

Board of County Commissioners

Doug Howard,
President



Carroll County Government

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Doug Howard – Not a Candidate for Office in 2018

Westminster, Tuesday, September 15, 2015 - After considerable reflection, I have decided to announce that I will not be a candidate for elective office in 2018.

These are very challenging times for our county. Many of the challenges we face today and the decisions we will make over the next three years will determine the course of Carroll County for the next few decades and what the quality of life in our community will be twenty or thirty years from now. We face challenges in education, solid waste, environmental issues, maintaining infrastructure, new infrastructure needed and a long-term value proposition with the community about what our services will be, what they will cost our citizens and how our efforts in economic development will make it all possible.

The recent study released to the Board of Education regarding school closing and boundary line adjustments is but one example of the size and complexity of many of the challenges we have. This is only one part of the overall education funding issues we face. Successful navigation of these challenges will require a strong cooperative effort between the Board of Commissioners, Board of Education, state delegation, municipalities and citizens.

This issue and others we face are far too important to get lost in the vitriol and destructiveness of community division, conspiracy theories, self-serving rhetoric and other tactics of local politics. Our challenges will require long-term thinking, cooperative efforts, hard work and a serious effort to bring our county together to find and implement solutions.

For me, I intend to lead this effort without concern, restraint or consideration of the politics involved. Therefore, I will dedicate my remaining 39 months as county commissioner to having this dialogue with our citizens, working with my fellow commissioners on long-term strategies and making decisions that will leave our county stronger, more ready for the future and an excellent place to raise a family, to start and grow a business and to enjoy an excellent quality of life.

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CARROLL COUNTY

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