

Candidate Interviews In Progress
By Jeff Merrinette

Interviewing candidates for elected office is one of the most important things the Government Affairs accomplishes in each election cycle. The process, while simple, helps us understand which candidates understand the importance of the housing market to the local economy and the vital role Realtors play.

Candidates are asked about several issues which directly effect the housing market: home rule, transfer taxes, municipal inspections, master planning, zoning, eminent domain powers, and taxing issues. Additionally, we ask a candidate to elaborate on their views towards spending, taxation, and property rights in general.

Our goal is twofold: first, to open a dialogue with potential elected officials; and second, to find out how well they understand the real estate marketplace. With attention to these two goals we hope to support candidates who are well educated and understand the impact regulation and taxation can have on homeowners.

When the committee finds a candidate worthy of RWSSC support, they recommend to the Board of Directors that a donation be made to that candidate. On local municipal races, our local Board of Directors makes the final decision on whom, and how much to support.