

## **David Martin Announces Run for Ames City Council**

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David Martin is announcing his candidacy for the Ames City Council, in Ward 3, to help Ames lead Iowa in quality of life, inclusivity, and Internet connectivity.

Martin, 51, was born and raised in Ames. He attended Crawford Elementary, Welch Junior High, and Ames High School, and — after three years working in California startups — returned to Iowa State University for degrees in mathematics and computer science (1993). After earning his Ph.D. at Boston University, Martin taught graduate and undergraduate computer science. He now owns a consulting business specializing in software issues that arise in intellectual property litigation. In 2013 he and his family moved back to Ames and he has been operating his business here ever since. The challenges and rewards of running a business have made it clear to him how valuable a vibrant intellectual and business community can be.

Having lived in many very different metropolitan areas, including Boston, Berkeley (CA), Denver, Chicago, and Stuttgart (Germany), Martin chose to return to Ames. He values Ames's inclusive environment and recalls how the people of Ames supported the LGBTQ community even in the early 80s, during a time when government policy did not. "I have so much gratitude for the way that Ames supported me growing up. I never felt sidelined here." Martin believes that inclusivity is an infinitely renewable resource, and that the more you foster it across the social, economic, and cultural spectrum, the more there is. He wants to work to ensure all voices are being sought and heard. "So many people have something to say but won't say it until they're invited."

"It's clear that the division accompanying our state and national elections last November does not reflect what Ames is about," says Martin, "but it helped me to see my appreciation of Ames as a call to service." Martin wants to continue to maintain Ames' quality of life by keeping Ames affordable and livable. "Ames is growing, and we have to ensure that today's developments feel like neighborhoods, rather than edges, in the decades to come."

Martin sees healthy living, environmental sustainability, and income disparity as challenges that a municipal government can impact. Martin also wants the city to effectively promote reliable, widely available, and secure Internet service. "High-speed Internet is crucial for me and my business, and I was just lucky that my property was provisioned well enough for me to do my job. The Internet is only going to become more important in the years to come."

David Martin is married to Steve Godfrey, an Episcopalian minister, and they have been together for over 20 years.

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