



## **Local Legislative Agenda**

Adopted February 24, 2022

### **Political Involvement**

RSCK believes in the need for continuing participation in local, state and national political affairs and urges support of those candidates who pledge and evidence by their action a commitment to preserve and strengthen America's free enterprise system and the underlying principle of private property ownership.

REALTORS® are committed to the understanding of our political system and RSCK urges members to become involved and participate in the political activity at all levels of government. All members should offer their support to candidates who are committed to the free enterprise system, the protection of private property rights and the promotion of a high quality of life for the citizens of South Central Kansas.

### **Land Use and Development**

RSCK supports reasonable community growth and maintains that no-growth policies, building moratoriums, and other burdensome regulations by governing bodies are not satisfactory responses to community development issues.

We are opposed to any unreasonable restriction and radical changes in existing zoning law where such actions significantly undermine the market value and utility of private property or the reasonable expectations of property owners.

Most importantly, RSCK believes it is the free market and individual choice that drive the amount and type of development and growth in a community. Market forces should be the primary engine of economic and community growth. We believe the real estate community should be involved in composing planning objectives that adhere to these tenets.

### **Affordable Housing and Homeownership**

RSCK believes that the private ownership of real property is the foundation of our nation's free enterprise system and we oppose any governmental actions that discourage or diminish the ability and capacity of South Central Kansas residents to own private property.

Homeownership is the cornerstone of the American dream and deserves a preferred place in our system of values as it contributes to quality of life; family security and generational wealth; community responsibility; and business, civic and economic stability.

## **Taxation and Property Taxes**

RSCK supports a tax structure that encourages home ownership and community investment.

RSCK recognizes that in order for government to properly function, a reasonable tax structure is necessary. These taxes, however, must not be implemented in a way which becomes overly burdensome to either its citizens or its businesses. Due to the already high property tax burden in Kansas, RSCK would oppose any efforts by local governments to increase property taxes.

We believe tax revenues should be equitably collected from a variety of sources and encourage taxing jurisdictions to consider the negative impact to the housing market associated with any potential increase in property taxes.

## **Economic Development**

RSCK supports policies that entice job growth and investment in our region.

RSCK believes that local governments should enact policies, and support private sector market driven in programs, that encourage economic development and spur job creation. RSCK believes that diverse local economies are critical to the future of the region. The governments of cities, counties and the state need to work together to create an environment that promotes investment from businesses and attracts new businesses to the region.

## **Water Management and Conservation**

RSCK supports the long term vitality of our water resources and infrastructure.

RSCK recognizes that sustainable access to water is a long term priority for all Kansans. Water conservation and improvements to water infrastructure are vital to the future of our region.

## **High Speed Internet Access**

RSCK supports access to high speed internet available to all citizens throughout the region.