

2010 Alachua County Commission District 2 Democratic Primary

The Alachua County Candidates



Jack Donovan

Office sought: Alachua County Commission - District 2

Email: jfdonovan@bellsouth.net

Website: www.jackdonovan.com

Educational Background: - Master of Divinity, Graduate Theological Union (King School for Ministry), Berkeley, California, 1986

- Master of Public Policy, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 1974

- Bachelor Degree, English Literature, Dartmouth College, 1966

Public offices held or which you were a candidate for:

- Housing Authority Board (elected), Concord, Massachusetts, 1975-76
- Comprehensive Plan Committee (appointed), Concord, Massachusetts, 1976
- Gainesville City Commission, 2005 to present



Lee Pinkoson

Office sought: Alachua County Commission - District 2

Email: lpinkoson@aol.com

Website: Leepinkoson.org

Educational Background: Littlewood Elementary; Gainesville, FL

Westwood Jr. High School; Gainesville, FL

Woodberry Forest High School; Orange, VA

Baylor University; Waco, TX

Graduated from University of Florida with a Bachelors of Science in Business Administration – Majored in Economics

Public offices held or which you were a candidate for: Alachua County

Commission 2002- present

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1. What are the three biggest challenges facing our County and what is your plan to address them?



Jack Donovan

Loss of rural land to development: Impact fees, environmental standards, development rights transfers, farming incentives, adherence to Comprehensive Plan.
Blighting of homes, businesses, public infrastructure in municipalities.

Direct growth to municipalities (through zoning, CRAs, TDRs, urban public transit, express buses to job centers). Redirect staff to help struggling small municipalities.
Poverty, causing suffering, failure, costly dependence. Life skills and childhood development programs. Municipal revitalization retaining successful households to support the common good. Municipal job development.



Lee Pinkoson

1) The Budget. Because people are hurting financially, increasing taxes should be a last resort. Prioritization and pruning our expenses are essential.
2) Jobs. We are blessed to have UF, we must continue to diversify and expand our job inventory to include more well

paying jobs with benefits for a workforce of all educational levels. 3) Environment/Infrastructure(explained below). Koppers threatens our water supply. Pressure EPD to resolve this threat in a suitable manner.

2. As local governments continue to face budget deficits, what steps would you take to balance the County's annual budget?



Jack Donovan

a) Replace infrastructure subsidies to developers with impact fees;
b) Reduce costs of public safety, incarceration, court services and emergency health care by reducing the causes of crime and illness through early social service interventions;

c) Switch County employees from defined pension benefit plans to defined pension contribution plans;
d) Reduce transportation system costs by emphasizing municipal development and municipality-employment express public transit;
e) Implement fire assessment fee.
f) Assess annual decrement lists by department.



Lee Pinkoson

By definition counties are required to have a balanced budget. As stated above, we must look to prioritize our services and then examine those services to see what we can afford to provide. Asking for more in the form of increased taxes

in a time when people are hurting financially, should be a last resort and only when public safety is an issue.

3. How do you plan to address the County's need for quality road infrastructure?



Jack Donovan

a) Emphasize maintenance of existing roads;
b) Continue practice of resurfacing unpaved roads;
c) Direct residential and business development to municipalities to insure homes close to jobs;

d) Increase public transportation convenience for dense population centers;
e) Connect smaller municipalities to employment centers with express buses.

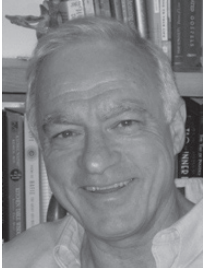


Lee Pinkoson

By treating new dollars realized when property transitions from undeveloped to developed differently. We should allocate a percentage of those new dollars for some determined time period to infrastructure to offset the cost of development. At some point we will have to consider a sales tax to address the backlog.

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4. The MTPO is in the process of developing the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). What would be your top three priorities for the LRTP?



Jack Donovan

- a) Frequent trolley service for Gainesville central city (East 15th to West 43rd; North 16th to South 16th/Archer Rd).
- b) Express buses connecting municipalities to employment centers.
- c) Pedestrian/bicyclist friendly downtown Gainesville: further

landscape upgrades along Main Street; restructure University Ave as with Main Street; support same for smaller municipalities.



Lee Pinkoson

- 1) Purchase enough right of way for all possible contingencies looking 50 years into the future! The route from Newberry Road to Archer Road by way of Butler Plaza. Assistance with overpass expansion and resurfacing projects.

5. What are the top initiatives/policies you would support or bring forth for Alachua County to attract, retain and support businesses?



Jack Donovan

Improve public transportation, environmental protection (water, recreation, farmland), public safety (reduce causes of crime); public education (increase early childhood parenting competence for school readiness). Reduce bureaucratic

obstructions to development permitting process -- emphasize legitimate public interests. Enhance air transportation services. Support development of adequate lab and office space within municipalities.



Lee Pinkoson

Support Innovation Gainesville, help companies realize incentives (Infinite Energy, assistance for road improvements, Phoenix Corporation, brownfield development assistance, dollar general QTI program).

Helped with Jonesville and Newberry Recreational complexes which bring tourist development dollars to the area. Rework regulations that when applied have unintended consequences.

6. Please describe the role of economic development in our community and what you would like to see developed during your term if elected.



Jack Donovan

Economic development's goal is: provide good livelihood for all citizens; provide a means to fulfillment for workers and entrepreneurs. My goals: a)

home grown entrepreneurship supported by adequate venture capital resources; b) co-location of residences and employment; c) partnering with UF researchers to increase export market share in I-4 corridor.



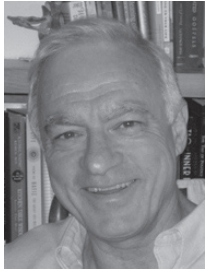
Lee Pinkoson

Economic Development translates to jobs. Seeing Innovation Gainesville (green jobs and technology) come into fruition and more job (wage) diversification. Developing the

commercial center at the current fairgrounds as well as the industrial park adjacent to the transfer station.

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7. Amendment 4 will be on the general election ballot on November 2, 2010. If passed, Amendment 4 will require citizens to vote on all comprehensive plan amendments. Do you support Amendment 4? Why or why not?



Jack Donovan

In frustration, yes. Our City Commission just ignored regulations, approving WalMart at great public cost and no benefit. Old practices get old results – killing Florida. Under Amendment 4:

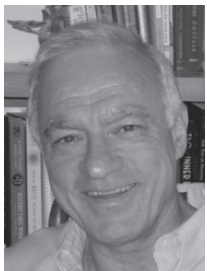
- a) Commissions publicly review, then citizens so informed choose;
- b) Commissions will have reason to stick with Comp Plan requirements.



Lee Pinkoson

NO. Just look to St. Pete beach to see the results of this amendment. The legal resulting costs to the city have been staggering. The complexity of land use decisions will be compressed to who has the best ad campaign. The ballots will be overwhelming. 50 words isn't enough.

8. Do you support the Innovation Gainesville (iG) Economic Development Initiative to establish Gainesville as an Innovation Hub, particularly focused on green technology and health science? If so, what does that mean to you and what role would you expect the city to play?



Jack Donovan

Yes. Green technology (conservation and efficiency, alternative energy, demand-management processes) is a major market due to peak oil and greenhouse gas effects. Gainesville, the County, and our higher education institutions already lead in

partnering with business in technology innovation and implementation. The County's role: a) enhance quality of life in municipalities, b) stop sprawl and natural resource destruction, c) enhance family skills necessary to support educators in training an excellent workforce and a nurturing community.



Lee Pinkoson

Obviously, yes I support this initiative. It appeals to me on a number of levels. First, it means more economic opportunities. Secondly, as it has presented, it will bring the economic diversification the area desperately needs. The county has and will be

involved in areas such as working to designate areas as future economic hubs and to examine ways in which we can streamline the development process without sacrificing the overall intent of environmental and development regulations.