

## Robbie Perkins joins race for Greensboro mayor, stresses jobs

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GREENSBORO — Councilman Robbie Perkins formally announced his bid for mayor Tuesday at the Greensboro Regional Realtors Association.

Perkins, 55, stressed the importance of promoting the region to lure companies and investing in public infrastructure to about two dozen supporters.

He said the council needs to work together to find solutions the whole city can accept — an acknowledgement that council members have recently taken heat for divisive decisions.

“If you split this community, you’ll never have the opportunity to take this community to the next level,” he said.

Perkins will face incumbent Mayor Bill Knight and former Councilman Tom Phillips in a primary this October.



Robbie Perkins

Candidates can file to run for one of the nine Greensboro City Council seats starting in July.

Perkins, a partner at NAI Piedmont Triad, has served on the City Council for 16 years.

His announcement was no surprise. He’s considered it for years, he said Tuesday.

Perkins laid out some of his key campaign issues at the kickoff event: attracting more jobs, helping small businesses succeed by loosening regulations and promoting downtown.

“The mayor’s position is a bully pulpit. I will use it as a bully pulpit,” he said.

If elected, he said he would work to promote respect and good communication among council members, who have been divisive in recent years.

Perkins has found himself on the losing end of key decisions.

He has complained that some of his fellow council members do not communicate well with each other.

“Everybody’s got good ideas,” he said. “We need to listen to everyone and move forward together.”

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