

ELECTION 2025

WILLIAMSON HERALD • A9 • THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025

CITY OF FRANKLIN ALDERMAN CANDIDATES

BK Muvvala

Occupation: Local small-business operator; Engineer and community volunteer

Family: Spouse Rajeswari Muvvala; son Mohan (Doctor); son Madhav (Senior at Franklin High School, IB Program)

Community Activities (church, civic, etc.): Franklin Breakfast Rotary; schools; churches; civic volunteering

Have you ever held public office? If so, for what office and period of time? No

1. Why did you decide to seek the office of alderman?

For 15 years, Franklin has been my home, my workplace, and my mission. I have raised my family here, provided employment, paid taxes, and served through Rotary, schools, churches, and civic volunteering. I know the pulse of Franklin because I have lived it and served it every single day.

I am the only candidate who has stood before Franklin's citizens in four elections, humbly accepting their verdict each time, yet never walking away from service. I have consistently participated in civic life and local body elections more than my opponents. While others are new to Franklin, I have spent 15 years working side-by-side with citizens and leaders across Williamson County and beyond.

Yet too much has remained unchanged — traffic congestion, housing challenges, and a lack of accountability. Franklin deserves better. **Trust me — I am the right candidate.** With proven experience, relentless volunteering, and a record of community service, I will deliver results through **infrastructure-first growth, attainable housing for our workforce, and transparent budgeting you can trust.**

2. What do you feel are the three most pertinent issues facing Franklin that you would most like to address if you are chosen as alderman?

1. Traffic & Safety: Over 11,000 housing units have already been approved but have not yet been built. Roads, safety, and services must catch up before new approvals. I will push Connect Franklin projects, accelerate Mack Hatcher Parkway progress with TDOT, and ensure crash hot spots are addressed first.

2. Attainable Housing: Franklin's teachers, police officers, nurses, and first responders should be able to live in the community they serve. I will support housing aligned with Envi-



BK MUUVVALA

sion Franklin's "Housing Choices" principle and apply voluntary state-enabled incentives only when units are verifiably attainable.

3. Fiscal Transparency: I will insist on zero-based budget reviews and public dashboards that show residents where money is going, project timelines, and delivery scorecards. Franklin deserves accountability, not hidden numbers.

3. As Franklin grows, the city's needs become more complex. Housing and land prices are rising and there is a shortage of workforce housing. Do you think this is an issue? How would you address it?

Attainable and workforce housing must be created responsibly. I will use the City's workforce-housing framework and direct mixed-income infill to areas where infrastructure already exists. I will support voluntary incentives (like expedited permitting or density bonuses) only when projects deliver verifiable, income-qualified units for those who serve our community — teachers, police, nurses — located near jobs, schools, and transit. This approach ensures Franklin protects its character while remaining livable for its workforce.

4. As Franklin's population continues to increase, "smart growth" is a hot topic, and some variation of the phrase is included in almost every candidate's platform. What does "smart growth" mean to you? What specific strategies would you employ to achieve smart growth? Would you support a moratorium on commercial development in Franklin?

To me, smart growth is more than a slogan — it is a disciplined, results-oriented approach to growth that protects Franklin's character while ensuring infrastructure and services keep pace. Smart growth means the right project, in the right place, at the right pace — always matched to funded infrastructure.

Specific strategies I will employ:

- **Align approvals with funded infrastructure —**

WARD 2

No development moves forward unless roads, water/sewer, drainage, and public safety are in place or fully funded and scheduled.

- **Follow Envision Franklin** — Use its form-based concepts (village green, neighborhood, rural reserve) so new projects fit Franklin's character and don't sprawl into the wrong places.

- **Prioritize infill and re-development over sprawl** — Direct growth to where infrastructure already exists, lowering costs and improving walkability.

- **Tie growth to transportation planning** — Coordinate projects with Connect Franklin Road improvements, signal retiming, Mack Hatcher progress, and future transit expansion.

- **Phase growth with performance triggers** — Large developments must deliver promised improvements before moving to the next phase.

- **Protect open space & green infrastructure** — Require connected parks, trails, buffers, and storm-water solutions in every plan.

- **Transparency, accountability & public scorecards** — Publish dashboards showing what's approved, what's under construction, what's funded and scheduled, and what's delivered. Citizens deserve to see progress — and developers must be held accountable if infrastructure lags promise.

On a moratorium: A blanket moratorium on commercial development is a blunt tool that risks harming small businesses and stalling needed services. Instead, I support targeted, time-bound pauses only in areas where infrastructure is over capacity. Fix the bottleneck, then proceed. This ensures fairness, discipline, and trust.

5. Traffic is becoming a big problem in Franklin. How would you address transportation as the city grows?

We must move from words to action. I will:

1. **Push Connect Franklin projects:** retime signals, add turn lanes, and fix congestion and crash hot spots first.

2. **Accelerate Mack Hatcher Parkway** phases with TDOT partnerships.

3. **Expand Franklin Transit** pragmatically to serve growing areas.

4. **Publish quarterly dashboards** so residents can see results and hold us accountable.

My pledge is simple: no more approvals outpacing asphalt, ambulances, and accountability.

Jason Potts

Occupation:

Healthcare Leader

Family: Wife, Amy (Celebrated 24 years in July) — 26 years at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt; Son, Carter (22) — Physics Masters Program at the Air Force Institute of Technology, 2nd Lt. United States Air Force; Daughter, Sarah (19) — Honors and Pharmacy Schools at Auburn University; Owen (16) — Centennial High School junior.

Community Activities (church, civic, etc.):

Jason and his family attend Rolling Hills Community Church in Franklin.

Jason is a founding member of the Franklin Alliance of Home Owners Associations for Ward 3 serving 22 HOAs. He previously served in numerous roles on the Maplewood Home Owners Association: President (2 terms), Vice-President, Pool Chairman and Open Space & Lake Chairman. Jason started Maplewood's partnership with the Franklin Police for the Neighborhood Watch Program and Bike Safety Program.

Jason has served on the Board of Directors for the following organizations: Middle Tennessee State University Alumni Association (2 terms); Spina Bifida Association; Williamson County Soccer Association, Boys & Girls Club and the Centennial High School Cougar Athletic Club. He has served as the announcer for Centennial High School football, men's and women's soccer and girl's flag football. He also volunteers with the Hard Bargain Association. It was recently announced that Jason and Amy will serve on Mardi Gras Ball Court raising money for My Friend's House.

Have you ever held public office? If so, for what office and period of time?

Yes, currently serving as Alderman Ward 3 (4 years).

1. Why did you decide to seek the office of alderman?

As with my first term, I am seeking re-election to demonstrate to our children that when God blesses you with skills and talents that you need to share them with your family and community.

I am seeking re-election to expand on the successes achieved during the last four years to ensure Franklin's neighborhoods



JASON POTTS

and families are kept safe, improve our roads, reduce traffic congestion, protect open space, expand the city's park system, and make developers pay more for impacts their projects have on our community.

2. What do you feel are the three most pertinent issues facing Franklin that you would most like to address if you are chosen as alderman?

The biggest issue is traffic congestion. To fix this problem we need to focus on improvement to both the state and the city roads in Franklin.

State Roads: Franklin is a top economic engine in Tennessee, I will continue to strengthen our partnership with TDOT to secure funding to improve and install new roads and bridges.

City Roads: We must continue to improve our arterial and collector roads through widening, restriping, and using technology to improve signalization.

3. As Franklin grows, the city's needs become more complex. Housing and land prices are rising and there is a shortage of workforce housing. Do you think this is an issue? How would you address it?

Yes, the housing "missing middle" is an issue. Specifically we need homes that newly married couples can afford, as well as the teachers, police officers and firefighters who work in our community. Having been reappointed to the Housing Commission, I will continue to streamline the process to secure funding for public/private partnerships. Recently, I requested a housing study be conducted. It is being funded by the county and the Williamson County Realtors Association. I specifically requested details on the gentrification of our neighborhoods. I am also working to strengthen programs for developers to blend workforce housing into projects.

WARD 3

4. As Franklin's population continues to increase, "smart growth" is a hot topic, and some variation of the phrase is included in almost every candidate's platform. What does "smart growth" mean to you?

What specific strategies would you employ to achieve smart growth? Would you support a moratorium on commercial development in Franklin?

Smart growth has been my policy as the Alderman for Ward 3, and I believe it is the policy of the current Board and Mayor. In the last four years the number of housing units approved has been far less than was approved the four years prior. This BOMA has wisely implemented a conservative plan that focuses on preservation and progress, allowing development in at a tempered pace without overwhelming our city or government mandates that infringe on Constitutionally protected property rights. I will continue to utilize Envision Franklin (Franklin's comprehensive land plan) and review our infrastructure and systems current capacities and any potential expansion. I have increased impact fees to ensure that developers pay for growth and complete all road and infrastructure requirements prior to occupancy.

I would not support a moratorium on commercial development. There are good in-fill and repurposing building opportunities.

5. Traffic is becoming a big problem in Franklin. How would you address transportation as the city grows?

Traffic is a problem, and one that I am already addressing as the Ward 3 Alderman. We have invested into new signalization software that changes lights to improve traffic flow. We can now extend the Traffic Operations Centers efficiency. We need to focus on "spot intersection improvements". These are intersections that can be restriped without any additional paving and incorporate new signalization for new and/or extended lanes. I will have a watchful eye on the Capital Improvement Projects 10-year short-term (i.e. S. Carothers sidewalks) and long-term projects (i.e. S. Carothers & Goose Creek).

EARLY VOTING OCT. 8-23

ELECTION DAY: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Editor's Note: The October 2, 2025, edition of the Williamson Herald included candidate profiles on Bev Burger, Matt Brown, Patrick Baggett, and BK Muvvala. The Herald is re-running the profile of BK Muvvala due to a typo on his photograph last week. You can find all the city of Franklin election candidate profiles on our website at www.williamsonherald.com