

# Meet the candidate: Katie Nash

By Jen Bondeson News-Post Staff | Posted: Saturday, August 24, 2013 2:00 am

Katie Nash is a Republican candidate for alderman.

**Should the city continue investing public dollars in business ventures? The city owns an airport (Frederick Municipal Airport), a theater (Weinberg Center for the Arts) and a golf course (Clustered Spires). Should the city be investing in a downtown hotel and conference center?**

No. If we want to move forward with other initiatives we cannot afford to continue these massive capital investments. The city has a limited amount of resources – if we spend money on a hotel we cannot afford an all-weather shelter for the homeless. If we buy golf carts we cannot afford additional turn lanes and street lights. If we want to cut taxes, we have to cut spending.

**Assess the efficiency of the Frederick Police Department. What improvements should be made?**

From an outsider’s perspective, I would take a hard look at our vehicle expenses. Can we reduce or partner with the county to avoid duplicative costs? We also need to take a hard look at how we police downtown at night. Our downtown landscape has radically changed over the last several years and we need to make sure our policing has kept up. Looking at how we enforce liquor laws, for example.

**Are the city's resources (funding, police, planning, recreation, etc.) allocated appropriately throughout its neighborhoods? Name any neighborhoods you feel receive too much or too little, and explain why.**

Every neighborhood has unique challenges and a “one-size-fits -all” approach will not be successful. East Street, North Market, and the Golden Mile represent our best opportunities for economic development. Public funds spent in those strategic locations will provide the best return on investment. By increasing our assessable base and improving property values we increase the tax base within the City. That way we benefit all while fairly dividing the burden for public services.



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Katie Nash, candidate for Frederick Alderman

**What's your view on the status of business and crime along Carroll Creek Linear Park? Is the city moving in the right direction when it comes to redeveloping this area?**

There is a perception of crime which in turn leads to a depression of foot traffic and lost revenue for creek businesses. Losing major anchoring restaurants like Five Guys and Greene Turtle should give us pause before spending additional taxpayer dollars on developing more acres of the creek project. We need to fill the empty spaces before creating new ones.

**What is the best plan for Hargett Farm?**

Immediately conduct a full legal review of the financing utilized to purchase the farm. Involve external resources if necessary including the Maryland Attorney General. The City Attorney has not issued a legal opinion on Hargett Farm so we need to understand what we can do with the land. A new Board of Alderman can conduct a fresh review of this financial liability and is tasked with presenting a plan to citizens quickly after assuming office.

*The Frederick News-Post invited candidates in this year's Frederick mayor and Board of Aldermen election to give their thoughts on some of the city's issues. We will publish their responses over the next few weeks leading up to the Sept. 10 primary election.*