

James McGannon

McGannon4Congress
Leadership for Trying Times
in Colorado District 4



Who I am

I have been a Colorado resident since 1981 and now reside in Douglas County. I have career long experience in municipal government work and as a consultant. My career as an urban forester and a traditional forester, originally brought me to Colorado Springs in 1981. I was employed with the City of Colorado Springs (Forestry Division) from 1981 until 2008. After leaving Colorado Springs and El Paso County in 2010, I settled in Jefferson County near Golden. Our next and final move was to Douglas County.

My two grown children graduated from the University of Colorado, Boulder and are now employed in the Denver area. My wife has been a business leader in the Denver area a good portion of her life. She is a graduate of the University of Denver.

I grew up in farming families from the Dakotas. I learned my work ethic from these agrarian states and my upbringing in hard working families. My parents were career individuals that were both very involved in their community and that influenced me to this day. My father was a champion of the underprivileged, especially migrant workers that worked in the fields of North and South Dakota. The farmers of the Dakotas depended upon these people through official federal programs, such as Job Service, that still operate today. In addition to many years of work on the farm, I had many construction and other service jobs. I was very active in school sports, student council, volunteering in my community, and the Boy Scouts of America (my son and I are both Eagle Scouts). I then went to Explorer Scouts where I explored careers in Fish and Wildlife management. This had a big influence on where I ended up in my career.

I attended Bismarck Jr. College, then to forestry school at the University of Montana, and eventually graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Forest Resource Management. After graduating at Minnesota, I was employed by the City of Bismarck, N.D. Thanks to a federal program that assisted new graduates to secure a full time job, I was able to start my career in urban forestry in Bismarck as City Arborist.

After a few years, I came to Colorado Springs and interviewed for a nationally posted job with the City of Colorado Springs. I was in Colorado Springs Forestry Division the rest of my municipal career, eventually in charge of the Forestry Division as City Forester. I have also been a consultant in my field up to this day. I am currently serving on the Board of the Pinery Water and Wastewater District. In addition, I have been involved with my community's homeowner associations. I volunteer with many organizations and even donate blood!

Why do I want to be a Representative from the 4th Congressional District?

My desire is to serve as Representative of this district by unseating Ken Buck.

My career as a Forestry and Natural Resource professional and my own personal interests have given me the opportunity to learn about many areas of this state and this District. I conduct myself with a passion for results and integrity in all I do. My interest in this Congressional seat is embedded in my desire to be part of a positive change to get this country back into a sane mode again. I can no longer sit back and watch the rancor and division that is crippling this country. Our federal system has been maligned and mixed with political rancor that I don't see ending anytime soon. It not only is affecting this District, but ALL districts in this state.

It's time for a change in the 4th District!

I want to be part of new and vigorous efforts to bring us back to world leader status and reunite our country. We also have a responsibility to this continent to be good neighbors and develop a productive economy and a healthy environment where each country prospers "together". **I will serve with integrity and commitment.**

I am committed to addressing especially these pressing matters:

- **Technology connection** improvements for the rural areas.
- **Supporting our rural communities** as well as our larger cities to work together as a unit. Become more aware of the District needs as a "whole".
- **Oil and gas** development that focuses on the health, safety, and welfare of our communities, while allowing for prosperous production of the resource for all our benefit.
- **Continue agriculture programs** that promote a robust economy for our farmers, ranchers, and the public. To promote management of our public lands with professionals, not political appointments. To advance the pursuit of science, not muzzle it. Properly management our forests and natural resources.
- **Protecting our water resources** that sustain our growth and development.
- **Addressing criminal justice reform** that includes legalizing marijuana and ending the war on drugs.
- **Health Care** that includes us all with "choices" for various plans. With the current virus situation, anyone without health care affects us all. Mental health care is also directly related to addressing many of our violent crimes.
- **Sensible Gun Reforms** like national Universal Background checks.
- **Immigration Reform** that includes allowing DACA residents citizenship, more immigration judges at ports of entry, rights for our indigenous peoples (i.e. respecting the treaties in place), and more diplomacy and collaboration h our neighboring countries to promote economic sustainability that positively affects our country.

- **Climate Change** issues that relate to reduction and eventual elimination of **dependence on** fossil fuels for our energy sources. I would fight for rejoining the Paris Climate Agreement and bringing science and research “back into the fold” of our federal system.
- **Build bipartisan efforts** to restore our federal employees by filling positions that have not been filled and to restore faith in agencies like the State and Justice Departments.
- **Transportation and Infrastructure** funding and efforts that seem to have been ignored during all this political strife and “stonewalling.” Specifically, to promote and build upon public transportation and thoughtful construction that protects our environment, while providing for the public good.
- Working with other legislators to “**restrict the powers of the office of the president**” that have been seriously “abused” with this administration.

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