



Candidate Profile - City Commission

Name	Josie Tomkow
Office Seeking	State Representative, District 51
Do you currently reside in the district?	<input type="button" value="Yes"/>
Years lived in Lakeland?	6
Campaign Address	1103 Hays Street Tallahassee , Florida, 32301
Campaign Phone Number	(863) 500-0714
Campaign Email	josie@josietomkow.com
Campaign Website	Josietomkow.com
Party Affiliation	Republican
Education	
BA - University of Florida	
Occupation	Cattle rancher
Employer	Self
Have you attended a Public Leadership Institute/Political Leadership Institute (hosted by a Chamber of Commerce or Economic Development Council)?	<input type="button" value="No"/>
Have you ever run for office before?	<input type="button" value="Yes"/>
a. If yes, what office?	State Representative, District 39 (2018-present)
b. Did you win?	<input type="button" value="Yes"/>

Describe your civic involvement:

Representing District 39 over the past four years in the Florid House at the local community level and state level.

List any Boards on which you serve, including positions of leadership

Chair of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Committee.

Describe your political involvement:

Part of the Florida Republican House Campaigns Elections Coordinating Team that resulted in the House Republican Caucus picking up five legislative seats in 2020.

Why are you running for office?

To continue the work we've done over the last four years in helping promote economic growth, protect individual liberties and invest in our water quality, environment and infrastructure.

What do you consider to be the top three (3) issues facing the City (listing in order of importance)? If elected, when would you plan to address these issues and hope to see them accomplished?

I.

Cost of living. First we can give relief via tax cuts. We also took aggressive action to curb property insurance rates last session.

II.

Infrastructure. We have a growing community and we have to have adequate infrastructure to support this growth. We invested over \$12 billion into our work program for transportation.

III.

Water quality - we have a rich agricultural history here and have to protect our environment and water quality to keep it flourishing.

Rank the following as you see their current order of importance for the City of Lakeland:

1: Improving public safety

2: Reducing taxes and government spending

3: Job Creation & Economic Development

4: Improving roads and infrastructure

During an economic downturn, how should the Lakeland City Commission handle increasing and decreasing City tax revenues caused by the normal economic cycle? You may check more than one choice. Depending on your choice/choices, please state what you would cut and what you would increase.

Cut Spending

Depending on your choice/choices above, please state what you would cut and what you would increase.

We have a \$20b surplus in reserves thanks to the leadership of the legislature and governor. We can always tighten our belts during a recession and we should never ask resident for more money for government.

What do you believe are the main issues facing Lakeland's downtown urban core?

Combating the dysfunction of Washington to make sure we can keep Florida prospering

How are some ways government can encourage and support entrepreneurship?

Encourage kids to take up a vocation early in their education so they can enter the workforce right away in good paying careers. Those young apprentices may grow into small business owners quickly.

What is your opinion on government providing incentives to businesses?

Against picking winners and losers.

How can the City of Lakeland help attract and retain a vibrant and talented workforce?

It has to have a matching vibrant economic climate so local business flourish and new business relocate to Lakeland. Having a world class school system and safe streets are also part of the recipe. Lakeland is growing and thriving but we need to continue to seek improvement and as a state, support public policies that foster job creation and growth.

*This document will be published on the BusinessVoice Inc. website for public disclosure.