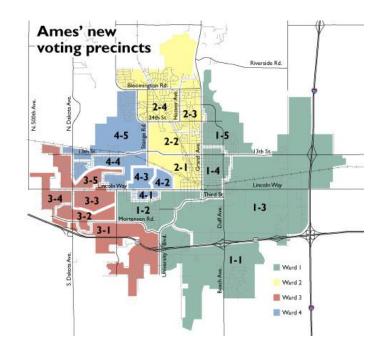


The Housing Research Team of AMOS (A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy) Affordable Housing Strategy for Ames

The lack of low-income and affordable housing in Ames impacts all residents in critical ways, but for those at the low-end of the wage spectrum, the consequences can be life changing, especially for the children. The AMOS Housing Research Team has studied housing issues in Ames for the past year. In our report, "High rents and low wages in *Beautiful* Ames", we provide background data and propose policies that can be adopted and regulations and codes that can be changed to address this issue. Find the report at: <u>http://amosiowa.org/</u>. We hope the candidates will support these initiatives to help substantially increase the stock of low-income and affordable housing in Ames:

AMOS Questions to Candidates Presented at Accountability Night, October 2013

- 1. Do you favor establishing an Affordable Housing Board or Commission in our community? Fort Collins, Colorado, has established an "Affordable Housing Board" to advise the City Council on all matters relating to the issue of affordable housing.
- 2. Will you support prioritizing low-income housing and job creation in the new Community Development Block Grant five-year plan? In addition, will you commit to spending the majority of the funds, averaging \$550,000 per year, on low-income housing and living-wage job training initiatives rather than on city infrastructure projects?
- 3. Do you support a thorough reexamination of the Land Use Plan and related zoning and rental codes to promote a greater supply of low-income and affordable housing? The last Land Use Policy Plan was approved in 1997.
- 4. Would you support inserting a line item in the city budget to provide direct financial support for low-income housing projects developed by community-based non-profits?
- 5. Would you support the creation of a city staff position, either full or part time, which would act as a liaison with, and a resource for, community non-profits in order to secure additional federal, state or private funding?
- 6. Would you support a year round "Kids Ride Free" program for CY-RIDE?
- Mayor Incumbent -Ann Campbell
- Ward 1 Gloria Betcher
- Ward 2 Timothy Gartin
- Ward 3 Peter Orazem
- Ward 4 Chris Nelson
- At-Large Amber Corrieri



AMOS is a non-partisan community organization comprised of 28 member institutions from across central Iowa, including Ames' members: United Church of Christ, Bethesda Lutheran, Collegiate United Methodist, Emergency Residence Project, St. Cecilia Catholic Church, St. Thomas Catholic Church, and Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. <u>http://amosiowa.org/</u>