

The logo for the Kent Democratic Town Committee (KDTC) is located in the top left corner. It consists of a dark blue square containing the letters "KDTC" in a light blue, serif font. Below the letters, the full name "Kent Democratic Town Committee" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

KDTC

Kent Democratic Town Committee

2023 PLATFORM

WHY BEING A 'D' MATTERS:

The core principle of the Democratic party is to enact policies that do the most good for the most people. What that means locally here in Kent is:

Affordable Housing

We are committed to preserving and expanding dedicated affordable housing, to furthering the development of multiple dwellings, and to the creation of accessory apartments; all of which should maintain the rural beauty of Kent and meet the current and anticipated needs of our community.

Additionally, we support controlled development of housing that suits our village aesthetic and offers affordable home-ownership opportunities to first-time and middle-income buyers, and to young families – the lifeblood of a thriving community.

Care and Education for our Children

We support responsible investment in education for the children of Kent. Ensuring affordable childcare, and maintaining the high-quality public education offered at Kent Center School is critical in attracting and retaining young families to our town.

All-Age Recreation

We believe the Town of Kent should provide a diverse range of recreational programs to residents in all age groups. We applaud recent improvements to Kent's youth programming. However, we strongly encourage the development of programs that address the recreational, educational, and athletic needs of adult residents, including options for swimming and water access. Kent's Social Services team should collaborate with Park and Recreation staff to begin utilizing ARPA funds awarded for the development of adult/senior programming.

A Long-term View of Emergency Services

We believe the Town of Kent should work in close partnership with the KVFD to develop a long-term plan which addresses increasing challenges to our current volunteer model, and which respects the KVFD's 112-year legacy of excellence and independence as a volunteer organization. This is an issue that requires an urgent and collaborative response.

Broadband Everywhere

We support investment in broadband accessibility and infrastructure improvements.

Sustain, Preserve, Conserve

We are committed to conservation and sustainability on all fronts from the preservation and protection of our natural resources to responsible wildlife management, to the deployment of solar energy where possible, to best-practice waste management and recycling, to the reinvigoration of our sustainability committee.

We endorse the establishment of a Land Acquisition Fund. The Town of Kent needs to expand the amount of land available for town-supported uses and to address many of the policies and initiatives cited in this platform.

Rural Healthcare Access

We believe the Town of Kent should advocate aggressively for healthcare accessibility in our town and region. With the shrinking of hospital services and the closing of medical offices, accessibility to healthcare services is of growing concern to the town.

Plan for Economic Health

We advocate for the development of an Economic Development Council to generate ideas and strategies for long-term economic growth for our community. Council members should include some elected officials, business leaders, academics, residents with a representative point of view and/or relevant experience to share.

Capitalize on our Art Scene

We also advocate for the development of an Arts Council to generate ideas and strategies for maximizing the unique character of Kent as a rural art hub to stimulate ongoing economic vitality in our town. Council members should include some elected officials, some gallery owners and staff, a member of the Kent Art Association, artists, writers, and performers who live here, and residents with a representative point of view and/or relevant experience to share. An important goal of the Arts Council would be to identify and secure grants.

Alignment with National Policies

We support all national Democratic policies concerning voting rights, women's reproductive rights, common-sense gun regulation, equal justice, fair taxation.