



VICTOR SNOVER

Mayor, Aztec, New Mexico
Elected 2018



WHAT WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO ACCOMPLISH AS AN ELECTED LEADER?

As mayor of Aztec, I believe my most important job is to continue working to steer our city toward economic diversification and becoming less and less dependent upon the extractive energy economy that we currently have. Since being elected, I have secured additional funding for the completion of our East Aztec Arterial Bypass route to divert heavy truck traffic and oil and gas trucks out of the downtown area to allow for our Metropolitan Revitalization to begin. Additionally, I was also able to secure \$2.5 million to complete an economic development project known as the North Main Avenue Extension Project that, when completed (anticipated completion of 2021), will be a mixed-use business area that takes advantage of our beautiful riverfront and its proximity to Aztec Ruins National Monument right in our downtown area. We also have had new businesses open up shop in town and anticipate a hemp industry manufacturer to locate in Aztec within a few weeks.

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES AHEAD OF YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY DURING YOUR TERM?

Continuing to grapple with the difficult choices that arise when formulating budgets for our various city departments and projects while still working hard every day to provide the very best city services possible and seeking out new opportunities economically with a strong emphasis on developing our outdoor recreation potential, not just in Aztec, but the region as a whole.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE SOMEONE CONSIDERING RUNNING FOR OFFICE FOR THE FIRST TIME?

Start local. Run for school board, city commission, college board, etc. It's vitally important that you find a core of support among family and friends and that you truly have a desire to serve your community. There is no higher calling than that of service, and there are a multitude of ways to serve, and I am humbled and privileged to serve the City of Aztec, while serving as a public high school instructor and as a second act of sorts after serving my nation's military for 22 years.

IS THERE A CONSERVATION, CLIMATE OR DEMOCRACY-RELATED RULE, POLICY OR IDEA YOU'D LIKE TO SEE IMPLEMENTED AT THE LOCAL, STATE AND/OR NATIONAL LEVEL?

Nationally, I believe in the moonshot that is the Green New Deal. We must set lofty and big goals to reverse the damage we have done to our planet, and it's going to take all of us to do this heavy lift. It will require us all to change the culture of how we live our lives and the priorities we task our elected leaders with, but we can do it. We must do it to survive. Locally, I want to see the Energy Transition Act implemented as we look into the very near future of power plant closures and economic challenges that are linked to the elimination of the jobs at these facilities. We owe it to our citizens to do what we can and must do to give them opportunities to land in a good-paying position and to provide the necessary training to do so. We concurrently owe it to our children and grandchildren to secure a future they can look forward to....one with clean air, clean water and energy from renewable sources.

