## Message from the Mayor

It is an honor and a privilege to be writing this message as your newly elected mayor. I am humbled by your support and excited to continue my work with the Clemson City Council.

We ended 2020 by recognizing and showing appreciation for outgoing Mayor JC Cook and outgoing Council Members Mark Cato and Crossie Cox. These individuals have given a vast amount of time and energy to serving our community and have been part of a collective effort to address issues and improve our city. Thank you! Our newly elected Council Members, Bob Brookover and Catherine Watt, come to their positions with good ideas, abundant energy and a commitment to working toward solutions.



I write this as we finish up the challenging year of 2020. We, as a council, started the year with goals and ambitions, but come mid-March we had to pivot when we were suddenly faced with the unprecedented challenge of a pandemic. The end of December brings hope with approved vaccines in circulation. In the meantime, the community has become accustomed to a new normal: wearing masks, socially distancing, thinking outside the box and perhaps appreciating more of the "little things."

As well as we have adapted, we will have much healing and rebuilding to do once distribution of the vaccine allows us to return to something resembling our new "normal."

Among the many issues we face as a city, the economic recovery of our community and small businesses is a priority.

With that said, there are many great things that our city council and community will continue to work on. To name just a few: our Strategic Plan (with input from many community members) is taking shape; we are working on creating and maintaining green spaces throughout the community; improving town-gown relationships; managing high-density housing issues and improving economic development. There is so much good happening, but change takes time and funding. I welcome your suggestions and your service. I ask for your patience as we continue to work toward an even better Clemson.



Throughout my campaign, I spoke of transparency and availability. I hope that you will reach out to myself and the other council members with your suggestions and concerns. While social media has become a "go to" for spreading information, it is not always the best venue for constructive conversations. Let's talk.

Before I close, I want to once again thank you for your support. I look forward to working together in the years to come.

Go Tigers!!