



Karen F. Dunigan
Announcement of Candidacy
April 21, 2009

(Jackson, Michigan) Good morning! I'd like to welcome all of you ... my friends, colleagues and fellow citizens. I thank you for taking the time to join me and my family today as I announce my candidacy for Mayor of the City of Jackson.

I am a lifelong resident of Jackson and care deeply about what happens to our city. As a Realtor in this community for over 30 years, I've seen many changes that have made me sad. I remember when we didn't have vacant storefronts like this. Every building downtown was full of businesses, shoppers and clients. I plan to make our downtown thrive again. If we fill these buildings with businesses, that also means we fill them with jobs.

I care about how our city government is run. As a business owner, I've been frustrated to see important actions get tangled up in bureaucracy. I want to make changes to the City Charter to bring some of the successful principles of business into our city government.

I care about good communication between the City of Jackson and its citizens. All of you elect the Mayor and City Council to handle matters that affect your homes, families and jobs. You have a right to know what decisions they are making and express your opinions. I plan to do just that by making City Council meetings more open to the public and keeping citizens informed of important actions.

Perhaps most importantly, I care about having a positive attitude about the challenges our community faces. I'm committed to helping our city develop an attitude that says "Yes, we can" rather than "Here are 10 reasons why we can't." Together, we can look forward and make our city a strong, healthy place that people are proud to call home.

As I said before, this city's future is very important to me. I look forward to the opportunity to use my experience in business and community involvement to create a brighter outlook for all of us. Together with my family, we thank you for coming and we thank you for your support. We'll see you at the victory party!