in Agricultural Economics and Computer Science with an interest in helping businesses grow thru technology. This interest led me to professional positions in several companies throughout the Midwest and I gained excellent experience in business management. This business management experience will lend itself very well to the business of running a community like Coralville. Recently, I returned to Iowa State University to complete my Masters degree in Agriculture Education & Sciences with a minor in Human Computer Interactions. I plan to use this MS degree to work with businesses in Iowa to help them leverage technology to increase their success. 'Keep Iowa growing' is my philosophy and Coralville is an excellent place to be a public servant that can help the community grow and prosper.

This said, let me take a moment and touch on the importance of responsible business growth. A city must grow with an eye toward sustainability of it financial position and responsibility to our environment. This means keeping a close eye on our debt level and keeping our infrastructure up to date to support our residents. Every decision must be looked at thru this lens; will this decision give Coralville a long term reward, will this decision be good for our environment, and will our families be able to say they are proud to live in Coralville. Coralville is a diverse community and this needs to be honored and celebrated.

My goals for my time in office include:

- 1) Promote financially stable and environmentally friendly development in Coralville by attracting businesses that will employ area residents so they can make a fair wage and raise healthy and happy families
- 2) Support the residents of Coralville by promoting affordable housing and affordable childcare
- 3) Make Coralville a community that celebrates a healthy lifestyle and great recreational activities

2. What are your thoughts on the role of economic development incentives (TIF, Workforce housing credits, etc..) in continuing the growth of the Coralville? Would you support continued use of these incentives to further spur growth in the region?

This is a very complex question. Economic development incentives can make a dramatic difference to a community. I have seen amazing growth and development in Coralville in the last 40 years. I commend the city planners and administrators on the progress they have made. However, we need to proceed very carefully down the path of development we are currently on. Our debt level is troubling and we need to move forward with a careful eye on how a given project will affect our debt. In general, all incentives need to be focused directly on the community benefit. They should not move dollars out of the Coralville community. They should support community services, including affordable housing and affordable childcare for families. They should support the long-term growth of small businesses and other employers in Coralville. One more important thought, all decisions concerning economic development incentives in Coralville need to have full public disclosure. Communications with all affected parties should be public. All decisions should be over-communicated so interested residents of Coralville can fully understand each situation.

3. Transit has been a long-standing issue for employers and employees in the region. What would you do to improve Coralville's transit system, and to improve coordination of this system with other regional governments?

The Intermodal Transportation Center is a great addition to Coralville. This facility supports automobiles, buses, bikes and taxis. This gives Coralville residents a variety of choices for their commute and also allows businesses in Coralville to offer out-of-town employees a convenient way to commute to Coralville for work. To enhance the transit system in Coralville I have a several items I would support.

A) I would like to see a bike share system in Coralville that would create a network that would interact with the Intermodal Transportation Center. A bike share system will help solve the 'last mile' problem many commuters may have with the Center. To make the shared bike system work, Coralville needs to have bike stations placed strategically around the city at high use areas – these station locations should be based on housing and employment numbers. Coralville needs to coordinate this with surrounding communities and with the Iowa City Bicycle Master Plan.

B) I fully support continuing to work toward a light rail system that would connect Coralville to our North and South. This rail system would specifically help alleviate the traffic congestion on 1st Ave – especially when special events are taking place and there is a high volume of traffic heading into the University area.

C) Coralville needs some limited city buses running on Sundays.

4. Affordable housing continues to be a hot button issue in Johnson County. Access to affordable housing is important to the business community, because it contributes to the

quality of life for employees and their families, and helps attract and retain the best workers. How will you work to address the affordable housing crisis in Johnson County? Coralville needs to be an active member of the Johnson County community and engage in all affordable housing discussions that affect Johnson County residents. As a member of the Coralville City Council I will work with the experts in the county to keep Coralville moving forward with affordable housing options.

I believe it is also important to have a comprehensive community plan that offers full support of residents. Along with affordable housing, Coralville needs to ensure we have the support network we need to allow families to succeed in Coralville. This network must include fair tax rates, reasonable utility costs, a quality community food bank, good transportation options and assistance to understand how to use services to continue to move families forward with their lives.

5. The general business environment in Johnson County will always be a key issue in mind for the Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce, including the responsible use of regulation on business. How would you work to ensure business has a seat at the table, and regulation is well thought out and places minimal burden on our community's small business owners?

I am a small business owner in Coralville and understand first hand the issues that a small business must deal with on a day-to-day basis. It is key to have open and honest dialogue between city officials and business owners (both small and large). I think it would be a good idea to have a yearly listening forum, sponsored by the Chamber, where they collect input from area businesses about issues and barriers that small business owners are struggling with. The dialogue has to start with the businesses owners bringing their concerns to the table. Then, these concerns must be shared with the City officials so we can better understand the impact of decisions on the success of area businesses.

The diversity we have in Coralville provides for great ideas for small business startups. I firmly believe that starting a small business is an excellent way to contribute to the long-term success of your community. Any time a barrier for a small business is encountered in Coralville we need to communicate it to an organization like the Chamber and follow up with City officials to develop a plan of action to break down the barrier.

Elizabeth Dinschel (Running for election to one of three seats)

1. Please describe why you are seeking this office, what qualifies you to hold the position, and three goals you would have for your time in office? (*this answer can be up to 500 words*)

My name is Elizabeth Dinschel I am running for office because I am concerned that 57% of Coralville renters are cost-burdened by housing. 35% of all households are cost burdened in Johnson County. As a person who grew up poor and spent my early adult years struggling to make ends meet, this is an issue that is deeply personal to me. I hold BAs in History and Political Science and an MA in History with a graduate minor in Public Administration. I have worked in local, tribal, and federal government positions, worked with budgets, and I am an advocate and activist for the community. I am truly a public servant. Three of my major priorities are expanding affordable housing options, improving public transportation, and developing city support for growing small businesses in Coralville.

2. What are your thoughts on the role of economic development incentives (TIF, Workforce housing credits, etc..) in continuing the growth of the Coralville? Would you support continued use of these incentives to further spur growth in the region?

I believe that TIF is an important tool for cities that must be used responsibly and I would support usage of TIF after independent review and support from the community. I will also be outspoken against misuse of TIF. I will advocate for a budget that supports expansion of affordable housing and small business growth to help create jobs, improve wages for citizens, and fill empty retail spaces.

3. Transit has been a long-standing issue for employers and employees in the region. What would you do to improve Coralville's transit system, and to improve coordination of this system with other regional governments?

There are a lot of things that can be done to address transportation issues. There is a person working on some of the issues in Johnson County by learning routes and trying to find better ways to get people from point A to point B, which will help to improve schedules and accessibility. I want to work with the county, university, and surrounding cities to develop a schedule that includes later schedules and a Sunday schedule. With growing hospitality jobs in Coralville, 2nd shift and Sunday schedules are vital for the employee and the employer. I am also concerned that there is no public transportation for children who attend Liberty High School who need to catch a bus back to the Kirkwood district. I really believe a consolidated county transit system would be the best thing for the county, but I understand there are serious hurdles and protocols that make that difficult. I believe with serious cooperation and work with the county, cities, and university, we can work out a transportation system that works for Johnson County and its changing population.

4. Affordable housing continues to be a hot button issue in Johnson County. Access to affordable housing is important to the business community, because it contributes to the

quality of life for employees and their families, and helps attract and retain the best workers. How will you work to address the affordable housing crisis in Johnson County?

There are several approaches for developing affordable housing options and alleviating costs to homeowners that I would like to help enact. Affordable housing is not just the cost of maintaining shelter, but also includes availability of housing, wages, and access to transportation. Coralville has grown, demographics have changed, and we need a more inclusive approach to housing availability and costs. There are people in Coralville with fixed incomes who are concerned about rising costs of property taxes on their paid off homes, retail and hospitality workers who cannot afford to live in Coralville, and families who cannot afford to buy homes- all scenarios that are important to me and the city. I want to lead the efforts by working closely with neighboring governments and community coalitions in several ways. First of all, I would like for the city to apply for competitive federal grants to help residents get housing vouchers. Secondly, I would like to see some non-profit owned and managed developments that will accept vouchers because private landlords are not likely to reduce rent down to the voucher levels. I would like to see more money from the mall TIF released into the general fund allocated to the housing trust for vouchers and some of it cycled into property tax relief for homeowners. I would also encourage more high density development that can work for lower income residents- especially seniors and disabled citizens who depend on fixed incomes. Alleviating the cost of housing for all income levels in Coralville helps to promote a vibrant economy where people have more access to disposable income and it builds a more reliable workforce. I want to have robust community discussions about how affordable housing is extremely important to the continued success of Coralville's businesses and the growth of the city.

5. The general business environment in Johnson County will always be a key issue in mind for the Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce, including the responsible use of regulation on business. How would you work to ensure business has a seat at the table, and regulation is well thought out and places minimal burden on our community's small business owners?

In my short time running for office, I have reached out to several small business owners. Regulation has not come up in discussion, but they are concerned that there is not support for them as small businesses. I would like to see programs that encourage and groom entrepreneurship in Coralville, grants, and low interest micro loans to promote opening of small businesses and expansion of existing small businesses. There are several successful models and support organizations in the immediate area at Kirkwood and the University of Iowa that could help the city develop a responsible and successful program.

Miriam Timmer-Hackert (Running for election to one of three seats)

1. Please describe why you are seeking this office, what qualifies you to hold the position, and three goals you would have for your time in office? (*this answer can be up to 500 words*)

Two years ago the two Coralville incumbents ran uncontested, and friends began to ask me to run for City Council. I have been preparing with the Johnson County Democrats and other groups like 50/50 in 2020. I started attending all the Coralville City Council meetings last January and have met and asked questions of Mitch Gross, Tony Roetlin, Kelly Hayworth, and Kevin Olson to get their perspective on handicapped accessibility at 30hop, TIFs, and the Arena plans. I care very much about my community and appreciate the small town feel of Coralville.

I am a lawyer, mediator, and a volunteering mom. Mediation is about helping others communicate more clearly and work together. I ask divorcing couples if they want to do things themselves efficiently or both pay attorneys to fight, wait, and then get an unknown result from a judge. Mediating is about helping people feel heard and making everyone a part of the process- a great background for city council

I also am well connected to Coralville residents as secretary of the NorthWest Junior High Parent Student Teacher Organization, co-president elect of the District Parent Organization, and leader of the Gardening Club at Coralville Central. I have worked with Coralville police and residents as part of the Restorative Justice Program. I have learned a lot about sprawl and Johnson County serving on the Comprehensive Planning Committee. I have also been a leader on boards such as Trinity Episcopal Church and the Emma Goldman Clinic. We don't need Council Members holding on to old grudges with Iowa City or County Supervisors.

My three goals would be to make Coralville more sustainable, accessible, and fiscally responsible. I would like dense growth, more trees, and public transportation. I would like to have busses on Sunday and more bus shelters. It is important to design intersections not just for cars but also for pedestrians, including moms with double strollers and people in wheelchairs. Going green can be more fiscally responsible, for example by choosing to use less pesticide (and maybe not kill every single dandelion in the parks.)

It is healthiest for schools and communities to have the affordable housing not all concentrated into one area and elementary school. Having a welcoming town does not require that Coralville overspend on putting stone on the outside of every building and putting brick insets diagonally in the sidewalk. (I cringe to think how much it cost to have cut all the bricks for the fancy insets that are now falling out at 12th Avenue and 6th Street.) Instead of subsidizing stone facing, we could subsidize planting trees.

Another goal is for Coralville to use TIF more fiscally responsibly, and then we would get along better with our neighbors. We could work together to set up a detox/mental health center, or develop a rail line to Cedar Rapids, but if cities continue to the TIF race to make others subsidize county taxes it is much harder to work together.

2. What are your thoughts on the role of economic development incentives (TIF, Workforce housing credits, etc..) in continuing the growth of the Coralville? Would you support continued use of these incentives to further spur growth in the region?

I am a strong supporter of affordable housing and have not heard any complaints yet about workforce housing credits (see affordable housing.)

The original goal of TIF was to support urban renewal in depressed areas. I don't know that Coralville has many blighted areas now that the flood zones and brownfield are redone. The area most needing help is in the Kirkwood elementary area. I think Coralville misused the CoralRidge Mall TIF income to invest in the Iowa River Landing instead of sharing that money with the school districts and county, especially after the original investment had been paid off (and yes I realize the 20 years are up soon.)

I would be slower to be persuaded that Coralville needs to give land away to developers to support commercial "economic development." I'm also concerned that Coralville has been favoring its own commercial property at the expense of other businesses, for example having the RAGBRAI bus stop at the Iowa River Landing but not the local bike store. I would like to see Coralville be more fiscally responsible and sustainable, rather than just pursue growth for growth's sake.

I believe we can use TIF to clean up brownfields and subsidize LEED buildings, but not overuse TIF just to bring in more retail because it hurts the county and causes hard feelings from our neighbors. Considering that Iowa City has a much bigger population, it seems out of balance that Coralville's TIF is over 3 million yearly since 2011 while Iowa City had between \$13,732 and \$346,119. While part of the school district money is backfilled by the state, the county is not backfilled and everyone else's taxes are higher outside the TIF.

3. Transit has been a long-standing issue for employers and employees in the region. What would you do to improve Coralville's transit system, and to improve coordination of this system with other regional governments?

I would like to add bus shelters to make bussing more practical in our Iowa weather. My understanding is that hotel and retail employers and employees both would greatly appreciate Sunday busing, but that the county provides the accessible SEATS so we would need to coordinate. As students from Kirkwood are assigned to Liberty High while Alexander students go to Northwest and West, we could really use more coordinated or county bussing for schools. I know the school administration folks well due to working with the District Parent Organization, and I know Iowa City council members and the County Board of Supervisors and staff so at least I am starting out with a friendly relationship instead of being seen as clinging to old resentments.

4. Affordable housing continues to be a hot button issue in Johnson County. Access to affordable housing is important to the business community, because it contributes to the quality of life for employees and their families, and helps attract and retain the best workers. How will you work to address the affordable housing crisis in Johnson County?

I am already working with the Affordable Housing Coalition - they certainly can provide education and some funding. We have a Coralville specific Affordable Housing Committee including Mitch Gross, Meghann Foster, John Greve from Coralville's New Song Episcopal Church, and Sara Barron from AHC among others. We can review Iowa City's 15 point Affordable Housing Plan and see what might work for Coralville: inclusive zoning, Community Development Block Grants, TIF, workforce credits, reducing regulations, density bonuses, etc. <https://www8.iowa-city.org/weblink/0/doc/1532240/Electronic.aspx>

I would like to see the affordable housing in Coralville spread out across the city instead of concentrated south of the interstate. The FRPL numbers at Wickham and Kirkwood should be much closer than they currently are so that all students have a diverse and manageable class instead of most of the kids from families in crisis being isolated at Kirkwood. Educating people about how neighborhoods do better when they do include some affordable housing is an important step and communicating and involving people in the process - AHC is working on a Yes In My Back Yard program.

5. The general business environment in Johnson County will always be a key issue in mind for the Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce, including the responsible use of regulation on business. How would you work to ensure business has a seat at the table, and regulation is well thought out and places minimal burden on our community's small business owners?

As a mediator I am good at listening and asking questions to clarify what others are trying to teach me. I'm glad businesses have the Chamber and other organizations to help. I also have experience as a home-daycare owner. I know trying to run a small business is hard enough without unnecessary regulation.

Iowa City is reducing regulations to make building affordable housing easier - reducing required parking spaces, relaxing requirements on multi-family units, expediting building approvals, reducing the minimum size on a PUD, and allowing more building types by right instead of requiring a PUD.

I believe I have also heard that Coralville specifically has unnecessary building regulations that increase the costs here. Safe is good, but I'm not sure that one daycare with parking issues justifies having additional Coralville-specific parking regulations.

Imad Youssif (Running for election to one of three seats)

1. Please describe why you are seeking this office, what qualifies you to hold the position, and three goals you would have for your time in office? (*this answer can be up to 500 words*)

I have a passion to serve others and a desire to be a representative voice for the people in standing up for their ideas and concerns. My PHD, DBA, and MBA education has given me the knowledge and skills to analyze the many issues that come before me. I understand and know what is best for our local and large businesses as a result of 25 years in the business world. I have served on various international boards, committees and councils. From my experience, I have learned how to listen, to respond and to act in response to the concerns of the residents of Coralville. I hope to bring my years of business experience and straightforward mindset to Coralville's City Council. Our city has room for improvement when it comes to business regulations. I have had to face these hurdles head on, and as such, I know how to eliminate and improve them.

In addition to the business improvement goals, I also have other goals. We sell ourselves as an outdoor recreational area, so the environment is necessary for our economic development and quality of life. The investment into the parks is an asset to our neighborhoods. I support public safety and the development of the Neighborhood Watch program. I also support fiscal sustainability and transparency for responsible government to the citizens of Coralville

2. What are your thoughts on the role of economic development incentives (TIF, Workforce housing credits, etc..) in continuing the growth of the Coralville? Would you support continued use of these incentives to further spur growth in the region?

TIF is an excellent tool that can help grow communities wherever it is utilized. The tax from the Incremental increase in property value from new development is going to the TIF fund. The new development includes places such as shopping areas, restaurants, hotels, other places that sell goods and services (which can be taxed thus providing more tax for the city, but sometimes this tax is included in the TIF), and other places that create jobs, (which generates additional taxes for the city from the income tax of those jobs). The new development also helps increase the value of the properties around, and the other benefits that would be experienced by a community as a result of the TIF project.

3. Transit has been a long-standing issue for employers and employees in the region. What would you do to improve Coralville's transit system, and to improve coordination of this system with other regional governments?

As we all noticed that transit development is a key point to meet a variety of environmental, economic, and social goals. Most importantly Transit is a critical element of any strategy to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. My focus will be on the importance of regionally significant places where mixes of entertainment, culture and work come together. I believe that these places play a critical role in the region's economic health.

4. Affordable housing continues to be a hot button issue in Johnson County. Access to affordable housing is important to the business community, because it contributes to the quality of life for employees and their families, and helps attract and retain the best workers. How will you work to address the affordable housing crisis in Johnson County?

Rents are outpacing income growth, the population of the Coralville rising, and the vacancy rate has fallen to nearly 2%. In short, we are in a housing crisis. My goal is to draft a coalition of organizations advocating for affordable housing development, preservation, and the improvement of tenant rights in Coralville. I see every day the lingering impacts of housing discrimination in Johnson County and the need to have an honest dialogue about how to build a city that is racially and economically equitable. I will aggressively pursue inclusive zoning, linkage fees and other policies that jumpstart the construction of quality and affordable housing for all.

5. The general business environment in Johnson County will always be a key issue in mind for the Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce, including the responsible use of regulation on business. How would you work to ensure business has a seat at the table, and regulation is well thought out and places minimal burden on our community's small business owners?

I think that putting more heft behind the Regulatory Flexibility Act—a law that makes it mandatory for government agencies to examine the impact of new regulations on small businesses before they implement those rules—would alleviate the regulatory burden on small business.