



## Fred Smith

My name is Fred Smith I am running for Oakdale city council. Some of you already know my background, but for those who don't...I am married to my best friend Jennifer. We have 4 amazing kids and 4 (soon to be 6) awesome grandchildren. I own Fred's Firearms here in Oakdale and I am a reserve deputy for Stanislaus County Sheriff's department. I am a proud Veteran of the United States Marine Corps. I have been a citizen in Oakdale for over 20yrs. And I love this town. I believe Oakdale is a great place to live, work, and raise your children. I encourage anyone to contact me with any questions or concerns by email at [fredforoakdale@gmail.com](mailto:fredforoakdale@gmail.com). Thanks for your support!

1. In your own words, describe the role & responsibility of the position you seek?

A city council person should have a level head, an open mind and solid communication skills. Forming and maintaining relationships is a must for community development and strength. Honesty and transparency are vital to the continued trust of the public and their local government. A healthy vision for where we have been, where we are at, and where we are going. To learn from our mistakes, to build what works, and to plan for the future.

2. What is the biggest challenge you see in Oakdale? What is your plan to address this challenge?

Progress. Moving forward and adapting policy to benefit the community in a fair practice that is positive for all. Our community is small and we want to keep it that way, but we also need controlled growth and development for existing and new commerce. Ensuring that commercial growth can meet the needs of residential growth, in order to keep spending local.

3. If elected what will you do to retain the existing businesses?

Keep lines of communication open between businesses and effecting departments of the city. Establish user friendly guidelines and minimize confusion and difficulty of processing and licensing. Look for ways to incentivize local businesses.

4. What do you feel is a barrier for Economic Development in Oakdale? What will you do to address this barrier?

Communication and processing are barriers that always need improvement and adjusting. As we evolve and adapt in this constant changing technological system we must still remember that our system is developed, controlled, and changed by people, and people operate best on positive relationships. I will exhaust all efforts to maintain and improve existing and new relationships, and or processes.

5. If elected what would be your highest priority? Describe the measure you will take to address this priority?

Continuing and improving on our current high level of public safety and security. The safety of our community is paramount. It is pivotal that we maintain constant appropriate funding for our law enforcement. I will ensure this is our priority.

6. What direction would you like the city to take to attract new businesses?

A more positive and inviting mindset. Improve direction and guidance for new businesses to start a foundation, and for existing businesses to gain healthy controlled growth. Increase and promote entertainment and community events.