

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On August 30th 2008 the Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County (CTDC) mailed the 2008 platform as adopted by its Board of Directors to City Council candidates Reggie Brown, Joe Clements, Dick Brown, and John Crescimbeni. The CTDC is requesting formal responses from the candidates for City Council At Large Group 2 and District 10 to its platform and has extended them the opportunity to address the CTDC members at their next meeting.

Meeting time and location can be found here

<http://www.jaxtaxpayers.org/meetings/>

Please contact CTDC President Tony Bates at 904-384-4227 or Jeff Hunt at 386-576-6131

The Concerned TaxPayers of Duval County was originally created for the purpose of promoting and adopting the local Charter amendment that limits local property tax revenue increases to not more than three percent per year. Throughout the years, it has been involved in reining in the excessive spending of taxpayer money by city government.

CTDC websites here:

<http://www.jaxtaxpayers.org/>

CTDC PLATFORM ENCLOSED BELOW:

The Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County, Inc. (CTDC) has adopted this platform in 2008 for the Consolidated City of Jacksonville. We seek the formal commitment from all city council candidates to all of the positions stated below. If responses are desired please feel free to attach an explanation of your answers. Please check or "X" whether you agree or disagree with each item below. Please return to:

Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County
P.O. Box 2307
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Attn: Tony Bates

1. Abolish corporate welfare. The city will no longer offer any financial incentives, such as direct subsidies or tax abatements, to private development projects.

AGREE DISAGREE

2. Obey the existing tax cap for the city budget. The City Attorney and other elected officials will abide by the mandate of the voters and comply with the 3% tax cap on ad valorem taxes as provided for in the Charter - Article 14 Sec 14.09.

AGREE DISAGREE

3. Expand opportunities for public input at public meetings. The city will protect opportunities for the public to speak at all public meetings, including all city council committee meetings and council committee meetings.

AGREE DISAGREE

4. Immediately stop all city purchasing of commercial advertising in local media. This mandate will apply to all public agencies and boards (such as the JEA) save for such legal advertising as may be required by law.

AGREE DISAGREE

5. Immediately stop all donations to religious, charitable, not for profit and entertainment for profit organizations. This is not a justifiable use of taxpayer monies, whatever the merits of the causes/events

AGREE DISAGREE

6. Continue strengthening and establish an effective enforcement mechanism for the City Ethics code.

AGREE DISAGREE

7. Establish and enforce an open and competitive bidding process for all city contracts. This provision will apply to related agencies such as the JEA

AGREE DISAGREE

8. Obey constitutional mandates when redistricting the city council after the 2010 census. City Council districts will be geographically compact and not gerrymandered.

AGREE DISAGREE

9. Require voter approval for new taxes and fees: All new taxes and fees should require voter approval before implementation.

AGREE DISAGREE

10. Require voter approval for tax/fee increases. All existing taxes/fees should require voter approval before they are raised.

AGREE DISAGREE

11. Require revenue and spending limitations. Duval County government spending should be capped and limited to an increase in proportion with population growth and inflation (exceeded by state or federally declared emergency only.)

AGREE DISAGREE

12. Repeal the new fees. The new residential stormwater and solid waste fee should be immediately repealed and all monies paid refunded.

AGREE DISAGREE

13. Repeal taxpayer funded pensions for City Council members.
AGREE DISAGREE

END