





## Form Center

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### Board Application

#### Board Applying For:\*

Economic Development Advisory Board

#### Name\*

Lori Kelley

#### Date

08/12/2019

#### Address\*

3124 Regency Drive

#### Email Address\*

[REDACTED]

#### Phone Number\*

[REDACTED]

#### Educational Background:

##### High School Name and Location

Belleville High School, Belleville, KS

##### Graduated/Degree

1980

##### College Name and Location

Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

##### Graduated/Degree

1983

##### Major

BA in Business Mgmt

Other Education Name and Location

Independence, KS  
Graduated/Degree

Emphasis

Spanish

Do you reside inside the corporate limits of the City of Independence?

Yes

No

If no, do you reside within 3 miles of the corporate limits of the City of Independence?

Yes

No

What experiences have you had that you feel would assist you as a board member?

I have chaired the Main Street Economic Revitalization committee for the last several years and believe we have been able to positively impact our downtown area.  
I am also serving on the MCAC board now and have previously served on the Independence Action Partnership. I feel I have a good relationship with the Chamber, Main Street and MCAC.  
I have managed my husband's dental practice for the past 32 years and understand the challenges for small businesses. I am also a Treasury Management Officer for Equity Bank and help many businesses (big and small) manage their finances.

Why do you want to become a member of the board?

The City of Independence is a great community to live and work and I believe I can help it grow and prosper. Growing our community will reduce our property taxes which is the biggest deterrent to people living and retiring here.

While some people were born in the City, my husband and I CHOSE to live here. We identified a great sense of community spirit filled with kind and caring people. This community is also blessed with many wonderful assets that contribute to our great quality of life. I want to ensure Independence thrives so future generations can benefit and appreciate the great resources our community can provide.

Do you feel that there are any issues needing immediate attention by the board? If so, please explain.

The first step of the committee should be a review/assessment of the City's (and relevant entities) current policies and procedures regarding business expansion and recruitment to identify areas of impediment and inefficiencies. We should want to ensure businesses find it easy to operate in Independence. Often local businesses can be a recruiting tool for new businesses they currently work with. If our businesses are not happy with their experience, they will not be a referral source for us.

Other comments:

I would like us to get an approved way-finding sign with pricing so that local entities could commit to purchasing those as needed. Until there is an official sign and official vendor, the project won't move forward - which has been the holdup for the past 5+ years..

I would also like us to increase our Liveability Score and am confident the minimal effort to do so would pay back in big dividends. This score is something individuals utilize to identify a new community to move to. Any community that can become the best tennis or small library can accomplish this as well.

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**Email address**

|kkelley@equitybank.com

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\* indicates a required field

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