

Minneapolis - My Home Of Choice

Resident of Minneapolis (Seward Neighborhood)
since 1977

Married to Susan for over 35 years

Son Cadillac and daughter Elina

President, Mill City Music, (a national music distributor with two record labels) since 1980

Musician and Recording Artist (Papa John Kolstad)
for 40 years.



Papa John Kolstad for Minneapolis Mayor

Civic Leader For Over 25 Years

Current Board Member - Metro Independent
Business Alliance since 2004

Former Member Lake Street Council - 6 years

Former Member Minneapolis Micro Loan Committee

Former Member Longfellow Community Council,
Longfellow Business Association, Seward Civic and
Commerce Association, Lake Street Task Force

Ran for US Congress in 1994, State Senate in 2000,
MN Attorney General in 2006

Fiscally Conservative and Socially Liberal

Dear Delegates and Alternates,

Thank you very much for attending the Minneapolis City Convention. I'm very honored to be a part of this event, and for the opportunity to ask for your endorsement for Mayor.

I have lived in this city for over 30 years, and like many of you, I have seen our city go downhill, largely due to a monopolistic and arrogant city government that has long ago given up even pretending that it was serving the people of Minneapolis. Our city faces a crisis worse than any in its history, even worse than the Great Depression of the 1930's or the civil unrest of the 1960's. We are witnessing massive foreclosures and vacancies, the flight or destruction of small business from the city, rising unemployment, failing schools and increasing crime. And it looks like things will get even worse in the coming months and years.

The response by the current city government has been to ignore the problem, downplay the seriousness of the situation, refuse to cut expenses and programs, continue to raise taxes by at least 8% every year, and to step up the collection of fees and assessments on residents and small businesses. Furthermore the current city council and mayor continues to give sweetheart deals to favored large developers and corporations, while persecuting the small neighborhood businesses that are the lifeblood of the city. It is clear to me that they are unable or unwilling to make the tough decisions needed to restore prosperity and economic opportunity to our city.

I am running for Mayor because I believe that we deserve much better than machine politics and the corruption and abuse of power that is facilitated by one party rule. I have talked to many of our neighbors in our city and there is considerable anger and frustration over the way the city has been mismanaged. I believe the time is right for a new direction and fundamental change in our city, and with your help, I believe we can reach the people of Minneapolis with our message and they will vote for new leadership for Minneapolis.

I'm excited to accept the challenge of leading our city into a new and bright future of smaller and more transparent government, and most importantly bring prosperity and economic opportunity once again to all the people of Minneapolis.

Thanks for fighting the good fight,

John Kolstad

What We Must Do To Save Our City

- Restore transparency and accountability to city government
- Control government spending and eliminate wasteful and unnecessary programs
- Remove barriers to small business formation and success
- Stop the ruinous property tax increases
- Eliminate the bureaucratic and short-sighted city planning department