



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Additional Information Contact:

Campaign Headquarters (Britt Nichols)

816.283.3535

MARK FUNKHOUSER'S COMMITMENT TO KANSAS CITY

Mark Funkhouser will officially file as candidate for mayor of Kansas City, Missouri on Friday, January 5. The former city auditor will submit his notarized petitions to the city clerk immediately after he signs an official Commitment Letter to the people of Kansas City at 11:30 a.m outside the clerk's office on the 25th Floor of City Hall.

"My top priority as mayor of Kansas City will be to increase residents' satisfaction with city services," Funkhouser said. "This written commitment will be binding. Voters can hold me accountable to it."

The Commitment Letter offers twelve priorities that will guide Funkhouser's tenure as mayor. Some are general principles to guide leadership of City Hall, such as doing business in the open rather than behind closed doors and serving the interests of the city and its people, not special interests and patronage. Others are more specific, such as recommitting to the city's policy of funding for maintenance of streets, sidewalks, sewer and drainage systems, parks and public facilities, in accordance with the guidelines set by the Citizens Infrastructure Committee in 1997. The document was crafted in direct response to the results of the City Services Performance Reports compiled by the auditor's office each year. These reports are based on data from surveys of Kansas City residents' satisfaction with city services.

"Year after year, Kansas Citians have shown that they are less satisfied than citizens in surrounding communities with public safety, parks and recreation, maintenance, code enforcement, and city communication," Funkhouser said. "This is unacceptable. In a city that works, residents are satisfied with the work of those who serve them in the government. We can be that city, if I am elected mayor."

Funkhouser added that he will ask his fellow elected officials and city leaders to sign the Commitment Letter as well.

"One of my responsibilities as mayor will be to make appointments to City Council subcommittees and various governmental bodies such as the Parks Board and the TIF Commission." Funkhouser said. "In order to serve on one of these boards, or to receive a Chair position on a council subcommittee, I will require appointees to sign this commitment letter."

“And I will hold them to it, just as I expect the people of Kansas City to hold me to my Commitment.”

Mark Funkhouser served for 18 years as Auditor for Kansas City. In 2003, he was named as one of the Public Officials of the Year by Governing magazine. Upon his retirement, he received the Police Department’s highest honor, a baton, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the Department and the services it provides to Kansas Citians. Immediately following the signing of the Commitment Letter, he will answer questions from the media.