

Global Warming Solutions Group Candidate Forum  
March 27, 2017

Mayor Jim Ardis

1. Do you believe in human-caused climate change. Yes
2. RE: Renewables: In the spring of 2012 citizens passed the municipal electricity aggregation referendum which I supported. We've signed 3 separate contracts for electricity supply along with about 50 other central and southern Illinois communities. All 3 contracts have purchased 100% renewable (green) energy and saved residents hundreds of dollars. We're in the first year of a new 3 year contract which will expire in 2018.  
Peoria has positioned itself well for support of renewables and green technology and we will be prepared to discuss funding and job opportunities with Senator Koehler and green technology entrepreneurs and manufacturers.
3. The City has been proactive for a number of years regarding energy efficiency. We were one of the first communities in the state to implement LED street lights many years ago, including struggling neighborhoods in the more urban areas of our city. We've re-lamped many of our buildings and parking decks. We have invested in fuel efficient vehicles and anti-idling technology. We've also made considerable investments to improve the HVAC systems in city owned buildings.
4. The Edwards plant is not in the city and we have no control over their operations. We depend on IEPA and USEPA to enforce clean air standards since we don't have the authority to do so.
5. My family does recycle. We have 2 recycling totes.  
There is always room for improvement in services provided to our residents, including residential and commercial municipal waste and recycling.  
The city is beginning an RFP for the contract that expires in 2019. The RFP will help us create what we want in the proposal and a feasibility analysis. We've had well over 1,000 survey responses on this topic. Everything the city does relative to hiring has a strong focus on minority hiring and that will include the new waste contract.
6. I do support the green solution which will make Peoria a model city for CSO remediation because of our 100% green solution. Our solution will create many new construction jobs which we'll look for our citizens to benefit from. We're talking with other communities who have experience in creating a Jobs Corps that could potentially provide training and jobs for at-risk young adults in the area of green infrastructure maintenance.
7. I have supported the River Trail development. A private investment of over \$20 million dollars would create nice residential opportunities and additional property taxes. We will be extending Riverfront Park to the northeast by about 8 acres.
8. I understand that the proposed Trump agenda raises funding for lead-hazard reduction from \$110 million to \$130 million. We don't know if there will be a change to the match. If I am re-elected we will actively encourage our elected representatives and the rest of Congress to support the continuation of CDBG's for the lead match and many other much needed community programs.

Thank you for allowing me to express my positions.  
Jim Ardis