

# JOSEPH CUMO

## MASSILON, OH

### What do you see as the most pressing economic issue in your community?

EDUCATION (Pre – K to University) all efforts to create a more vibrant, safe, industry/job friendly Ohio depends on a world class work force and that develops when we pay for world class education systems. This attitude of "no more taxes" is the block to a dynamic growth to our economy and good jobs and a growing tax base to grow a dynamic Ohio.

Hierarchy of Needs: good jobs, good pay, growing tax base, good schools (quality, equality, equity, integrated); informed citizens=world class educated citizens; politicians willing to work together for the benefit of ALL citizens; politicians willing to tax fairly all working Ohioans for the good of all citizens; politicians dedicated to assure safe and healthy living spaces (urban , rural ,suburban) for ALL citizens.

We like to say we are the wealthiest, strongest most just Nation and yet we are essentially divided along income, race, sex, age, and other variables which will keep Ohio from economic growth if these are not addressed for a more equitable population. This turnaround will be tough. It will take a lot of soul searching and infighting (unfortunately) but it must be done. Ohio was so very dynamic and good for moving into and through the 20th century. We need to rekindle that spirit now to propel efforts for growth in the 21st century

### What does a “vibrant community” look like to you?

Vibrancy includes Schools that are providing time, motivation, resources, appropriate instructional design, parental collaboration, community support (funding, engagement, political, etc.).

Vibrancy includes safe neighborhoods, play areas for children, environmental preserves within easy safe walking distances for families, sidewalks in residential zones, safety forces surveilling residential zones on irregular schedules, libraries/media centers accessible, etc.

Vibrancy includes transportation options for access to markets, entertainment, health centers, sports facilities, fitness facilities Vibrancy means that all citizens have choice and access to life affirming institutions-worship sites, nature preserves, clean wholesome environment.

Vibrancy means urban gov serves the people through service that insures safety, secure infrastructure, removal of blighted sites.

Vibrancy means prioritizing government actions that serve ALL citizens, so they do have the rights to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness. All have these rights and Ohio must stand up for these rights for all!

**Anything else you'd like to share?**

Do let this org and this effort be a force for the good of the State and the Ohioans who deserve a better opportunity to the good life. Government should not serve the Elite/Power players only but be the frame for a just social organization and the Common Good!