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## **Hamilton County District 2 Commissioner Chip Baker Endorses Tim Kelly for Chattanooga Mayor**

*Baker cites Tim Kelly's proven management ability and commitment to effective government, economic development*

**Chattanooga, Tenn. (Feb. 15, 2021)** — Hamilton County District 2 Commissioner Chip Baker announced his support for Tim Kelly for Mayor of Chattanooga, citing Tim Kelly's proven track record as a job creator, as a leader in the non-profit community, and as one of Chattanooga's most well-respected and effective managers.

"Of the leading candidates in Chattanooga's mayoral race, Tim Kelly is the only candidate who has successfully managed large organizations effectively, in both good times and in a crisis." Baker said. "Being mayor is not only about speeches and promises — it's about leadership and the ability to execute on the policies that will move Chattanooga forward, which is why I'm endorsing Tim Kelly to be Chattanooga's next mayor."

"Tim Kelly is the only person running for mayor who has the vision, temperament and skills to get the job done," Baker said.

"Tim has served as the head of large, multifaceted organizations, and the one thing that sets good leaders apart from bad ones is their ability to bring people together, put them to work and hold them accountable for the result. We need a more effective and responsive city government here in Chattanooga, and Tim has already set himself apart from the rest of the pack with a detailed 100-day plan that will allow him to hit the ground running on day one," Baker said.

Tim Kelly continues to extend his lead over other candidates, according to a recent poll, and has developed more than a dozen specific policies and frameworks detailing how he will govern when elected. Tim Kelly was the first and only candidate to publish a full 100-day plan that will allow voters to measure his progress and hold him accountable during his term, and he has publicly committed to creating good-paying jobs, building great neighborhoods and expanding educational opportunities as mayor.

"Chip knows firsthand the complexity and difficulty of leading large organizations and managing them effectively, and I'm grateful to have his endorsement for mayor of Chattanooga," Tim Kelly said. "Chip and I have both worked hard over the years to expand economic and educational

opportunities for everyone in Chattanooga, and I look forward to continuing that working relationship as Chattanooga's next mayor.”

Chip Baker is the Hamilton County Commission Chairman (District 2), and led Chattanooga's Riverbend festival for two decades. Baker also served on the Hamilton County Board of Education for 12 years, and before joining Riverbend was a hospital administrator for nearly 20 years.

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#### **About Tim Kelly**

Tim Kelly is a Chattanooga area entrepreneur with a passion for education and community. He grew up working in the family car business, and after college, returned to Chattanooga to run the family dealerships. Currently, Tim owns Southern Honda Powersports, the world's largest volume Honda Powersports dealership, as well as co-owning SocialBot, an ad-tech agency in automotive advertising, and the Chattanooga Brewing Company.

Tim is the current Chairman and co-founder of the Chattanooga Football Club and an investor in several other local businesses.

He has taught as an adjunct professor of marketing and entrepreneurship at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Extremely active in the community, he currently serves on several civic and charitable boards including Finley Stadium Corporation, the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Tivoli (Theatre) Foundation. He has served as a Director or Trustee for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Chattanooga, Benwood Foundation, Allied Arts (now Arts Build), and the Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga (past Chairman), as well as Bright School and Baylor School. Tim is also an active member of the Downtown Chattanooga Rotary Club.

Tim earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia University where he was a John Jay Scholar. He graduated from NADA's Dealer Candidate School in 1991 and holds a Master's Degree from Emory University's Goizueta Business School where he graduated with honors in 2012 and was awarded the Al Bows Executive MBA Achievement Award the same year. Tim is also a graduate of Leadership Chattanooga (1991) and Leadership Tennessee (2018).

Self-described as a "Chattanoogaan, first and foremost," Tim is always scratching his philanthropic brain, and workshoping ways to serve the community. In his spare time, he enjoys playing soccer, running with his wife Ginny, and hunting and fishing with his two sons, Jack and Cannon.

To learn more about Tim and the campaign, visit: [www.KellyforChattanooga.com](http://www.KellyforChattanooga.com), follow the campaign on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).