

Public Affairs Committee Report By Heath Clarkston

PRIMARY ELECTION ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, JEFF HOELSCHER UNOPPOSED

Missouri voters will head to their polling locations on Tuesday, August 6th to cast their ballots for numerous federal, statewide, and local elections. The statewide vote is incredibly important this year as our state has term-limits on numerous offices that include the Governor and thus we will be seeing a new leader in January as Governor Mike Parson (R) will be termed out and will be leaving office. The Governor's race is very competitive on both the Republican and Democratic ballots. On the Republican ticket, the primary front-runners include Lieutenant Governor Mike Kehoe, Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft, and State Senator Bill Eigel. The Democrat ticket includes House Minority Leader Crystal Quade and Springfield Businessman Mike Hamra.

In addition to the Governor, Missouri has contested primaries for Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, and Treasurer. In Cole County, we do not have any contested primaries for our state Representative seats as all incumbents are not term-limited and did not have anyone file against them.

For Cole County voters, the only contested race is for Assessor as the current Cole County Assessor Chris Estes will face Tim Theroff of Jefferson City who is a real estate appraiser. Cole County Eastern District Commissioner Jeff Hoelscher and Western District Commissioner Harry Otto are both running unopposed. Jeff Hoelscher of Hoelscher Enterprises currently serves on the HBA Board of Directors and has been active for many years on HBA Committees and community service activities. Hoelscher and Otto do not have an opponent filed for the General election in November.

Lastly, US Congressional District 3 has a very competitive Republican primary between two former state senators. Kurt Schaefer of Columbia and Bob Onder of St. Charles are both vying for the area's congressional seat that will be vacated in January as longtime US Congressman Blaine Luetkemeyer (R) has decided to not seek reelection.

NAHB: NEWS ARTICLE ON HOUSING MARKET SHIFTS

In an NAHB update this month, a story was referenced in an email update and the link is below for a story titled "there's shift happening in some housing markets just look at inventory". This article discusses the importance of monitoring active listings and months of supply to establish strengths and weaknesses of the housing market. The article provides charts and national trends. Specifically, the article provides data state by state and shows that Missouri is seeing an increase in housing inventory available and is still far below the inventory available pre-pandemic.

The story can be found at: [There's a shift happening in the housing market—just look at inventory - Fast Company](#)

GOVERNOR PARSON SIGNS STATE BUDGET BILLS, LOCAL FUNDS INCLUDED

On June 30th, Governor Mike Parson (R) acted on the 2015 state operating budget bills and several local funding priorities remained and received the Governors approval.

In the current fiscal year budget, state funding was approved for the following projects:

- \$15M for the Missouri State Penitentiary (deferred maintenance)
- \$5.6M for Special Learning Center
- \$3.5M for Special Olympics
- \$3.4M for the Jefferson City Airport Improvements
- \$2M for Capitol parking garage