



# VOTERS GUIDE

BY THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE AUSTIN AREA EDUCATION FUND

LOCAL ELECTION

MAY 7

EARLY VOTING  
APRIL 25–MAY 3

## Contents:

- City of Austin Proposition* ..... 1
- Cedar Park City Council* ..... 2-3
- Georgetown City Council*.....3
- Hutto City Council*.....3
- Leander City Council* ..... 3-4
- Taylor City Council*.....4
- Village of Briarcliff*.....4
- City of Bee Cave Proposition* .....5
- Georgetown ISD*.....5
- Hutto ISD* ..... 5-6
- Lake Travis ISD* .....6
- Pflugerville ISD*..... 6-7
- Taylor ISD*.....7
- Manor ISD Proposition*.....7

## City of Austin

### Proposition 1 Ballot Language:

“Shall the City Code be amended to repeal City Ordinance No. 20151217-075 relating to Transportation Network Companies; and replace with an ordinance that would repeal and prohibit required fingerprinting, repeal the requirement to identify the vehicle with a distinctive emblem, repeal the prohibition against loading and unloading passengers in a travel lane, and require other regulations for Transportation Network Companies?”

**Vote:** FOR the Proposition

**Vote:** AGAINST the Proposition

### Explanation of Ballot Language:

An ordinance is a law delineated in the code of laws.

Two ordinances are referenced in this ballot language. Both ordinances relate to laws for Transportation Network Companies, such as Uber and Lyft and other ride-hailing companies.

The ordinance (law) No. 20151217-075 is the existing law, written and adopted by the Austin City Council. It requires that all drivers for these companies must be fingerprinted, have distinctive emblems on their cars, obey rules relating to where passengers can be unloaded and additional rules that the companies must abide by if they operate in the City.

The other ordinance referred to in the ballot language is a proposed ordinance (law) by the Transportation Network Companies (like Uber and Lyft) which repeals and prohibits the City law, saying that the City of Austin cannot require fingerprinting, nor can they require emblems on their cars or have rules about where passengers may be unloaded. In other words, the City law will be null and void and the new rules determined by the proposed ordinance will take effect immediately.

**Proponents of Proposition 1\*:** (those who want it to pass with a FOR vote and have new rules created by the TNCs say):

1. Prop 1 keeps in place the same rules that have made ridesharing a safe, reliable option for Austin for the last two years.
2. Prop 1 mandates national, criminal background checks for all drivers.
3. Ridesharing helps prevent drunk driving in Austin; according to the Travis County Sheriff, DWI collisions decreased by 23% after ridesharing came to town.
4. From seniors to students, ridesharing gives Austinites access to easy, affordable transportation at all hours at the touch of a button, and the ordinance requires ridesharing companies to have a presence in neighborhoods that are currently underserved by other transportation options.
5. Ridesharing is a trustworthy option for Austinites, with innovative technology that give riders their driver’s name, photo, and license plate number before they step into the car and allows them to share their ride with friends and family in real time.

**Opponents of Proposition 1\*\*:** (those who object to the new rules and want to keep the existing city rules with an AGAINST vote) say:

1. The City Council has the responsibility to protect the public’s safety and is not forcing Uber to leave.
2. Uber has agreed to fingerprinting in New York and Houston; don’t Austinites deserve the same level of protection as these other major cities?
3. Corporations shouldn’t spend millions to write their own rules to weaken our public safety laws; we will see more of this if they succeed here.
4. Uber just had to pay a \$10 million dollar settlement in California for misleading people that their background checks were as safe as fingerprinting.
5. The Austin Police Association, Firefighters, EMS, the Democratic Party and many more community groups are calling on voters to vote against this dangerous corporate funded Proposition 1.

**A vote FOR Prop. 1:** will replace the existing city law with the one proposed by the Transportation Networks Companies (Uber and Lyft).

**A vote AGAINST Prop 1:** will be in favor of the existing city laws which include fingerprinting and the other rules listed.

The details of both ordinances can be accessed at [lwvaustin.org](http://lwvaustin.org).

\*Source: Ridesharing Works for Austin.

\*\*Source: Our City, Our Safety, Our Choice.

## Know whom and what you are voting for.

For questions about voting contact the League at

**Phone:** (512) 451-6710

**Email** [LVWAustin@lwvaustin.org](mailto:LVWAustin@lwvaustin.org)

**Web site:** [www.LVWAustin.org](http://www.LVWAustin.org)

**Donate** to the LWV-Austin Education Fund to help Make Democracy Work throughout the Austin Area. Tax deductible contributions to the Education Fund support expanded distribution of the nonpartisan *Voters Guide* throughout Austin and on our website. Mail donations to LWVAA, 1011 W. 31st St., Austin, TX 78705

This *Voters Guide* is funded and published by the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area Education Fund. For more than 95 years, helping voters cast an informed vote when they go to the polls has been the primary goal of the League of Women Voters. As a nonpartisan organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, the League believes that all of us are stakeholders in making democracy work. Neither the League nor the Education Fund supports or opposes any political party or candidate.

## Early Voting: Monday, April 25 to Tuesday, May 3. Election Day: Saturday, May 7

This Voters Guide lists candidates for municipalities and Independent School Districts in Travis and Williamson Counties as shown in the table of contents. Questionnaires were sent by email to candidates in contested races. Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification. The names of the Unopposed and write-in candidates are also listed. There are no candidates on the ballot for the city of Austin. There is one proposition only. This *Voters Guide* has the ballot language, an explanation of the ballot language and pro and con statements from advocacy groups. (See page 1)

### What you need to Vote:

Texas law now requires voters to show photo identification when voting in person. When voters appear at a polling location to vote, they must present an approved form of photo ID issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) or the United States government. All IDs (except the citizenship certificate) must be current or no more than 60 days expired. You will be allowed to vote if your name appears on the rolls in your county of residence. The following are acceptable forms of identification for the Saturday, May 7, 2016, election:

- Texas Driver License issued by Texas DPS
- Texas Election Identification Certificate (EIC) issued by DPS
- Texas Personal Identification Card issued by DPS
- Texas License to Carry a Handgun (LTC) issued by DPS
- U.S. Military ID Card containing the person's photograph
- U.S. Citizenship Certificate containing the person's photograph
- U.S. Passport

### Where to Vote:

Vote Centers in Travis Co. and Williamson Co. are in effect for Early Voting and Election Day.

You may vote at any polling location within your county of residence where you see a "Vote Here" sign.

You can find more information about voting locations and ballots at Travis ([votetravis.com](http://votetravis.com)) and Williamson ([wilco.org/elections](http://wilco.org/elections)) County Clerk websites. Please note, however: Cedar Park and Leander residents who reside in Travis County must vote at Williamson County voting locations for early voting or election day.

**You may bring this *Voters' Guide* into the voting booth!** In 1995, the Texas law prohibiting use of printed materials, such as this *Voters Guide*, in the polling place was ruled unconstitutional (Texas Election Code, Section 61.011). However, cell phones are not allowed in the voting booth, so this guide will need to be printed out to take into the voting booth.

### Questions for City Races

*Q1: What do you think are the most important responsibilities of this position?*

*Q2: What are the most pressing issues in your community and what actions would you propose to deal with those issues?*

### City of Cedar Park

*Travis County Cedar Park Residents Must Vote at Williamson County Voting Locations for Early Voting or Election Day.*

#### Cedar Park Mayor

##### Matt Powell

**Education:** MBA, Organizational Leadership and Management emphasis, Concordia University Texas BA, English/Political Science, California Lutheran University



**Experience:** Mayor of Cedar Park, 2012 - present City Councilmember, 2005-2012 Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) Policy Board, 2012-present  
Campaign Web Site: <http://www.votemattpowell.com>

Campaign Email: [votemattpowell@gmail.com](mailto:votemattpowell@gmail.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 296-7110

##### Answers to Questions

A1: The City Council sets local governing policy, and the Mayor chairs the board. In addition, the Mayor should possess strong ambassadorial

skills to improve the community's image and standing in the region, and seek alternative funding strategies to advance local priority projects. He/she should also be a strong fiduciary, ensuring citizens' tax dollars are spent effectively. I am proud to have a strong record with each of these responsibilities.

A2: Studies show citizens only become involved in local causes when they believe their families are safe. Cedar Park consistently ranks as one of the safest cities in Texas, and it shows. I am committed to doing even better. In the short term we must complete the Fire Department's staffing plan by opening Station #5 and ensure our growing Police Department has adequate space. I also wish to further encourage effective neighborhood watch programs.

#### Cedar Park City Council, Place 2

##### Corbin Van Arsdale

Unopposed

#### Cedar Park City Council, Place 4 (choose 1)

*Travis County Cedar Park Residents Must Vote at Williamson County Voting Locations for Early Voting or Election Day.*

##### Cobby Caputo

**Education:** B.A., University of Texas at Austin; J.D., University of Texas School of Law



**Experience:** Cedar Park City Council 1996-2002 and 2005-2010; Cedar Park Economic Development Corporation Board 2013-present; Chair Cedar Park Bond Task Force 2015  
Campaign Web Site: <http://Cobby4CP.com>

Campaign Email: [cobbyacaputo@hotmail.com](mailto:cobbyacaputo@hotmail.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 917-1257

##### Answers to Questions

A1: The most important responsibilities of being a Council member in Cedar Park are 1) to ensure the safety of our citizens and businesses by maintaining the high standards of our police and fire departments; 2) to develop City assets that contribute to our quality of life; and 3) to continue to diversify the City's tax base by making responsible decisions about zoning and redevelopment that will lower the tax burden on homeowners.

A2: We need to continue to expand the City's commercial sector to promote more jobs close to home and give residents more entertainment options, and places to shop and dine out. This will result in a lower tax burden on homeowners.

Redevelopment projects like Bell Boulevard and the Quarry can define the City's future. I can use the knowledge I have gained as an attorney working on a major redevelopment project to make those projects successful.

#### Kaden Norton

**Education:** Juris Doctorate from Pepperdine University School of Law; and Bachelor's Degrees in Business Management and HR Management from Harding University.



**Experience:** Cedar Park Community Development Corporation; Bond Advisory Task Force; Bell Blvd. Redevelopment Work Group; and Zoning Ordinance Advisory Committee.

Campaign Web Site: <http://www.votenorton.com>

Campaign Email: [kaden@votenorton.com](mailto:kaden@votenorton.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 910-5557

##### Answers to Questions

A1: Fiscal responsibility over taxpayer funds should be of the utmost importance for any public servant – second only to their ethics and integrity. Accountability to constituents and government transparency are also critically important for good government. I believe, in a very literal sense, that elected officials are public servants and they should act in the best interests of their constituents. If elected, I will fulfill these responsibilities.

A2: Maintaining public safety, encouraging economic growth and job creation, and ensuring the city is proactive in reducing traffic congestion are critically important. Beyond these issues, two specific challenges are reinvigorating Bell Blvd. – to create a community gathering place and an economic engine – and reducing the property tax rate to be responsive to dramatic increases in property values. If elected, I'll fight to address all these issues.

#### Cedar Park City Council, Place 6 (choose 1)

##### Kristyne Bollier

**Education:** Masters - LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas, Bachelor of Science in Finance and Management from Trinity University.



**Experience:** Over 19 years of experience in technology, management consulting, and state government with Cisco, BMC Software, Deloitte & Touche, and TNRCC.

Campaign Web Site: <http://www.KristyneBollier.com>

Campaign Email: [info@kristynebollier.com](mailto:info@kristynebollier.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 888-8254

##### Answers to Questions

A1: As a steward of the community, this position should be accountable to the citizens, not special interest groups. This is a role that requires leadership, willingness to make tough

decisions, understanding public policy and implications of decisions, and ability to navigate through complex problems and solutions. And that's why this position needs steady leadership, vision, and a can-do attitude to get things done.

A2: We will face full build-out of the City in the next few years. Growth is critical, but we must also be mindful to strike the balance between development, green space, affordable housing, and diversification. As we expand, we need to attract large employers and good paying jobs so that we can diversify our tax base, ease the burden off property owners, and maintain the City's high quality of life.

**Maria L. Talamo**

**Education:** BSN, Villanova University College of Nursing, Villanova PA MA, Nursing Executive Masters Program, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York NY



**Experience:** 2012-2014 Parks Board, 2011-2012 Arts Board, 2002-2011 4B Board, VP. 2006-2011 2001 GO Bond Task Force, 2000- LISD Attendance Zone Boundary Committee.

Campaign Web Site: <http://mariatalamocampaign.com>

Campaign Email: [mariatalamocampaign@gmail.com](mailto:mariatalamocampaign@gmail.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 299-7771

**Answers to Questions**

A1: The City Council is the legislative and governing body of the City, responsible to govern based on the core values of community, service, innovation, professionalism, integrity, leadership, and fiscal responsibility, and manage city services including public safety, water and wastewater, parks, roads, economic and community development as good stewards of taxpayer dollars, attracting new business and improving the quality of life of our citizens.

A2: Land Use and Public Infrastructure. We must promote sensible growth that diversifies our tax base, permit the best and highest use of land that is consistent with the demands of the market, invest in infrastructure to improve drainage in flood prone neighborhoods, build our 5th Fire Station, expand our Police Administration Building, build roads, acquire and develop parkland and athletic fields and courts, and preserve unique natural areas.

**City of Georgetown**

**Georgetown City Council, District 3 (choose 1)**

**Dwayne Boydston**

**Education:** B. A. University of Oklahoma; J. D. Baylor University School of Law



**Experience:** Neighborhood Representative 2012-2014; Private Law practice for 35 years, specializing in representing cities, schools and other public entities.

Campaign Email: [dwayneforcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:dwayneforcouncil@gmail.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 431-4412

**Answers to Questions**

A1: In our Council-Manager form of government the policy powers are vested in the City Council. One of the most important functions of the council is to select top administrators, including city manager and police chief. Another important power of the position is to develop and pass an annual responsible budget. A third responsibility is regular 2-way communication with constituents in order to protect the welfare of the city & its inhabitants.

A2: The city needs to reevaluate its long term policy for the coming transportation needs, including improvements and expansion for Shell Road and D. B. Woods. Alternatives to bridge replacement should be thoroughly investigated considering both costs and safety concerns. The threats to the Downtown Square and adjacent neighborhood that are the heart of Georgetown call for restoration of the authority of Historical & Architectural Review Comm.

**John Hesser**

No Response

**City of Hutto**

**Hutto, Mayor**

**Doug Gaul**

Unopposed

**Hutto City Council, Place 3**

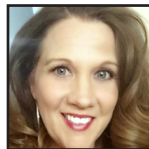
**Nathan Killough**

Unopposed

**Hutto City Council, Place 6 (choose 1)**

**Bettina Jordan**

**Education:** Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice, University of North Texas



**Experience:** Hutto Parks Advisory Board, Hutto Citizens University graduate and service with many city, school and charitable organizations in the last 10 years

Campaign Email: [teambettina4hutto@gmail.com](mailto:teambettina4hutto@gmail.com)

**Answers to Questions**

A1: The responsibilities of a Councilmember are many. They serve as policymaker and ambassador but most importantly theirs is a role of leadership; to inspire citizens' confidence, demonstrate integrity and civility. Councilmembers must stay informed, listen to concerns, and be approachable and dependable. They must demonstrate respect for differing opinions, processes and most importantly the individuals and community; on and off the Dias.

A2: Facilitating responsible growth is the most pressing issue facing Hutto. The council will have big decisions regarding the future of economic development, the fire department and infrastructure and will need leaders willing to look at all available options, who serve with an open-mind, promote partnerships, productive communication and community unity as we move forward and continue to grow.

**Tim Jordan**

No Response

**City of Leander**

*Travis County Leander Residents Must Vote at Williamson County Voting Locations for Early Voting or Election Day.*

**Leander City Council, Place 1 (choose 1)**

**Dan Michie**

**Education:** BS Forestry Management, MS Administration, numerous Military Schools including US Army Command & General Staff College.



**Experience:** I learned early to work hard. I've worked my entire life, farm worker, dishwasher, sailor, soldier. My work ethic allowed me to retire as an Army LTC.

Campaign Email: [dlmichie52@gmail.com](mailto:dlmichie52@gmail.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 963-8991

**Answers to Questions:**

A1: To represent every Leander Resident. Reduce City Tax Rate by diversifying tax base: adding retail, commercial, office space and multi-family homes. Invest wisely in our city so that everyone benefits. Closely monitor City spending. Work with our landowners to promote the highest and best use of their land to meet market demands. Plan now for future growth with a focus on: public safety, efficient city services, parks, trails and jobs.

A2: City property taxes are too high. Reduce tax burden for homeowners by attracting mom-and-pop local businesses with a mix of regional and national businesses. Reduce wasteful City spending. Expanding our tax base with more commercial development, including corporate employers, will

add flexibility in guiding growth in Leander. Accomplishing this goal will provide more money for the city budget and pay for parks, trails, and other city services.

**Andrea Navarrette**

**Education:** Associates of Accounting-Texas State Technical College



**Experience:** Leander Mayor Pro-Tem, City Council 2005, 2009-2016, CAPCOG's Executive Committee & CAC, BCRUA Board of Directors, Council Liaison to Parks Board. Campaign Web Site: <http://www.AndreaforLeander.com>

Campaign Email: [Andrea@AndreaforLeander.com](mailto:Andrea@AndreaforLeander.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 563-8202

**Answers to Questions**

A1: For me, that is being a true representative of the citizens you serve. We serve at-large, meaning we each represent the entire city not just one geographically defined area. You are solely responsible to gather information from many sources, be it current policy, staff input and guidance, and public opinion, meld all that together and make the best decision possible for the city as a whole. Your constituents deserve your due diligence.

A2: The most pressing issues in Leander all deal with our being in such a high growth area.

Being able to meet the demands of such growth with new infrastructure, maintaining the existing infrastructure, adding fire & police coverage while at the same time continuing to lower the tax burden on the residents while not compromising our level of services has been a challenge! We will continue to lower the tax rate with continued conservative leadership!

**Leander City Council, Place 3**

**Shanan Shepherd**

Unopposed

**Leander City Council, Place 5**

**(choose 1)**

**Phil Contatore**

**Education:** Columbia Southern University Bachelor of Science Criminal Justice Administration. Magna Cum Laude



**Experience:** 15 years Government Service Non-profit both Local and National Level Strong Innovative Leadership.

Campaign Email: [Phil4Leander@gmail.com](mailto:Phil4Leander@gmail.com)

**Answers to Questions**

A1: The most important responsibilities of this position are serving the interests of the people with unconditional dedication, loyalty, communication and transparency in office. The most important role of any elected

Leander Continued from page 3

official is to answer the call to action from your community; working for those who not only elected you but for those who did not vote for you as well. Establishing trust between government and the people is essential to all progress.

A2: Making Leander the best place to call home in a time of rapid urban growth by creating a strong, diverse tax base to alleviate the burden of the property tax rate. We must create businesses, maximizing job growth for our youth and creating more opportunity for everyone. Through incentives and wise investing, it must be our goal to maximize economic growth for the city on all fronts. This will keep our city safe, clean and accessible for everyone.

#### Jeff Seiler

**Education:** MBA Marketing/Management from Texas Tech University

**Experience:** Leander City Council 2015-16, Leander P&Z Commission 2011-2015, chairman 2014. Served on 5 different committees since joining Council last year

Campaign Web Site: <http://facebook.com/jeff4leander>

Campaign Email: [jeff4leander@gmail.com](mailto:jeff4leander@gmail.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 699-2335

#### Answers to Questions

A1: The most important responsibility is to be available. I work tirelessly to show up at events, communicate with residents, and listen to feedback. It's important to give Leander's fire and police the tools they need to keep our city safe. It's important to be on the same page with city staff to ensure we are all successful in making Leander the future. I want to ensure that my kids grow up in a city that made things better for its residents.

A2: The biggest challenge facing Leander is proactively managing the continued growth that is coming. It takes responsible preparation to provide the resources that our public safety needs to protect our residents. It takes strategic planning to provide parks and other amenities that we all want to enjoy. We have the opportunity to improve the quality of life for our citizens, I have the vision and experience to make sure those goals are met.



## City of Taylor

### Taylor City Council, District 1 (choose 1)

#### Herbert Brinkmeyer

No Response

#### Arnold Cuba

No Response

#### Christine Lopez

**Education:** Ethics & Integrity Training

- 2015, Intellectual Property Training

- 2015, Security Training

- 2015, Human Resource Training - 2015,

**Experience:** Life Long Resident, Bus Owner 20 Yrs, Lrg Industry Exp.-34 Yrs, Taylor EDC Board-4 Terms, YMCA Board Member-2 Terms, United Way Board- 2 Terms

Campaign Email: [cg4lopez@mind-spring.com](mailto:cg4lopez@mind-spring.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 517-4857

#### Answers to Questions:

A1: To ensure that as we move the community forward that we take into consideration how we spend the tax payers money, be transparent and expect accountability. It is important to ensure that all districts are represented and included in the overall strategic plan, especially when it comes to economic growth and infrastructure. We need to be pro-active & not re-active. Tackle issues as they occur and last but not least, listen to our constituents.

A2: Roads are our hot topic. They are long overdue but they did not get this way over night and they will not be fixed over night. The cost to repair them all is more than we can afford. The best remedy is to be pro-business and work diligently to attract new industries. This will bring new capital rev. to help fix the larger issues with little to no impact to the residents. It can also bring in addl. roof tops resulting in healthier local spending.

### Taylor City Council, District 4 (choose 1)

#### Robert Garcia

**Education:** Sandusky High School, Baker College of Business, Temple College of Taylor

**Experience:** 5 years U.S. Army Contract Manager for Homeland Security, Contract Founder of G21 "Giving in the 21st Century", City of Austin Supervisor.

Campaign Web Site: <http://www.facebook.com/rgarcia4Taylor>

Campaign Email: [rgarcia4Taylor@gmail.com](mailto:rgarcia4Taylor@gmail.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 595-3880



#### Answers to Questions:

A1: There are multiple responsibilities for the City Council position. It is important to be at each meeting as you are representing your district and the city. Being accountable for your actions and decision. Honesty, Integrity and Morals are key assets which every City Council must possess. You must do what is right for the city and community as a whole.

A2: Streets, Fees, Taxes and Trust.

Streets: Ensure funds are used for the streets and not diverted for other projects. Fees: Thoroughly go through the budgets to stop wasteful spending in order to lower or stop unnecessary fees. Taxes: Properly use property and sales tax for it's intended purpose. Look for avenues to lower taxes. Trust: Say what you do, and do what you say. Regain the citizens trust in the city.

#### D. Scott Green

**Education:** Jun 07-Jun 10: Park University, Business Management, Sept 81-Mar 83: National Education Center, Glendale, Az. Associate of Science Degree, Elec Drafting.

**Experience:** 22 yr Taylor resident. 13 yrs Oracle Corp. 3 yrs City Council and TEDC, Board of Directors. 8 yrs P and Z Commission. 5 yrs UWWC Grant Review Panel

Campaign Web Site: <http://www.facebook.com/MoveTaylorForward/>

Campaign Email: [scott.green0@email.com](mailto:scott.green0@email.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 413-1446

#### Answers to Questions:

A1: To ensure that I am available and responsive to the citizens I represent. To be accessible and proactive regarding your concerns. 2. True leadership is making wise, timely decisions and not "kick the can down the road." 3. Address the aging roads and infrastructure in our Community. 4. Smart growth while preserving our historic integrity.

A2: Roads and infrastructure have been neglected for many years. Our task is to generate more revenue without raising taxes by continuing to "plant seeds" that promote smart growth. Focusing on economic development yields concentrated investment by businesses that never over burden our school or city services yet contribute to the system. Partnering the City and TEDC will accomplish that goal. We need to attract good companies that pay well.



## Village of Briarcliff

### Village of Briarcliff, Alderman (choose 3)

#### Bobbi Bowles

No Response

#### Hal Caldwell

No Response

#### Jeff Elliott

**Education:** BS

Chemistry BS Petroleum Engineering MBA

**Experience:** 35 years of Oilfield Experience including 12 years as a Drilling Manager

#### Answers to Questions:

A1: Representing the residents of Briarcliff and insuring that the Village money is spent wisely.

A2: Oak Wilt. Passing an Oak Wilt prevention Ordinance.

#### Jo Ann Richmond

**Education:** 2006, BA, Government from The University of Texas at Austin and 1999, AA, General Studies from Lee College

**Experience:** 2015 - Present, Briarcliff POA Board Member; 2014 - Present, Village of Briarcliff Alderman; and, 2002 - Present, Travis County Precinct Chair

Campaign Email: [jojorichmond@gmail.com](mailto:jojorichmond@gmail.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 627-9451

#### Answers to Questions

A1: The most important responsibilities of being an Alderman are being able to listen to all points of view, to explore all possible solutions, to communicate with neighbors on those possible solutions, and to work with all neighbors in implementing the best solutions. Having already served for two years as an alderman, I have also found that transparency and giving neighbors a voice in how their community is run is extremely critical.

A2: The most important issues right now are the recent discovery of oak wilt and improving our water lines. The oak wilt issue is two-fold: treatment and prevention. We are working on the treatment to be implemented in the next few months and prevention will be in the form of an ordinance to address. Addressing the water line issue is ongoing, but with the recent update of our burn ordinance and updating some of the smaller water lines is a beginning.



## City of Bee Cave

### Propositions

PROPOSITION NO. 1, CITY OF BEE CAVE  
"Shall the first and second sentence of Section 3.03 E of the City Charter be amended to authorize the City Council to fill a vacancy on the City Council for an office that has an unexpired term greater than one (1) year until a special election can be called at the next uniform election date?"

PROPOSITION NO. 2, CITY OF BEE CAVE

"Shall the third sentence of Section 3.03 E of the City Charter be amended to authorize the City Council to call a special election to fill a vacancy on the City Council at the next uniform election date instead of the next regular election date?"

PROPOSITION NO. 3, CITY OF BEE CAVE

"Shall Section 3.06 of the City Charter be amended to provide that the rules applicable to the City Council regarding how an abstention vote is counted shall also be applicable to a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission?"

### Questions for ISD Races

Q1: *What strategies would you use to stretch your school district's funding to maintain educational quality?*

Q2: *What other pressing issues are facing your school district and what actions are needed to address these issues?*

## Georgetown ISD

### Georgetown ISD, Place 1

**Scott Stribling**  
Unopposed

### Georgetown ISD, Place 2

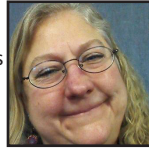
**Scott Alarcon**  
Unopposed

### Georgetown ISD, Place 3 (choose 1)

**Paula Chaney**

**Education:** BA Marketing/Economics from Southwestern University

**Experience:** Long-time volunteer, parent, substitute teacher  
Campaign Email: paula4gisd@yahoo.com  
Campaign Phone: (512) 412-8818



### Answers to Questions

A1: First and most importantly, our school board must ensure that all funds are spent for the benefit of the students, and they must exercise their duty of fiscal responsibility in the face of a new superintendent making questionable requests of those funds, amounting to about \$1M this year alone. Our current school board seems unwilling or unable to stop these wasteful expenditures, failing in their fiduciary duty to our students.

A2: The most pressing issue facing Williamson County and Georgetown particularly is growth. As Georgetown transitions from small country town to medium-sized suburb, our school district leadership should reflect the population. Our School Board members are still elected at-large. In order to provide fair representation for all of Georgetown, our school district should transition to a single-member district election for school board members.

**Andy Webb**

**Education:** Texas A&M University, BS in Agricultural Leadership (1997)

**Experience:** Elected to GISD Board of Trustees in 2013, 2 kids in GISD, WillCo A&M Foundation Board, IIAT Young Agent of the Year 2012, Georgetown and RR Chamber  
Campaign Web Site: <http://www.facebook.com/andywebbforgisd>  
Campaign Email: [awebb@watkinsinsurancegroup.com](mailto:awebb@watkinsinsurancegroup.com)  
Campaign Phone: (512) 563-1679



### Answers to Questions

A1: An example: We are currently reviewing staffing matrixes. GISD has a lower student: teacher ratio than peer districts, increasing staffing costs, which account for the overwhelming majority of the budget. Were we to increase student: teacher ratios, this can save money, but will also have an

impact in the classroom. These types of Answers to Questions get to the values of our community and how we want to prioritize the very limited resources we have.

A2: Our biggest challenge is creating a culture of organizational leadership with inspired students that leave Georgetown and reflect on their educational experience as a great one for the rest of their lives. Preparing for growth, attracting the best and brightest teachers, maintaining fiscal restraint and perpetuating strong relationships with community leaders are important but are all behind building the culture all of our children deserve.

## Hutto ISD

### Hutto ISD, Board of Trustee (choose 3)

**Peter Gordon**

**Education:** BA Political Science - Brigham Young University, Masters Certificate in Project Management, George Washington University

**Experience:** HOA Board of Directors - 7+ years, served on several church boards and councils over the past 15 years.

Campaign Web Site: <http://www.facebook.com/gordonforhuttoisd/>

### Answers to Questions:

A1: I feel our school district needs to invest more in educational materials for our students. Too many children are being expected to do figure out difficult assignments by using Internet searches or other means, rather than being sent home with the needed materials to understand the subject. One option may be to divert funds from extra-curricular activities or other non-essential programs. We can also move forward with green energy buildings.

A2: The biggest issue we face is accelerated growth. Hutto is currently the third fastest growing city in Texas. We need to stay ahead of the population growth, but do it at a reasonable pace. We were forced to close one school, which sat vacant for several years, because we built too far ahead of the curve. We also need to ensure we are encouraging the best possible teachers to want to live and work in Hutto.

**Morgan Hubbard**

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts in History (Huston-Tillotson College, 2005), Masters of Education in Guidance and Counseling (Angelo State University, 2014)

**Experience:** I have worked and volunteered in Hutto Schools for over 10 years.



Campaign Web Site: <http://www.facebook.com/HubbardforHutto/>  
Campaign Email: [hubbardforhuttoisd@gmail.com](mailto:hubbardforhuttoisd@gmail.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 814-8221

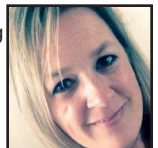
### Answers to Questions:

A1: I believe strengthening the skillset of the personnel we already have to provide "in-house" professional development is the first step to providing additional training for our staff members. Who better to train teachers than other effective teachers? That would be a great bang for the taxpayer's buck and continuously improve the quality of education offered in Hutto schools. Also, expanding our community partnerships would be beneficial.

A2: The district has done a phenomenal job focusing on advanced academics (AP, dual credit), but I think the special programs (for example 504, ESL and Special Education) need the same level of attention. Centralized programs such as Life Skills and Behavior Support are continuously growing and those educators need effective guidance to help ensure those programs are high caliber service providers.

**Billie Logiudice**

**Education:** Attending Temple College at EWCHEC transferring to Texas A&M UCT, Killeen



**Experience:** Hutto ISD Trustee for the last 6 years, secretary for 5 years Hutto Education Foundation, Hutto Has Heart  
Campaign Email: [blogiudice1121@gmail.com](mailto:blogiudice1121@gmail.com)

Campaign Phone: (512) 818-7993

### Answers to Questions:

A1: I would reach out to local and surrounding businesses to be partners in education and help fund special projects, etc.

I would also consider training staff in writing grants and reaching out to our local education foundation to gain support financially and with volunteers.

A2: Our top issue is rapid growth: balancing community needs as we grow, as we need new facilities, staffing and resources, increasing our awareness and understanding on how to meet the needs of our growing diverse community and finally ALWAYS keeping what is in the best interest of our students at the center of our decisions.

Hutto ISD Continued from page 5

**Russ Metcalf**

**Education:** Masters degree in Management, BS in Accounting

**Experience:** Over 25 years in managing business operations, 4 years as a city council man, 8 years on local HOA board.

Campaign Email: Russ@rusmetcalf.org

Campaign Phone: (512) 630-4341

**Answers to Questions:**

A1: Join forces with city and county government to establish a partnership that will require developers to set aside land and funding to help with capital improvements. Create business friendly programs to aid in developing student capabilities in vocational training. Fight for a more locally managed school funding mechanism in Texas.

A2: We must provide a balance of educational opportunities for all ranges of our students from basic skills to advanced education. Too often we focus on our most gifted who have the skills to survive and thrive instead of those who are developmentally challenged. As our community expands we must work harder to attract businesses that will not only provide local jobs but to increase the tax base and fund these new programs.

**Terrence Owens**

**Education:** A.A.S. Physical Therapist Assistant, Kilgore College

**Experience:** Professionally, I have worked as Licensed Physical Therapist Assistant for 23 years. Board Member for The Sandbox at Madeline's Place.

Campaign Email: owensfuz@gmail.com

Campaign Phone: (512) 567-5596

**Answers to Questions:**

A1: Open and continue conversations on district funds and how they are being utilize. That balance between control spending and quality education is a fine line that must be balance. Continue to encourage a partnership with our local business that provide grants for our teachers. Help with encouraging our parents understanding the Pre-K program and the Dual credit classes. These programs provide a foundation for our kids and save our parents money.

A2: Growth and Growth There will need to be continued conversation and planning for the next several years about meeting the needs of our students, filling staffing needs and ensuring that our resources are being used wisely. We are a community of mostly homes and the balance be-



tween business and home owners are not balance at the moment. I believe that will change in the near future but until that happens it will need to be a weekly discussion.

**Lake Travis ISD**

**Lake Travis ISD, Position 3**

**Alex Alexander**  
Unopposed

**Lake Travis ISD, Position 4 (choose 1)**

**John Aouellé**  
**Education:** BA - Journalism/Public Relations

**Experience:** Father of four

Campaign Web Site: <http://johnfortlisd.com>

**Answers to Questions:**

A1: Allow internal natural efficiencies to occur. For example: not hiring replacement staff to fill vacant positions unless absolutely necessary.

A2: Like every school district, we face a drug problem that needs attention. The district should present more often the ill-effects of the drugs kids are using and show that a drug free life is a better more joyful life. We implemented a volunteer drug testing program this year and it has exceeded expectations with 770 kids registering to volunteer to be tested.



**Ariel E. Axelrod**

**Education:** B.A., Indiana University, Bloomington M.A., University of Southern California Graduate, U.S. Army Command & General Staff College

**Experience:** TxDOT RR 620 Feasibility Study Group (City of Bee Cave Appointee). Managed multi-million dollar projects for the US Army.

Campaign Web Site: <http://www.VoteAriel.com>

Campaign Email: Ariel@VoteAriel.com  
Campaign Phone: (512) 571-9054

**Answers to Questions:**

A1: Lake Travis ISD offers an optional homestead exemption that takes 20% off the appraised value for homesteaded properties. Unfortunately, the State calculates recapture, aka Robin Hood, without taking this into account. We must change how the State calculates recapture to retain more than \$7.5M that otherwise leaves the District. Doing so would restore educational services and staff cuts the District has had to make over the past few years.

A2: The district is one of the fastest growing school districts in Texas. The current school board is doing a good job dealing with growth at the elementary and middle schools but there is no long term plan in place to



address the growth at the high school level. Moderate growth estimates show 4,400 students in 2024 and close to 6,500 in 2032. We must plan for this growth with stakeholder participation before decisions are made.

**Lake Travis ISD, Position 5**

**Kim Flasch**  
Unopposed

**Lake Travis ISD, Position 7 (choose 1) One Year Term**

**Bob Dorsett, Jr.**

**Education:** 1985 Lake Travis High School, 1990 Texas State - BA, Political Science 2000 Texas Wesleyan - JD.

**Experience:** Bee Cave City Council 2009-2013; Founding member of the Lake Travis Indian Princesses; 2012 School Bond Committee; much more see: web site.

Campaign Web Site: <http://robertdorsett.com>

Campaign Email: bdorsett@dorsettjohnson.com

Campaign Phone: (512) 600-4366

**Answers to Questions:**

A1: In 2017, the District will require a bond election in order to meet its finance needs. Per Dr. Lancaster (Superintendent) LTISD has about 9,000 students and is expected to grow to 14,500 students in 10 years. The bond may include funds for two new elementary schools and a third middle school. If elected, I would encourage the continuation of debt management (refinancing) so we can call the future bond election with minimum impact to the taxpayer.

A2: Everyone recognizes that LTISD is one of the fastest growing districts in the state. Accordingly, the issue of secondary education (one high school vs. two) will quickly rise to the top of the most debated topics in our community. In the next few years, a primary task of the Board will be to study the available options and make difficult decisions. Regardless of the final decision, a large portion of the community will not be happy.

**Juan R. Gutierrez**

No Response



**Pflugerville ISD**

**Pflugerville ISD, Place 3 (choose 1)**

**Mario Acosta**

**Education:** Masters in Education

**Experience:** 37 years in public education 6.5 at Texas Education Agency

Campaign Web Site: <http://marioacosta.com>

Campaign Email: marioacosta555@yahoo.com

Campaign Phone: (512) 925-2124

**Answers to Questions:**

A1: One strategy that we have used for the past five years is to refinance bonds at a lower interest rate and make aggressive payments to reduce the debt. This has saved the district 69 million dollars over a period of 5 years. We have also focused on student attendance and have been successful in keep it at 96% and better. This strategy has given us the ability to meet budget goals every year. Increased enrollment in the CTE program.

A2: Growth. We demographers conduct studies and make presentations to the board. With this information we are better able to plan when and where to build new schools. Teacher salaries. We collaborate with staff, teacher organizations and administration to plan on what and how to stay competitive with not only regional districts but also districts across the state.

**Renae Mitchell**

**Education:** MBA/M. Ed from UT McCombs School of Business, undergrad BA Journalism/Communications, from Southeastern LA University

**Experience:** 25 years in Human Resources/Business Development, 15 years actively involved as a PflISD volunteer working with students, teachers, administrators, etc

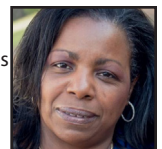
Campaign Web Site: <http://ElectRenaeMitchell4PflISD.org>

Campaign Email: TheParentsVoice@ElectRenaeMitchell4PflISD.org

Campaign Phone: (512) 251-5470

**Answers to Questions:**

A1: Partner with City of Pflugerville, the Community, and businesses to help provide resources needed. There are low tech solutions to educating our students. We just need to be more innovative in our thinking through the use of programs and resources that may be available. Such as Co-Location. We will build schools and partner with



the Parks and Recs dept. to fund the sporting facilities/gyms resulting in larger schools and gym space for the City.

A2: Teaching the individual learner instead of the class. Ensuring that our kids are prepared upon graduating for higher education, a trade, or a job. We need specific innovative areas of study. We live in a different society today and traditional curriculum is just not enough. Science, technology, engineering, arts and math academies are needed. We need to hire and retain the best educators and empower parents and the community to share their voices

**Pflugerville ISD, Place 4 (choose 1)**

**Vernagene Mott**

**Education:** Valedictorian Pflugerville High School, University of Texas Austin BA with Honors in Mathematics, LTASB Master Trustee



**Experience:** 35+years high school STEM teacher, Math Chair, PflISD trustee(12) serving in all officer positions,TASB Director(9), charter founder of 5 non-profits  
Campaign Email: mottboard@aol.com  
Campaign Phone: (512) 431-1942

**Answers to Questions:**

A1: Keep \$ close to the classroom. Strive for low class sizes.Provide competitive salaries and benefits to attract and retain exemplary educators. Provide resources, mentoring and support staff to teachers with a goal for value-added academic achievement for every student in every classroom. Strongly encourage daily attendance of students and teachers. Monthly board meeting agendas include a fiscal impact statement plus the district goal reference.

A2: PISD as a fast growth district has numerous major construction projects in progress. Oversight that facilities come in under budget and on time is vital. Determining campus boundaries in preparation for the 2017 opening of HS#4 and ES#21 will take collaboration of the board, staff and community. Creativity in implementing unfunded state mandates. Monitoring the new HB2804A-F ratings for campuses/districtin the 5 Domains of Accountability.

**Matt Robertson**

**Education:** Central High School Graduate 1993, Marquette University 1993.



**Experience:** Many years of being Den Leader and Cubmaster for Cub Scouts of America , 10 Years Religious Education Teacher, PTO President 3 Years, HOA President  
Campaign Web Site: [http://Facebook - PflugerPolitician](http://Facebook-PflugerPolitician)

Campaign Email: PflugerPolitician@gmail.com

Campaign Phone: (512) 636-7225

**Answers to Questions:**

A1: I would make sure we are not wasting money on lateral spending. Operating two software systems, paying almostan additional \$500,00 is not acceptable. I would ensure that we are getting what we are paying for with the money we are spending. Spending millions of dollars remodeling the schools to be outfitted with new security doors that do not function properly half the time is also unacceptable. Complacency cannot be tolerated with the budget.

A2: With the large growth in the district it will be necessary to hire qualified teachers to teach courses to keep our children successful with advancing technologies. I want to make sure our current teachers, who are already invested in our kids success, are being listened to and taken care of. We shouldn't be trying to achieve excellence after 15 years, we should be working to maintain it. As a community we need to bring accountability back.

**Pflugerville ISD, Place 5**

**Carol L. Fletcher**

Unopposed

**Taylor ISD**

**Taylor ISD, Place 3 (choose 1)**

**Cheryl Carter**

No Response

**Bill Rhoades**

No Response

**Taylor ISD, Place 5 (choose 1)**

**Thomas Rohlack**

**Education:** Bachelors Degree, Texas A&M Civil Engineering

**Experience:** Incumbent (3 years as board member)

Campaign Email: rohlacks4@yahoo.com

Campaign Phone: (512) 461-4331

**Answers to Questions:**

A1: We're already making do with what we have.This is not the question that should be posed to Taylor ISD. Our constituents need to be writing our elected state representatives to provide equal funding.The disparity of funding was ruled unconstitutional but is being dragged out via appeals.

A2: No Response

**Johnny Sanford**

No Response

**Manor ISD**

**PROPOSITION, MANOR ISD**

The issuance of \$86,000,000 of Bonds by Manor Independent School District for the acquisition, construction and equipment of school buildings, and the purchase of school sites and school buses and levying the tax in payment thereof.