



Home Builders Association of Western Michigan
5700 West Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

(269) 375-4225

Fax: (269) 375-6493

www.kalamazoohomepage.com

Home Builders Association of Western Michigan Government Relations Committee

Information Request Form

Candidate Name: Anthony Bates

Street address: 7145 S. 40th Street

City / State / Zip: Climax, MI 49034

Mailing address (if different): PO Box 5, Climax, MI 49034

County: Kalamazoo Length of residence: 10 Months

Phone: 269-205-3785 E-mail: anthony@batesforkzoocounty.com

Website: www.batesforkzoocounty.com

Campaign committee name & address: Friends For Anthony M. Bates

Occupation: Teacher

Candidate for which office: Kalamazoo County Commisioner Incumbent? No

Please list endorsements received to date: UAW, Planned Parenthood, MRCC,

Chris Pomeroy, Jen Aniano, Trent Piper, Jayci Torrence, Jason Gatlin, Shawn Fritz.

Mission Statement

The Home Builders Association of Western Michigan exists so that members of the residential construction industry can conduct their business ethically and efficiently to provide our communities with safe, quality, affordable housing, and to promote home ownership



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HBA of Western Michigan – local candidate informational questions

Have you ever run for elective office?

I have not run for elective office before.

What is your background (education, employment, other relevant experience)?

I am a graduate of Western Michigan University with a B.S. and an MA. I am a certified teacher in the state of Michigan. My last job before COVID-19 was teaching English at Glen Oaks Community College.

What are your top priority issues if elected / re-elected?

I have six items I consider my top priorities, livelihood, community values, environment, infrastructure, farming, and small business growth.

Why should the residential construction and remodeling community support your candidacy?

I will be working very hard to create new housing in Kalamazoo County due to the shortage of units. This means I will be working closely with the HBA to start a number of projects around the county, but primarily focusing on my district.

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Why should the residential construction and remodeling community NOT support your opponent's candidacy (if applicable)?

If you ask anyone in my district if they have ever met my opponent they will tell you, no.

He does not work or communicate with municipality leaders and has no knowledge

of what the townships would like to have done in their respective communities.

Today the home building and remodeling community is confronted with a wide array of complex issues. Who and/or what organization in your community do you use for advice and counsel?

I am in constant contact with municipality leaders and a few of the current County

Commissioners. I am not afraid to ask questions that relate to community issues and

finding a solution. Also, you have a typo in the question. :)

Government regulations, policies, ordinances and codes continue to be a top concern of the residential construction and remodeling industry. What would you recommend to reduce regulations to promote and support the need for additional housing in our area?

As someone who has not been in an elective office I would have to make sure I know

who to talk to with regards to the above stated. I would work hard to make sure we can

attract developers to Kalamazoo County so we can get the expansion that we need.

What is your philosophy on residential development, impact fees, property taxes, etc.?

All three have their benefits and draw backs. It will be important to work with local

developers to make sure everyone can find a way to continue expanding to help catch up

to the needs of the community while taking these items into consideration.

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What else can be done to encourage and support new housing development?

Community leaders should get involved in the conversation about the need to grow.

In my district a number of residents and municipality leaders have stated they would like to have their community expand, this needs to be heard at the county level.

What is your position on the rights of property owners with regard to development, redevelopment and remodeling?

As a property owner I would like to make sure these items are available for me to do while adhering to local ordinances that make sense. The above mentioned create jobs.

How would you define positive growth in housing for our area?

Kalamazoo County is thousands of housing units short and I will be working to create new affordable housing. I will also work to bring industry in, specifically to the areas in my district that would like to expand.

How can the HBA of Western Michigan assist you if you are elected?

An endorsement would mean a great deal and the HBA can let members know that I will be working to help expand development and will create jobs and encourage more growth.

I would also accept a monetary donation to help my campaign continue to run smoothly.

The Government Relations Committee thanks you for taking the time help the HBA membership to make an informed decision on election day. Please return your form to the address above or email to JeffT@hbawmi.com or fax to 269-375-6493.

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