JOHN ZODY

MONROE COUNTY COUNCIL

Zody Congratulates Candidates, Announces Candidacy for Monroe County Council At-Large

November 4, 2026

Congratulations to all our Democratic candidates who ran in this year's midterm elections in Monroe County, in Indiana and across the country. It was clear from the results that voters wanted to see change – and win or lose, everyone who ran deserves our thanks for their courage and their efforts. This election was about more than personalities or party loyalty. It was about the issues we've long fought for together: affordability, decency, fairness and good government. And our voices were heard!

With Commissioner-elect Trent Deckard moving into a new role in January, I'm announcing my candidacy for the Monroe County Council At-Large seat that will become vacant. A Democratic caucus of Monroe County precinct committee members will select the person to fill the seat.

Since last spring, I have been working to reach out to elected and Democratic Party officials and volunteers, and I have sought to become better informed about the operations of our county and the very specific fiscal role of the Monroe County Council. Our county has a lot of issues in front of it that require both continuity and confrontation. Continuity, by making sure the basic services performed by the hardworking staff of our county government are protected, and confrontation of the many challenges we must face as a county.

As a County Council member, I will:

1. **Take care of our people, both our constituents and our county employees,** by listening to them and voting for accountable budgets to fund essential county services, our county workforce and social services for the most vulnerable;

2. **Plan for the future** by being an active participant in future revenue planning to advance our economy, our safety, our health and our housing by working with leaders across the county;

3. **Work together** with county officials to communicate relentlessly, provide great customer service and make hard decisions when they are needed - decisions that are centered on good government.

County officials must continually focus on working with officials and organizations across the county and protecting Monroe County's interests at the state level as well. Showing up counts, and I believe my experience and ability to work alongside others for results makes me a strong candidate for this office.

In the coming months and leading up to the official notice of a caucus to fill the vacancy on the County Council, I will continue to reach out to Democrats to ask for their support and get feedback on how I can make the best contribution to county government if elected.

About John Zody

John Zody's career has spanned public service, higher education and the nonprofit sector. After graduating from Indiana University Bloomington, he served in state government in community development and communications roles for Governors Frank O'Bannon and Joe Kernan. He later held workforce development and fundraising roles at Ivy Tech Community College and served as District Director and Chief of Staff for Congressman Baron Hill.

Zody most recently led the City of Bloomington's Housing and Neighborhood Development Department. He now leads CDFI Friendly Bloomington, a regional community development nonprofit that expands access to financing and technical assistance for affordable housing, small businesses and nonprofits. He also teaches ethics and leadership as an adjunct instructor at IU's O'Neill School and is active in the Bloomington Rotary Club.

A longtime volunteer and voting rights advocate, Zody has served as Vice Chair of the Monroe County Democrats, Great Lakes Mid-Atlantic Political Director for President Barack Obama's 2012 reelection campaign, and Chair of the Indiana Democratic Party. He has lived in Bloomington and Monroe County for 25 years and currently lives in the county with his family.

Contact Information

812.786.2376

johnzody@gmail.com