

Terrik Allman
4/2/14
541-306-0585
toryallman@aol.com

If I Were Mayor...

Political leaders throughout history have made decisions, whether small or large, and enacted rulings that impact large amounts of people. This causes a great amount of responsibility to be put on their shoulders, and it is their choice whether or not to use their power wisely.

If I were given a chance to wield that power, I would continue many of the currently running programs, and expand some of them.

My first major act as Mayor would be to increase the development of Redmond's homeless programs. I have served for about three years at Jericho Table, an organization that feeds the homeless every third and, if there is one, fifth Friday of each month. Many weeks the room we borrowed was packed, so much so that we needed to bring out two carts for the dishes instead of the usual one cart.

This may sound heartwarming, but people pretty much need to eat every day. So, to ensure that everyone who needed sustenance got their fair share, I would branch out from Jericho Table and erect multiple new feeding programs. They would function by having a couple of them trade out every two weeks, and a special one serve unique dishes on holidays. This would ensure that everyone who came would get fed, and that they got a treat every holiday.

These programs would run on volunteers and multiple paid workers. They would be open approximately 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M., then 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. They would run every day.

I would also enact a similar program to give clothes, toys, and simple pleasures to the homeless. On holidays such as Christmas and Easter, a little toy would be given to each child who passed through the line.

The final part of my Homeless Improvement Program would be to construct multiple homeless shelters in Redmond. I actually have the ideal location in mind. On N.E. King Way, there are two seemingly-abandoned fields. These would make excellent sites for the shelters.

These shelters would be run by volunteers and paid staff, creating more jobs in Redmond. Also, the building of the shelters would create more jobs in construction. These jobs would boost Redmond's economy, bringing in more money, and helping to take people off the streets.

Terrik Allman
4/2/14
541-306-0585
toryallman@aol.com

Why is it that convicted felons get free lunch, while school children need to pay for theirs? My next step as Mayor would be to create a free lunch program for our students. This wouldn't be a source of income, but it would make the children think better of Redmond. This could lead them to have a greater loyalty to us in the future, staying here to get jobs, raise families, and help out the community. So, in other words, this may possibly lower the rate of people leaving Redmond.

Parents would also save money, which would let them invest it in other things, such as local companies. This would also boost Redmond's economy.

Paul Ryan once said, "Behind every small business, there's a story worth knowing. All the corner shops in our towns and cities, the restaurants, cleaners, gyms, hair salons, hardware stores-these didn't come out of nowhere." That is true. Small companies, such as Cent-Wise, Green Plow Coffee Roasters, and Polar Bear Gas all have a story to be told. I would also promote small business entrepreneurs to open and expand their own businesses. This would create jobs and also be a major source of income. Big corporations send most of the money they get to their C.E.O. to pay off their bills. However, a small business would put the money back into the community by way of taxes and purchases.

They could also become a part of everyday life. My father has been working at Cent-Wise for 9 ½ years, and he's seen thousands of people bring Cent-Wise into their daily routines. Many came down to shoot at the archery range, and many just came in to see employees. A man by the name of Glen Duncan comes in multiple times a week to converse with my mother. Seeing her is the highlight of his day, and she gives him a hug each time she sees him.

Big corporations have so many people streaming through them daily that connections can't develop on a personal level. I can pretty much guarantee you that, if you were to go into Walmart, the cashier you had a few days ago won't even remember you. Unless you wear intriguing clothes, or are a friend of that person. In circumstances such as that, how could you begin to bond with the people that service you? An immense part of the community is *being connected*. If we aren't connected, then we're just a gathering of families that live in the same area.

To boost population growth, I would begin the construction of a University in Redmond. If we have first-class education, and high graduation rates, we may begin attracting people to Redmond. This would bring in more revenue, and also boost our community's intelligence level, opening up more jobs and opportunities for even more enterprises.

Terrik Allman
4/2/14
541-306-0585
toryallman@aol.com

Why not make Redmond a tourist destination? We could build an amazing structure, invent a hit game, or start up our own amusement park or film company. This would make people want to come to Redmond to see something nowhere else on Earth has.

We could also build an observatory and lab to contribute to science. This would open up even more jobs.

So, in conclusion, if I were able to try my hand at the power and responsibility of being Mayor, I would focus on improving conditions for the homeless, and training our workforce to be the best that they can be. I would attempt to stimulate job growth, and make an attempt to connect with the people of our community. I would contribute to science and the increase of Redmond's population. I believe that my measures would strengthen and reinforce Redmond's economic stability, and would help Redmond to be much more prominent on the map.