

Bill Summers for Mayor

Thoughtful, Effective Leadership

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A Vibrant and Magnetic Downtown District

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Bill Summers, candidate for Clarksville mayor, is formally announcing his four-step plan for the future of a robust and energetic downtown Clarksville, Tenn., that will spur economic and social development and encourage citizens to reconnect with their downtown district.

1. Assistance and incentives for new and existing small business owners in the downtown district, which would be provided by a partnership with the Two Rivers Company, Montgomery County, Tennessee Small Business Development Center, APSU and our state legislators. Assistance would include centralized support and education that would give new and existing business owners the resources they need to create and grow strong local businesses that are successful and profitable. Incentives include, but are not limited to, reducing or waiving fees and taxes for a certain amount of time.
2. A multi-platform marketing campaign that would advertise potential business and development opportunities and eradicate current misconceptions about the shopping and entertainment atmosphere downtown; thus, igniting excitement and development opportunity for the area.
3. Increased mixed-use development, a concept that enhances neighborhood identity by mixing retail and commercial space with residential areas. Along with new mixed-used development, there would be improved pedestrian connectivity between parking areas, downtown, APSU, the Riverwalk and downtown anchors.
4. Creation and construction of significant and multiple downtown anchors, including a convention center and the rebuilding and expansion of the Roxy Performing Arts Theatre, both would be funded through public/private partnerships.

Summers presented his four-step plan to the Downtown Clarksville Association on Thursday, Feb. 13. Small business owners in attendance resonated with Summers' vision for the downtown district.

"Bill Summers' passion for downtown shined brightly this morning during his talk with the DCA," Kimberlee Cavin, a hairstylist at Isabella Sophia, said. "You can feel how committed he is to downtown and small businesses."

Summers began serving as the city councilman for Ward 10 since 2007, after defeating an experience incumbent and won re-election in 2010 to his current second term with over 81% of the vote. He created and sponsored legislation that funded the Two Rivers Company, the committee responsible for downtown redevelopment – without increasing the budget.

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