



VOTERS ★ GUIDE

by the League of Women Voters of Texas & League of Women Voters Austin Area

VOTING IN THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION

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YOU MAY BRING A PRINTED VOTERS GUIDE INTO THE VOTING BOOTH.

Use of electronic devices is prohibited.

VOTER CHECKLIST

Everything you need to know before you go to vote! Complete all of the steps below, and you'll be ready and prepared to go to the polls.

Confirm voter registration: Registered voters will have received an orange voter registration certificate (see **page 70** for an example). While this document is not needed to vote, it contains helpful information about your districts, precinct, and more. If you do bring it to the polls, a poll worker can use it to confirm your eligibility if there's any problem. Receiving the certificate is confirmation that you are eligible to vote. If you aren't sure you are registered, you can check online at votetravis.com or apps [.wilco.org/elections/](http://wilco.org/elections/). Students, see **page 2** for more information.

Updating your voter registration name or address: To vote, you must update your registration every time you move or change your name. If you have not updated your

voter registration information, you may be required to vote provisionally. That means your vote will not be tallied until the issue surrounding voter information has been solved. **Be sure to update your voter registration BEFORE YOU COME TO THE POLLS:**

▶ You may correct your voter registration information on the back of the voter registration certificate and mail it to your local Voter Registrar.

Travis County:

Bruce Elfant
P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767

Williamson County:

Christopher J. Davis
301 S.E. Inner Loop, Suite 104,
Georgetown, TX 78626

▶ You can change your address or name on the Texas Secretary of State's Website: <https://bit.ly/32E8QK8>

If you moved to a different county, **YOU MUST RE-REGISTER.** Send in a new application to the voter registrar of your current county.

Complete information on updating your registration can be found here:

<https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/did-you-change-something.html>

Photo ID—You must use one of seven forms of ID to vote:

- ▶ Texas driver license
- ▶ Texas Election Identification Certificate (EIC)
- ▶ Texas Personal Identification Card issued by DPS
- ▶ Texas handgun license issued by DPS
- ▶ U.S. military identification card with visible photograph

- ▶ U.S. citizenship certificate with visible photograph
- ▶ U.S. passport (book or card)

If you do not have one of the above photo IDs, as a registered voter you can still vote!

You will be required to sign a Reasonable Impediment Declaration form and present one of the following documents:

- ▶ Texas voter registration certificate
- ▶ Certified birth certificate
- ▶ Current utility bill
- ▶ Bank statement
- ▶ Government check
- ▶ Paycheck
- ▶ Any other government document such as an out of state driver license or an expired Texas driver license

Check ID expiration date: You can still vote with an expired photo ID. IDs may be expired **up to four years**. For voters age 70 or older, there is **NO** limit on ID expiration.



AVAILABLE IN THREE ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES!

¡Disponible en Español!
有中文
Tiếng Việt

In addition to offering a printed *Voters Guide* in Spanish, we now proudly offer translations in Spanish, Chinese, and Vietnamese on [VOTE411.org!](http://VOTE411.org) There are also downloadable and printable PDFs for all four languages on our website:

LWVAustin.org/voters-guide/

VOTING IN THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION (continued)

□ Election Day

WHERE: Residents of Travis and Williamson Counties can vote at **ANY** polling place in their county. Locations and wait times are available at the following county voter information websites.

Travis County:

VoteTravis.com

Williamson County:

wilco.org/elections

WHEN: Early voting is available Oct. 13–30, times and locations may vary. On Election Day (Nov. 3), polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

□ Know your voting rights

- If you are still in line at 7:00 p.m., stay in line! You will be able to vote past 7:00 p.m. as long as you stay in line.
- You may ask for another ballot if you have made a mistake.
- If voting machines are down, you may ask for a paper ballot.
- If you run into issues on Election Day, call an Election Protection Hotline.

English: 1-866-OUR-VOTE / 1-866-687-8683

Spanish: 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA / 1-888-839-8682

Arabic: 1-844-YALLA-US / 1-844-925-5287

For a range of Asian languages: 1-888-274-8683

ASL (Video): 301-818-VOTE / 301-818-8683

Disability Rights TX: 888-796-VOTE / 888-796-8683

□ **Vote safely!** The League of Women Voters encourages you to “Be a Safe Texas Voter!”

- **Vote at home by mail:** Must be 65 years or older, have a disability, be out of the county during early voting and Election Day, or be an eligible voter in jail. See **next column** for more information on how to apply.
- **Vote early:** The early voting period has been extended to Oct. 13–30. Take advantage of this to avoid busy polling places on Election Day. During early voting and especially on Election Day, vote during non-peak hours, such as mid-morning or mid-afternoon.
- **Vote with a mask:** That includes polling places anytime you go to vote. We encourage everyone to wear a mask at polling locations so everyone can vote safely.
- **Vote six feet apart:** Distance yourself from other voters and poll workers by at least six feet. It may seem that the lines are a bit longer, but that only means everyone is working to stay safe.

HOW TO VOTE BY MAIL

Any registered voter may vote by mail for the November 3, 2020 election if they:

- are 65 years of age or older (eligible for mail-in ballots for an entire calendar year).
- are sick or disabled (eligible for mail-in ballots for an entire calendar year).
- will be absent from the county during the entire early voting period and Election Day, AND provide an out-of-county address where the ballot can be mailed, AND include dates they can receive mail at the out-of-county address (eligible only for one election at a time). Voters who are absent from the county because they are active duty military or because they reside overseas should complete a Federal Post Card Application. Information and forms are available from county and state offices.
- are confined in jail, but otherwise eligible to vote (eligible only for one election at a time)

The procedure:

1. Request the application, which is available for download, from the county elections or secretary of state websites, or by calling or emailing the appropriate office. The application is known as an ABBM (application for a ballot by mail). <https://bit.ly/2YL0Gi3>
2. **IMPORTANT**—The application **MUST** be completed and **received** by the early voting clerk in the Travis or Williamson County Elections Division office **by October 23, 2020**. **NOTE:** If you submit an ABBM by fax or email, it must also be submitted by mail and received in the appropriate office within four business days of your electronic submission.
3. Once received, the mail-in ballot **MUST** be completed and **received** by the appropriate early voting clerk **no later than Election Day, November 3, 2020, or post-marked on November 3 and received by November 4, or by November 9 if mailed outside the U.S.**

Please visit our website for more detailed information: LWVAustin.org/vbm/

STUDENT VOTERS

Students may use either their parents’ address or their college address for voter registration, whichever they consider to be their permanent address. Students cannot be registered in both places. Those who will be away from their permanent address on Election Day and during early voting may request a ballot by mail from their county clerk’s office. Student voters should also know that college or university student photo IDs are not accepted at the polls. Be aware of the general ID requirements.

RUNOFF ELECTION

If a runoff election becomes necessary, it will be on December 15, 2020, with early voting the week prior (dates TBD). To participate, citizens must be registered voters by November 16, 2020. Voting locations will be announced prior to the early voting period.

NEW VOTING SYSTEM

Both Travis and Williamson Counties are now using an ExpressVote Ballot Marking Device (BMD), which uses touch-screen technology but produces a paper ballot for tabulation. It is modern, secure, and allows you to verify your selections before casting your vote.

For more information, please visit:

<https://countyclerk.traviscountytexas.gov/elections/meet-your-new-voting-system.html>

or

www.wilco.org/wilcovotes

Steps to Vote

1. **VOTE:** At check-in you will receive a blank ballot. Insert this ballot into any ExpressVote BMD. Follow instructions on the screen to make your selections. Poll workers will be available if you need assistance.
2. **REVIEW:** When prompted, print your ballot. Carefully review all the selections printed on the card to be sure it accurately reflects your choices.
3. **SCAN:** You **MUST** then scan your ballot into the DS200 scanner to cast your vote. Do **NOT** leave the polling location with your ballot.



LEARN WHAT LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS DO!

Are you curious about what local elected officials do? Do you want to learn more about the positions you vote on? Check out our self-paced modules on our website! These learning modules can be completed at your convenience and in multiple sittings. They are interactive and will have activities you must complete before you move on to the next section. You can take the module on your computer, tablet, or phone. Visit our website at <https://lwvaustin.org/what-local-elected-officials-do/>.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS VOTERS GUIDE

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This *Voters Guide* is funded and published by the League of Women Voters of Texas (LWVTX) and the League of Women Voters Austin Area (LWV-AA). We invite each and every candidate in competition for office to provide information. We list the names of unopposed candidates, but do not send them questionnaires. Political affiliations are abbreviated as follows: (D) Democratic Party, (R) Republican Party, (L) Libertarian Party, (G) Green Party, (I) Independent.

This *Voters Guide* and other educational League materials are funded by member and supporter donations. Donations may be made at LWVAustin.org. Donations enable us to print and distribute more guides and to offer translations into Spanish, Chinese, and Vietnamese. As LWV-AA is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, each donation is acknowledged, appreciated, and deductible to the extent allowed by law.

VOTE411.ORG

More information about the candidates can be reviewed by visiting VOTE411.org, a one-stop online resource for upcoming elections made possible by the League of Women Voters Education Fund. Simply enter your address to find your polling place, build your ballot with our online *Voters Guide*, and compare candidates side by side. Answers from candidates who didn't respond by the print deadline may be available online.

HOW THE LEAGUE GATHERS CANDIDATE INFORMATION

To compile the *Voters Guide* information, the League of Women Voters Austin Area sends questions to all candidates in major **contested** races. League members verify accurate contact information provided by various election entities and the Texas Secretary of State. The League formulates all questions through a rigorous questions committee. Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification of content. Due to space restrictions, candidates are given strict character limits. The form into which they enter answers prohibits them from violating the limit. Candidates are also asked to avoid negative references to their opponents. We reserve the right to redact portions of responses that do not meet our guidelines. Those appearing without a photo failed to submit one. Candidates must submit answers by the deadline provided in order to be included in the printed version. Answers on VOTE411.org may be updated after the print deadline.

YOU MAY BRING A PRINTED VOTERS GUIDE INTO THE VOTING BOOTH!

Mobile electronic devices are prohibited in the voting booth, but the law allows you to take a printed *Voters Guide* with you. You can also use the interactive version online at VOTE411.org to print your choices to take with you.

ABOUT THE LEAGUE

The League of Women Voters Austin Area is a grassroots, all-volunteer organization promoting informed and active participation of citizens in government. Since 1919, both

LWVTX and LWV-AA have helped voters cast informed votes when going to the polls. No League organization supports or opposes any political party or candidate. As a non-partisan organization, the League believes that all of us are stakeholders in making democracy work. We host informative programs concerning important public policy issues, organize and offer voter registration efforts, engage in get-out-the-vote projects, work with local area schools and universities to promote civic participation, and conduct fair and open candidate forums.

... MADE POSSIBLE BY YOU!

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VOTERS GUIDE PRODUCTION

Voters Guide Editor: Gretchen Otto

VP, Voters Service: Pam Bixby

VOTE411 Coordinator: Jaci Collins

VOTE411 Assistant: Daniel Roesler

GIS Support: Britin Bostick and Bernie South

Questions Coordinator: Gretchen Otto and

Janet Swisher

Designers: Amber Morena and Chelsea Levin

English Copyeditors: Katie DeRogatis,

Ranveig Borland, and Sam Heimbach

Spanish Copyeditors: Beverly Millson and

Millie Salinas-Davis

Chinese Copyeditors: Alice Yi and APAPA-ATC team

Vietnamese Copyeditors: Kim-Thu Vo, Phil Hoang, and Trúc Việt Team

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Williamson County announces the formation of a new local League: The League of Women Voters Wilco (LWV Wilco)

On September 3, 2019, LWV Texas President Grace Chimene approved the formation of a new League for a rapidly growing area of Central Texas. The League's history in Texas now spans 100 years, and its first president was Williamson County resident Jessie Daniel Ames. The history of empowerment of voters and defending democracy has come full circle in Williamson County with the formation of this new League. LWV Wilco encourages anyone wishing to support this newly established league to attend one of its monthly meetings held the fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m. Visit their website at lwvwilco.org for additional information and resources.

NATIONAL U.S. PRESIDENT

Note: All candidates who will appear on your ballot are listed below but only those that meet the following criteria were invited to respond to the League's questions in this guide.

1. The candidate must have made a public announcement of her/his intention to run for President.
2. The candidate must meet the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act's minimum contribution threshold requirements for qualifying for matching funds, based on the most recent data publicly available on the Federal Elections Commission website.
3. The candidate must qualify for the ballot in enough states to win a majority of electoral votes.

All qualified presidential candidates were invited to provide biographical information and responses to specific questions. Responses were limited to a specific number of characters and were truncated thereafter. If a candidate did not respond by the date of publication, "Candidate has not yet responded." is printed.

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Joseph R. Biden (D)

Campaign Website: <http://www.joebiden.com>

Q: What actions would you take to balance public health and economic recovery in the US, both in light of COVID-19 and for the long term?

A: It's a false choice to think we have to choose between our public health and economy; they're linked. On Day One, I'll implement the COVID strategy I've laid out since March—surging testing and protective gear; distributing vaccines safely and free of politics; helping schools and small businesses cover costs; and getting state and local governments resources to keep educators, cops, and firefighters on the job. I'll respect science and tell the truth, period. And I'll build our economy back better, creating millions of good-paying jobs. I'll revitalize manufacturing, build a clean energy economy, and boost caregiving—easing the squeeze on working families, providing paid leave, and getting caregivers the respect and pay they deserve.

Q: What is the most important issue facing our country and how do you plan to address it during your first 100 days in office?

A: Pandemic. Recession. Racial injustice. Climate change. We're facing historic crises; we have to tackle them all at once. Character and experience count. I'll listen to scientists, tell the truth, and make sure we're never so unpre-

pared for a pandemic again. I'll expand the Affordable Care Act, lowering costs and making health care a right for all. I'll build our economy back better, and make racial equity central to recovery. In these crises, we have an enormous opportunity, if we come together. As President, I'll draw on the best of us, not the worst. I'll work as hard for those who don't support me as for those who do. That's a president's job: to represent us all. To take responsibility. To protect the nation. To unite and to heal.

Q: How will you address racial injustice in our country on day one of your administration?

A: America is at an inflection point. It's past time to end our inequities and deal with the denial of our nation's promise to too many for too long. I'll fight to end the health inequities that COVID-19 amplifies; and give every child the same strong start in life by offering universal Pre-K, tripling funding for Title I schools, and making public college debt-free for most families. I'll make racial equity central to our recovery, closing the racial wealth and income gaps, boosting home ownership, and investing in communities and entrepreneurs of color—building a stronger, more inclusive middle class for the future. And, I'll work for real police reform and invest in shifting our criminal justice focus from incarceration to prevention.

Q: What aspects of our current immigration policy will your administration address first?

A: My immigration policy is built around keeping families together. It's past time to reform our broken system, restoring family unification and diversity as its core pillars. As President, I'll reverse Trump's assault on our values on Day One, ending his cruel border policies that rip children from their mothers' arms. I'll act immediately to protect Dream-

ers and their families, and invest real political capital in finally delivering legislative immigration reform, with a roadmap to citizenship for the nearly 11 million undocumented people who already do so much to make our communities strong. We have to enforce our laws, but in a way that's humane, respects due process, honors our values, and sees the big picture.

Q: What will you do over the long term to ensure access to quality healthcare for all?

A: This pandemic makes clear: All Americans need access to quality, affordable health insurance. That's why I'll protect and build on the Affordable Care Act. I helped to secure the final key votes to pass that landmark law, protecting 100 million Americans who can no longer be turned away or denied coverage for pre-existing conditions, and bringing coverage to 20 million more. As President, I'll build on that progress with a public option and lower health care and prescription drug costs. I'll make all COVID-19 testing, treatment, and vaccines free; double funding for community health centers that are so often on the frontlines of care; and much more.

Donald J. Trump (R)

Candidate has not yet responded.

Campaign Website: <http://www.donaldjtrump.com/>

The following candidates have qualified for the Texas state ballot according to the Secretary of State of Texas but did not meet the LWVEF criteria.

Jo Jorgensen (L)

Howie Hawkins (G)

JOIN THE LEAGUE— BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Be part of a respected national, state, and local grassroots organization where individuals like you are actively engaged in creating positive change on all levels. Add your voice to more than 100,000 members and supporters across the country in Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy. Membership is open to everyone at least 16 years of age.

The Austin Area needs you to be part of the solution, to help ensure our communities are strong, safe and vibrant places to live. Joining is easy online at LWVAustin.org/join-us.

LEARN WHAT LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS DO!

Are you curious about what local elected officials do? Do you want to learn more about the positions you vote on? Check out our self-paced modules on our website! These learning modules can be completed at your convenience and in multiple sittings. They are interactive and will have activities you must complete before you move on to the next section. You can take the module on your computer, tablet, or phone. Visit our website at <https://lwvaustin.org/what-local-elected-officials-do/>.

NATIONAL U.S. SENATOR

Qualifications: What training, experience, and background qualify you for this position?

Immigration: What are your priorities regarding the immigration system?

Healthcare: How would you address access to and the cost of healthcare?

Gun Violence: What are your recommendations to protect students from gun violence?

COVID-19: What actions, if any, do you believe are needed to address the health and economic impact caused by COVID-19?

Voting Rights: What actions, if any, would you take to ensure that all eligible voters have equal access to safe and fair elections?

Vouchers: What is your position on using public funds for private school vouchers and why?

Two Minute Video Option: Comment on the recent civil rights demonstrations.



Mary 'MJ' Hegar (D)

Qualifications: I have served our country, am a working mom, and live the challenges of regular Texans. I served 3 tours in Afghanistan as a medevac pilot, earning a Purple Heart & DFC w/ Valor and took on DC to make our military stronger. I'm the fighter we need.

Campaign Website: <http://www.mjfortexas.com>

Immigration: We need comprehensive immigration reform that reflects our core American values—the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We must streamline the process for applying for and receiving citizenship, create a pathway to citizenship for those here, protect DREAMERS, permanently end child separation and secure the border with effective procedures & technology.

Healthcare: During my 5 years working in health care, it was clear that our skyrocketing costs and high uninsured rate were unsustainable. As we face a pandemic and beyond, I'll fight for access to quality affordable health care for every Texan, and for their right to determine whether that is a public option or their current plan.

Gun Violence: As a mother of two young boys, gun violence survivor and a responsible gun owner, I say enough is enough. We must pass common-sense gun safety legislation to require background checks on every single gun sale, including closing the gun show loophole. We must also stop selling weapons of war to the public.

COVID-19: We need to listen to experts, not politicians, when it comes to solving the public health and economic crisis. We must provide adequate testing that is fully covered, protect our frontline workers, and improve contact tracing capacity. The economic recovery must center around sup-

porting small businesses and workers, while enforcing transparency and accountability measures.

Voting Rights: Having served 12 years in the military I'm committed to defending our constitutional rights. I'll work to expand access to registration and voting, fight against voter suppression tactics, and support the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, restoring protections which have been weakened by the Supreme Court.

Vouchers: I'm a proud product of public school and a mama bear for my two young boys, and I will always fight for public schools and ALL of our kids. I oppose any policy that cuts or siphons funding from public schools.

Two Minute Video Option: My entire career I've fought to protect people's right to protest, and I stand with those peacefully demonstrating for change now. It's time for systemic reforms to fix how we train and equip law enforcement and improve their relationship with the public, and action to address the racial disparities that go far beyond our criminal justice system.



John Cornyn (R)

Qualifications: John Cornyn was elected to the Texas Supreme Court in 1990. In 1998, he was elected Attorney General of Texas. In 2002, he was elected to the U.S. Senate. Senator Cornyn serves on the Senate's Judiciary, Finance, and Intelligence Committees.

Campaign Website: <http://www.johncornyn.com/>

Immigration: Recognizing we are a nation of immigrants, Senator Cornyn has voted in support of a permanent legislative solution for Dreamers who call Texas their home. The Senator cosponsored the Secured and Succeed Act in 2018, which proposed a solution for DACA recipients that provides a pathway to citizenship for 1.8 million young adults.

Healthcare: Senator Cornyn supports a system that: protects those with preexisting conditions; lowers the cost of prescription drugs by increasing generics; increases competition by allowing cross-state health insurance; lowers out of pocket costs for seniors on Medicare; reestablishes the privacy of the doctor patient relationship

Gun Violence: Sen. Cornyn believes the right to keep and bear arms is a sacred Constitutional right for Texans. But we must ensure guns are kept out of the hands of criminals and domestic abusers. He believes we need to eliminate unlicensed firearm dealers, which will mean more people get background checks because all Federal Firearms Licenses are required to complete those.

COVID-19: Sen. Cornyn voted for the CARES Act, which sent stimulus checks to individuals who—through no fault of their own—were unable to work and earn a paycheck, and established the Paycheck Protection Program—a critical lifeline that helped ensure businesses could bridge the gap without laying off employees.

Voting Rights: Sen. Cornyn believes that any Texan who

wants to vote safely can do so under existing law. If you're over 65 or you're disabled, you can vote by mail. Or if you are not going to be present in your county on Election Day, Gov. Abbott has extended the early voting period.

Vouchers: School choice empowers parents to choose the setting that best fits their child's unique interests, learning style and educational needs. While education is rightfully managed at the local and state level, our entire country has a stake in ensuring we are raising highly educated, analytical, well-rounded citizens.

Two Minute Video Option: <https://youtu.be/WLnXOc9afTU>



Kerry Douglas McKennon (L)

Qualifications: I have served on the executive committee for the Libertarian Party of Texas. I have over 20 years of management in the retail and food industry.

Campaign Website: [http://www](http://www.mckennon2020.com)

[mckennon2020.com](http://www.mckennon2020.com)

Immigration: Our first priority is that no child is left in a cage or separated from their family, reforming immigration policy means making it as simple as have the same policy for all immigrants from all countries. More judges and case-workers are needed to determine if those seeking asylum can be allowed in, because an individual in a detention facility for three year is unacceptable

Healthcare: Health insurance allowed to be purchased across state lines. The cost of healthcare is due primarily to the amount of money being spent in administration. We see within the VA and Medicare system; where actual treatments are being delayed or not approved due to lack of doctors, but there is never a shortage of admins boosting drug costs.

Gun Violence: Mental health and hate lie at the core of gun violence and those who act in it's wake. Hate is learned and can be unlearned, but is a very tough row to hoe. Mental health is an issue that we can diagnosis and treat. Those are not the answers that some individuals want to hear, but they are closer to protecting our students than any gun ban.

COVID-19: I think politicians are damned if they do and damned if they don't in a pandemic situation. What we can do is get the government out of the way of treatment and care. It is difficult to say who is and who is not essential. For the individual working that is now not essential by the government for them that paycheck is essential to feed their family, to have shelter, etc.

Voting Rights: The Voters Rights Act has been a huge success. So much so that preclearance at the federal level is rarely needed to ensure the right to vote. One way to ensure eligible voters can access equal, safe, and fair elections is to stop the gerrymandering that currently occurs from both old parties.

NATIONAL U.S. SENATOR

Kerry Douglas McKennon (L) (continued)

Vouchers: I oppose using public funds for private school vouchers. The main reason is that those funds have been set aside for the use of public education. If a parent or guardian chooses to send their child to a private school, the taxpayers should not be paying for that choice.

Two Minute Video Option: Protest are always warranted. Violence as with the Boston Tea Party is sometimes necessary when in defense of Liberty. I would stand with Justin Amash in ending Qualified Immunity and gladly sponsor that bill.



David B. Collins (G)

Qualifications: I am a US citizen, 30 years of age or more. In college I studied political science, originally as my major field but eventually as a second field toward a Texas teacher certification. Since then, as an activist, I have followed global politics.

Campaign Website: <http://dbcgreentx.net>

Immigration: Make immigration policy humane, at last. The US has helped make much of Central and South Amer-

ica unsafe for poor and indigenous families for decades; this must stop. Let our neighbors in and give them a path toward citizenship. If the flow of capital is globalized, with national boundaries practically irrelevant, the movement of workers should be just as unrestricted.

Healthcare: This nation should do what other wealthy nations have done successfully: guarantee universal, single-payer health care. COVID-19 has made this more urgent than ever. Improved Medicare for All will cover all ages, with dental, mental, and optical coverage and no premiums. Once fully operational, it will save the nation as a whole 50% on health care costs.

Gun Violence: When young people have hope for the future and access to the mental health care they need, they will be far less likely to look to firearms to “solve” their problems. Schools need to be places of nurturing and care for the whole student, especially when their homes often are not. Our government can set a better example by not bombing people to boost corporate profits.

COVID-19: Our 4% of the world’s population has about quarter of its COVID-19 deaths. If we had shut down public spaces, suspended rent and mortgage collections, and given

US residents a livable income for a few months, like New Zealand and other countries, we would have saved thousands of lives and billions of dollars. We could easily pay for this by redirecting defense funding.

Voting Rights: 1. Propose a Constitutional Amendment guaranteeing voting rights for all US citizens 18 and up, including convicted felons, and prohibiting states and counties from purging voter rolls. 2. Enact automatic voter registration and a federal database (which I know scares some people). 3. Approval voting makes elections much fairer by avoiding the third-party “spoiler” problem.

Vouchers: Vouchers are a lazy solution to an avoidable problem. We can have excellent public schools for everyone, and much more, if we cut our national “defense” budget by half. Side note: Texas school districts should prioritize the mission of actually educating children rather than building palatial football stadia.

Two Minute Video Option: <https://youtu.be/j9BLOvw9dys> I wholeheartedly support the Movement for Black Lives, as do the Green Parties of Texas and the US. Our platform calls for reparations and strong measures to end racially motivated police violence.

NATIONAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

DISTRICT 10

Qualifications: What training, experience, and background makes you the best qualified candidate to be your party’s nominee for this office?

Voting Rights: What actions, if any, would you take to ensure that all eligible voters have equal access to safe and fair elections?

COVID-19: What legislation would you support to address the health and economic impact caused by COVID-19?

Criminal Justice: What criminal justice reform policies do you recommend, if any?

Highest Priority: What other issue is your highest legislative priority and what legislation would you introduce or support to address it?



Mike Siegel (D)

Campaign Website: <http://www.siegelfortexas.org>

Qualifications: My service as a teacher, union organizer, civil rights lawyer, and assistant city attorney in Austin gave

me the tools to build a movement across TX-10. In 2018, I turned a “safe” red seat into a battleground district. In 2020, I’ll finish the job.

Voting Rights: When we have the largest voter participation, we have the strongest democracy. COVID poses a public health threat to every American, and nobody should be forced to go to the polls and risk their safety. I support universal vote-by-mail and I stand by USPS. USPS is crucial to deliver medicine, support small businesses, and protect the sanctity of our elections—undermining it is voter suppression.

COVID-19: Economically, we must rebuild and aid Americans affected by COVID, providing local living wage jobs to everyone who needs one through a federal job program. But we cannot reopen our economy without addressing the crisis causing these issues. America needs a better plan to combat COVID, including a national case tracking system, isolation support, and help for seniors and those with disabilities.

Criminal Justice: I support the end of qualified immunity, increased oversight over police, national force standards enforceable by the DoJ and a database of use of force, independent investigations of police killings, and bodycam requirements with harsh penalties for destroying evidence. We must also end programs that have broken families and disproportionately affected POC, like the War on Drugs.

Highest Priority: Climate change poses a threat to human life, and is an issue where TX-10 can be a leader. Here, coal and fracking are poisoning the environment, and Houston is recovering from its fifth large flood in five years. I support

a Green New Deal that will create millions of jobs in a green economy, end usage of fossil fuels, help former fossil fuel workers, and remedy a legacy of environmental harm.

Michael McCaul (R)

No response received



Roy Eriksen (L)

Qualifications: My background includes 20+ years in the financial services, education, and consulting fields. I am a small business owner and hold an MBA. More importantly, I am not a career politician and am proudly part of middle class America.

Voting Rights: Actions I would take to ensure eligible voters have equal access to safe and fair elections includes the following: Automatic voter registration; Increasing early voting period; Making election day a federal holiday or move it to a weekend; Felon re-enfranchisement—Secure our elections from any foreign interference and hacking
COVID-19: Economically—I would support legislation that would continue the PPP and EIDL programs through the SBA. I would also support another round of stimulus payments to working families. I do not support an extension of the Pandemic Additional Compensation. Health—Decisions involving the health of our citizens should be made

NATIONAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

DISTRICT 10

Roy Eriksen (L) (continued)

at the state level, with no involvement from our federal government.

Criminal Justice: Sentencing reform for nonviolent offenders; Expungement for marijuana offenses; Challenge the lifetime ban of public benefits for drug offenses; Felon voting re-enfranchisement

Highest Priority: Balanced Budget Amendment; Term limits for federally elected officials. Federally spending and our national debt is uncontrolled. A balanced budget amendment would keep our federal spending in check, while Congress works in other areas to help reduce of federal debt. Term limits are also necessary, so we do not have career politicians running our country.

DISTRICT 17

Voting Rights: What actions, if any, would you take to ensure that all eligible voters have equal access to safe and fair elections?

COVID-19: What legislation would you support to address the health and economic impact caused by COVID-19?

Criminal Justice: What criminal justice reform policies do you recommend, if any?

Highest Priority: What other issue is your highest legislative priority and what legislation would you introduce or support to address it?



Rick Kennedy (D)

Background: A software engineer for more than three decades, Rick Kennedy proudly claims a STEM background. His son attends Baylor and his two daughters go to Round Rock public schools.

Education: Rick graduated from Burlington (MA) High School in 1980. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from The Pennsylvania State University in 1984.

Campaign Website: <http://www.RickKennedyforCongress.com>

Voting Rights: We must tackle some of the structural problems with legislative action. I support HR1—For the People Act of 2019 which would 1-Expand voter registration & access 2-Reduce or eliminate gerrymandering by requiring states to establish nonpartisan redistricting commissions 3-Improve election security 4-Establish an alternative campaign funding system including federal matching funds of small donors

COVID-19: I support creating a public option to enroll in Medicare to extend access to healthcare to every Ameri-

can and decouple insurance from employment. I support extended benefits to any affected by COVID-19 to keep businesses alive and families housed and provided for. I support a living wage for all on the lower end of the income scale who the pandemic has shown to be “essential” to our economy.

Criminal Justice: Mass incarceration has decimated entire communities. Among other things, I recommend that we immediately start work on the following: 1-Provide federal funding for body cameras for all law enforcement agencies 2-Reform mandatory minimum sentencing for non-violent drug offenses 3-End profit incentives to incarcerate by stopping federal contracts with for-profit prisons & detention centers

Highest Priority: It's past time we comprehensively revise our immigration system to meet our economic & security needs, plus reflect our values as a society. This revision includes securing all borders with technology- & human resource-based solutions. It offers citizenship to the 10M undocumented residents who have lived among us for more than a decade, that brings them fully into the fold of our communities.

Pete Sessions (R)

No response received



Ted Brown (L)

Background: Resident of Wells Branch in Travis County. Married to Laura for 36 years, with one adult daughter. Life-long peace activist and supporter of personal and economic freedom.

Education: Graduated from UCLA in 1984 with a B. A. in political science with a concentration in Constitutional law. True education: realizing that government is too large and intrusive.

Campaign Website: <http://tedbrown.org>

Voting Rights: Any voter should be able to vote by absentee ballot, without having to give a reason. The real election issue is the need for more voices to be heard in American politics. We need more than two parties. Stop electing Democrats and Republicans, who have brought this country to ruin and despair. The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.

COVID-19: Universal testing is needed. FDA has held up test approval. People need proper information to protect themselves, not political talking points. Economy: Free market approach. Too many laws, regulations, rules, permits, and license requirements hurt businesses and entrepreneurs. Governors and mayors have shut down businesses with no due process of law. I oppose lockdowns and business closures.

Criminal Justice: End marijuana prohibition so police aren't harassing people for a plant. Pardon and release non-violent drug offenders. End mandatory minimum sentences. End militarization of local police. End qualified immunity

for police so they can be sued for misconduct. Require police officers buy liability insurance to be eligible. End asset forfeiture laws. End the death penalty. Repeal unnecessary laws.

Highest Priority: Immigration: Immediate citizenship for “Dreamers.” Anti-war: Bring our troops home from 150 countries and stop fighting foreign wars. Promote free trade. Federal spending and debt are unsustainable. Cut spending and regulation across the board. I believe in personal freedom, economic freedom, and limited government. I am not beholden to any special interest groups or corrupt party leaders.

DISTRICT 21

Democracy: Are any federal laws needed to safeguard our democracy? Explain.

COVID-19: What legislation would you support to address the economic impact of COVID-19?

Criminal Justice: What criminal justice reform do you recommend, if any?

Immigration: What changes to our immigration system would you propose or support?



Wendy R. Davis (D)

Campaign Website: <http://www.wendydavisforcongress.com/>

Democracy: Restoration of the Voting Rights Act and an end to partisan gerrymandering are essential to restoring equitable access to the ballot.

COVID-19: Guided by public health experts, we need a cohesive plan for safely getting people back to work and to school so that our economy can thrive. This includes universal mask wearing when social distancing is not practical, comprehensive COVID testing with rapid turn-around, contact tracing and incentives to assure PPE is made in America. It should also include financial support to keep small/medium businesses afloat (with transparency requirements) & unemployment supplements.

Criminal Justice: While I do not support defunding the police, I support ending choke-holds, no-knock warrants, qualified immunity, and criminalization of low level marijuana possession. We should increase resources to mental health/drug addiction & homelessness.

Immigration: We can secure our borders while also comprehensively reforming our immigration system, put an end to family separations, stop caging asylum seekers and provide a path to citizenship to Dreamers.

Chip Roy (R)

No response received

NATIONAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

DISTRICT 21 (continued)



Arthur DiBianca (L)

Campaign Website: <http://LP.org/platform>

Experience: Libertarian activist, 2002–present.

Democracy: We need federal laws to protect the voters' right to vote for the candidates they want.

The Republican and Democratic Party hate competition, and they have recently worked hard to throw Libertarian and Green candidates off the ballot in Texas. I support legislation to protect ballot access in federal elections.

COVID-19: Unfortunately, government interference has made this problem worse. This is the wrong time to make it hard for Americans to get access to foreign products, medical equipment, etc. I support free trade laws that allow our economy to be more flexible in response to crises like COVID-19.

Criminal Justice: The federal government encourages the militarization of police by providing military equipment to them. I want to end that. I also want to end federal drug prohibition, which is connected to many of the problems with police abuse we see today. There is a lot of evidence that our criminal justice system is filled with racial inequity, and that is wrong and needs to end.

Immigration: Immigrants are our friends, not our enemies. I want to make it much easier for foreign nationals to come live and work in the United States.



Tommy Wakely (G)

Campaign Website: <http://wakely2020.green>

Democracy: 1). We need to add criminal penalties to violations of the Hatch Act to ensure civil service employees don't engage in political activity while on the job. 2). We need to make harder for the Executive Branch to remove Inspector General's whose job it is to perform oversight of federal agencies by conducting audits, investigations, inspections, and other reviews. The removal of an IG should only happen with the approval of Congress.

COVID-19: The best way to address the economic impact of COVID-19 is UBI or universal basic income. Simply put UBI, which was the main focus of Andrew Yang's presidential campaign, would guarantee that every American received a monthly check from the federal government (no strings attached) to ensure they had enough money to pay their bills. Unlike Yang, I would back legislation that would means test who would receive a check.

Criminal Justice: Our nation's criminal-legal system denies the rights & dignity of all human life, harms both victims & offenders, & disrupts communities. New policy must re-envision & reform our current system, while restoring

the common good. The three areas of reform I would recommend are: 1. Ending civil forfeiture—The practice that let's the police cease a person property even if they have never been convicted of a crime; 2. Ending qualified immunity which shields police & 3. legalizing marijuana;

Immigration: My wife is from Mexico. Most of her family still live in Mexico & as such, immigration is an important issue for me. I would support a 5 year pathway to permanent status & citizenship for the 11 million unauthorized immigrants currently living, working, and contributing in America today. I would also support removing old or low-level contacts with the criminal justice system, such as marijuana possession, that currently prevent undocumented immigrants from attaining citizenship.

DISTRICT 25

Voting Rights: What actions, if any, would you take to ensure that all eligible voters have equal access to safe and fair elections?

COVID-19: What legislation would you support to address the health and economic impact caused by COVID-19?

Criminal Justice: What criminal justice reform policies do you recommend, if any?

Highest Priority: What other issue is your highest legislative priority and what legislation would you introduce or support to address it?



Julie Oliver (D)

Background: Former teen Medicaid mom who put herself through college and law school; made a career in taxation and healthcare finance before running 100% PAC-free campaign for Congress

Education: B.B.A, University of Texas at Arlington (Summa Cum Laude) J.D., University of Texas Austin

Campaign Website: <http://julieoliver.org>

Voting Rights: Enshrine the right to vote by passing the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act; fully fund states' election cybersecurity systems to secure them from attack; end partisan and racial gerrymandering with non-partisan commissions to draw electoral districts; limit efforts to purge voting rolls; implement automatic voter registration; get the corrupting influence of big money out of Congress.

COVID-19: Millions of Texans have lost their jobs and man health insurance, in Texas, the most uninsured state. Get everyone covered; bring property taxes down by covering everyone, and eliminate waste and corruption. Doing away with co-pays, premiums and deductibles, and investing in

the clean energy economy will create jobs, spur entrepreneurship, and massively stimulate the American economy.

Criminal Justice: Restrict qualified immunity, ban no-knock warrants and eliminate incentives for civil asset forfeiture abuse. Abolish wasteful, corrupt private prisons. End the federal prohibition on marijuana, expunge the records of those arrested for minor offenses. Fund public defenders to improve outcomes, uphold the Constitution and ensure due process.

Highest Priority: Healthcare is why I'm running—I'm the mom of a kid with pre-existing conditions and who understands exactly how the healthcare industry has failed Texans, how it works, how we can fund it more equitably and responsibly, and who wants to serve this community in Congress to fix it. And we need to end political corruption, by getting corporations and big money out of our democracy.

Roger Williams (R)

No response received



Bill Kelsey (L)

Background: Peace activist since discharge from US Navy; bookseller, flight instructor, disaster relief and medevac pilot in Asia and Africa, husband, father, and grandfather.

Education: US Naval Academy, Naval Science, Chinese and Far Eastern Relations, 1973 various civilian flight training courses self taught with tutor assistance in eleven languages

Campaign Website: <http://kelseyforcongress.com>

Voting Rights: I would do my best to ensure that Democrats and Republicans do not engage in legal trickery to keep competing parties off the ballot and to keep selected groups of people from voting.

COVID-19: Allow as much citizen free choice in behavior and treatment as possible, with only science based guidance and counsel from trusted community leaders. It is my belief that if left alone the market economy will recover quickly, no matter how devastated it might be from any disaster.

Criminal Justice: I would legalize marijuana and decriminalize other drugs and pardon all currently incarcerated offenders. I would end asset forfeiture laws—the process whereby cash and other assets suspected of being used in crimes can be seized by police without conviction of any offender. I would legalize sex work. I would end the deportation of immigrants who have fallen afoul of complex and changing laws.

Highest Priority: I would vote against funding of any stationing of US troops abroad, engagement in hostilities abroad, any support of foreign governments or any support of efforts to overthrow foreign governments. I would only make exceptions for projects to clean up toxic wastes on bases abroad and to clean up landmines and unexploded ordnance.

NATIONAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

DISTRICT 31

Voting Rights: What actions, if any, would you take to ensure that all eligible voters have equal access to safe and fair elections?

COVID-19: What legislation would you support to address the health and economic impact caused by COVID-19?

Criminal Justice: What criminal justice reform policies do you recommend, if any?

Highest Priority: What other issue is your highest legislative priority and what legislation would you introduce or support to address it?



Donna Imam (D)

Background: Donna Imam is a computer engineer and entrepreneur with an 18+ year career in tech. Donna served as president of a non-profit that provides free training and education.

Education: Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering from Trine University and a Master's in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Purdue University.

Campaign Website: <http://www.votefordonna.com>

Voting Rights: Ensure that the number of polling locations and poll workers is proportional to the population density. Require that all employers provide time off to vote. Expand mail-in-voting for all voters and fund the USPS to ensure timely delivery of ballots. Provide the option to vote outdoors or curbside to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19.

COVID-19: Black and Latino Americans are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Ensure everyone has healthcare coverage regardless of employment status. Increase testing and implement contact tracing. Expand and guarantee unemployment benefits so that no one has to stand in line at a food pantry or is evicted. Provide economic assistance to all small businesses impacted by the pandemic.

Criminal Justice: The US military has stricter rules of engagement for troops deployed in war zones than our police officers do in our residential neighborhoods. That's illogical. We must demand answers for Vanessa Guillén. Federally decriminalize marijuana. Prioritize de-escalation training, repeal qualified immunity, mandate body cams, and require liability insurance for law enforcement.

Highest Priority: Texas has the most uninsured people in the entire country. With millions of Texans unemployed today, we need healthcare that's not tied to our jobs—Medicare for All. Lower the cost of healthcare and prescription drugs to cover everyone. Improve quality of care with more doctors and nurses, especially in underserved and rural areas. Address Black and Latino maternal deaths.



John Carter (R)

Background: My time in Central Texas has been marked through raising my children, serving on the Williamson County District Court bench and now as your voice in Congress.

Education: Texas Tech University, B.A. in History University of Texas Law School

Campaign Website: <http://www.johncarterforcongress.com/>

Voting Rights: The American experiment in democracy is what makes our country so unique and that requires free and fair elections. In Congress, I have supported measures to fund the Election Assistance Commission which supports individual States in their efforts to improve the administration of elections. This includes upgrading the election technology devices & making necessary election security improvements.

COVID-19: This year I supported the CARES Act which prioritized the frontline workers battling the effects of COVID-19 as well as supporting the small businesses as they navigated the economic hardships Coronavirus. This legislation ensured PPE was delivered to hospitals, emergency funding for small businesses and increased funding for COVID-19 testing. I will support efforts that ensure the health of U.S.

Criminal Justice: As a former Judge, I saw the criminal justice system at work day in and day out. As a Congressman, I have been fighting for common-sense criminal justice reform that doesn't compromise on community safety. I passed the Justice Served Act which increases the capacity of prosecutors to address the backlog of violent crime cases using DNA evidence. I will continue fighting for meaningful reforms.

Highest Priority: 1. Education focused legislation to strengthen career and technical education programs across the country so that young people can get well-paying jobs without a 4-year college degree. 2. National security/Armed Forces focused legislation to improve the lives of service members and their families, strengthen national security, and keep our borders safe.



Clark Patterson (L)

Background: I've been active in pro-liberty circles since 1980.

Education: Bachelor of Arts, University of Texas at Austin, 1988

Campaign Website: <http://www.clarkpforcongress.com/>

Voting Rights: No new actions need to be taken. Libertarians believe in natural rights as well as voting rights. In today's internet age, voters have unlimited access to information about political issues and candidates, access to far more information than voters had in the days of the founding of

the republic. As it is, voters should be able to find out how to register to vote and when and where they can vote.

COVID-19: Libertarians ardently oppose municipal, county and state governments' compulsory stay-at-home orders over COVID-19 and the resulting mandatory lockdown and shutdown of American society during almost all of 2020. The private sector and individual Americans can fight COVID organically from the bottom up much more effectively than government's authoritarian top-down closure of the US economy.

Criminal Justice: Libertarians vehemently oppose qualified immunity from civil suits for law enforcement officials. Police officers should be held completely responsible for any unlawful actions they commit in performing their duties. Also, Libertarians would immediately end the Drug War and repeal all victimless crimes. This would allow law enforcement to channel all of its resources into fighting real crime.

Highest Priority: The US federal government currently has a \$26.6 trillion debt and unfunded liabilities of \$210 trillion. In order to avoid economic catastrophe resulting from these debts, Congress must immediately begin making massive, across-the-board cuts in government spending and severely reducing the size and scope of the federal government. All entitlement programs should be phased out within 25-50 years.

IF YOU HAVE ISSUES AT YOUR POLLING LOCATION

Please call one of these nonpartisan hotlines if you have any issues at your polling location:

Election Protection Hotlines

ENGLISH: 866-OUR-VOTE (866-867-8683)

SPANISH: 888-VE-Y-VOTA (888-839-8682)

ASIAN LANGUAGES: 888-API-VOTE
(888-274-8683)

ARABIC: 866-YALLA-US (866-925-5287)

ASL (Video): 301-818-VOTE (301-818-8683)

DISABILITY RIGHTS TX: 888-796-VOTE
(888-796-8683)

NATIONAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

DISTRICT 35

Voting Rights: What actions, if any, would you take to ensure that all eligible voters have equal access to safe and fair elections?

COVID-19: What legislation would you support to address the health and economic impact caused by COVID-19?

Criminal Justice: What criminal justice reform policies do you recommend, if any?

Highest Priority: What other issue is your highest legislative priority and what legislation would you introduce or support to address it?



Lloyd Doggett (D)

Background: A life-long Texan, I served in the TX State Senate, TX Supreme Court and U.S. House, Chair of Ways & Means Health Subcommittee, 12x “Best of Austin” Austin Chronicle award.

Education: BA Business, JD, University of Texas at Austin

Campaign Website: <http://www.votedoggett.com>

Voting Rights: Vote by mail option for all. Resist Trump postal service sabotage. Restore Voting Rights Act. Overrule Citizens United and secret corporate money polluting our democracy. Replace outrageous gerrymandering with nonpartisan redistricting panel. I sponsored H.R. 1, For the People Act, to limit SuperPAC spending, improve voter registration and access, limit voter purges, provide alternate financing.

COVID-19: Assistance for virus testing, small businesses, unemployed. I am helping hundreds of Texans access aid. Supported extensive assistance obstructed by Trump enablers: more COVID testing & treatment, food security, another relief payment, school safety, postal service, and state/local government assistance, which Senate GOP Leader irresponsibly willing to bankrupt. Overcome ongoing Trump deception.

Criminal Justice: Better security with fair, just treatment. Black Lives Matter since too often devalued. Sponsored George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, blocked by GOP, to ban abusive practices, racial profiling; create new training, empower federal misconduct review; limit qualified immunity. Condition federal funding on local compliance. Adequately fund many good officers providing effective community policing.

Highest Priority: Healthcare-better Medicare for more. Defend current pre-existing conditions protection from GOP attacks. Enact my bills: Medicare dental, vision, hearing coverage; end surprise billing; better nursing home oversight; prescription drug negotiation and protection of taxpayer pharma research investments to stop price gouging.

AARP awards twice recognized my efforts strengthening health access.

Jenny Garcia Sharon (R)

No response received



Mark Loewe (L)

Background: Physics researcher. Did microelectronics R&D. Devised progressive school choice. Proposed 4 Texas House bills to let kids permanently keep low cost math and science textbooks.

Education: PhD Physics, UT Austin. BS Chemistry, BS Physics, UC Irvine. Taught physics at UT and Texas State U. Coauthored a graduate-level quantum mechanics textbook used worldwide.

Campaign Website: <http://www.markloewe.org>

Voting Rights: To ease access, I favor making federal election days holidays. For elections with more than two candidates, I favor instant-runoff voting. To promote accurate results and deter fraud in federal elections, I favor photo IDs, recountable ballots, public access to photos of cast ballots and chain-of-custody records, federal rules and payment for mandatory recounts, and severe penalties for fraud.

COVID-19: Except to vet aliens for dangerous communicable diseases, I oppose health limits on liberty without proof that a person is dangerous. To improve health care and lower costs, I favor unlimited competition, with public access to track-record and cost statistics of treatments and practitioners. I oppose bailouts that would reward lavish spending, poor planning, and mismanagement by state governments.

Criminal Justice: I devised progressive school choice to empower parents, especially poor parents, to reject mediocre schools and choose safe schools that better serve the individual needs, abilities, and interests of their children. Such choice would greatly improve education and job skills, reduce disruptive behavior and numbers of children who turn to drugs and crime, and is essential to criminal justice reform.

Highest Priority: Congress should eliminate federal debt, on which it gave away \$574 billion of interest in 2019. I would introduce a bill to direct the US Treasury to issue money to pay for all goods and services Congress acquires and to pay down the current debt by at least \$2 trillion per year. I would introduce a Constitutional amendment to prohibit Congress from incurring debt on which interest is given away.



Jason Mata Sr. (I)

Background: I am 47 years old; born and raised in US District 35. I am happily married to Rachel Gonzales-Mata for 24 years. We have 3 children and a granddaughter.

Education: I graduated from Fox Tech High School and attended ITT Technical 1 1/2 years. At my fathers urging due to his ailing health I decided to help him with the non-profit org.

Campaign Website: <http://www.Mata4Congress.org>

Voting Rights: Due to COVID-19 I would support Vote By Mail with protocols in place to minimize voter fraud. I will also work to assure that there are enough voting sites available in all areas (rural, urban, and suburban) to have reasonable access to voting sites. I will also push for Texas to modernize the election process ensuring fair and just election results. Voters respond well to a fair process.

COVID-19: I would support legislation that ensures that essential workers are secured and protected. I would support legislation that protects vulnerable children and elderly individuals who may be more At-Risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus. I would support legislation that focuses on a vaccine and that assures that there would be more than enough PPE supplies, hospital beds, and ventilators are available.

Criminal Justice: I will work to reform the Juvenile system in an effort to allow Juvenile offenders an opportunity to overcome barriers and not repeat offenses. I will work to close to pipeline of Juvenile to County Jail to Prison incarceration. Every year, America spends millions of dollars treating the symptoms of instead of prevention and intervention of Juvenile delinquency which may lead to long term jail

Highest Priority: Youth development, Family Strengthening and community safety are my top priorities. I also have special legislation for Senior individuals who qualify as low income. I would introduce and support legislation that would stream line public benefits and encourage furthering education and enrollment in trade schools. I will have adequate staff that will be available to assist constituency.

SAVE TIME—USE OUR INTERACTIVE VOTERS GUIDE!

More information about the candidates can be reviewed by visiting VOTE411.org, a one-stop online resource for upcoming elections made possible by the League of Women Voters Education Fund. Simply enter your address to find your polling place, build your ballot with our online *Voters Guide*, and compare candidates side by side. Answers from candidates who didn't respond by the print deadline may be available online.

STATE RAILROAD COMMISSIONER

Qualifications: What training, experience and background qualify you for this position?

Pipelines: What can the Texas Railroad Commission do to further ensure compliance with pipeline regulations to avoid environmental harm?

Natural Resources: What can the Texas Railroad Commission do to promote the reclamation and reuse of water resources used in fracking operations?

Flaring: What, if any, further regulations or limits are needed to address the impact of flaring on the environment?

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Chrysta Castañeda (D)

Qualifications: I have over 30 years of experience in the oil and gas industry, as an engineer and attorney. I know the complex technical and legal issues that face the industry. I will protect our natural resources and environment and keep industry functioning.

Campaign Website: <http://chrystafortexas.com>

Pipelines: The Commission should increase safety and emissions monitoring to end catastrophic failures and eliminate methane leaks. It should implement a more robust information system to know where all smaller intrastate and gathering lines are located and permitted. The legislature must assign oversight authority for pipeline permitting, right-of-way acquisition and condemnation.

Natural Resources: A reclamation and reuse program would ensure less fresh water is used and would reduce the need for disposal wells. Program guidelines, informed by experts, could provide best practices for operators. Updated permitting and reporting requirements would ensure operator compliance. To work, oversight must be provided by adequately trained and compensated professionals.

Flaring: If the Railroad Commission would simply enforce the laws on the books, we would dramatically impact greenhouse gasses and pollution. Flaring and venting of natural gas are illegal activities and the Railroad Commission should enforce those laws, which Texans enacted long ago to protect our natural resources and our environment.

James "Jim" Wright (R)

Candidate has not yet responded.



Matt Sterett (L)

Qualifications: I run a small Oil & Gas Software company. Clients use the software to forecast well data. Sometimes, that data is from the RRC. I've been in the building & met w/ a few RRC team members—I'm familiar with the organization's digital operations.

Campaign Website: <http://www.matrrc.org/>

Pipelines: Punt the responsibility to the courts. Texas is a litigious state. I think the Texas courts have broadly supported property rights. As a Libertarian, I believe in strong private property rights. I also don't believe in expanding regulators activities. If / when environmental harm is done, I'd rather be settled in a court than a government agency.

Natural Resources: As a Libertarian, I believe in strong private property rights. I also don't believe in expanding regulators activities. If / when environmental harm is done, I'd rather be settled in a court than a government agency.

Flaring: I'm against Flaring on the grounds that it's *wasteful*. We have a limited amount of natural resources. In the past, when we've had to import, it has meant foreign policy that led to wars. Title 3, Sub-chapter B Sec. 91.015 of the TX

Natural Resources Code (statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/NR/htm/NR.91.htm) calls to "prevent waste of oil, gas". The RRC has not upheld this.



Katija "Kat" Gruene (G)

Qualifications: 3 decades of project & bus.mgmt. along w/consensus-based facilitation; 2 decades of experience doing legislative work, coalition building, campaigning, and leading an environmental & social justice movement in a litigious & hostile environment.

Campaign Website: <https://facebook.com/GreenTXRRC>

Pipelines: First, no new pipelines. Second, properly inspect and review existing permits for compliance and safety. Third, hold corporations accountable for violations including restoration of & restitution in areas already harmed. Fourth, stop taking political contributions from those they are regulating. Fifth, enforce new 2020 regulations, including updating existing pipelines.

Natural Resources: Ban Fracking Period. There is no need for such a highly wasteful, unsafe, and unsustainable practice. All water used in these operations is no longer potable and because it is chemically altered, scientists believe it may never be returned to the state of water—h₂o. The emerging tech of onsite carrier gas desalination plants could become a valid option if successful.

Flaring: There are solutions, we just need to require them: power oxidation process, flare gas power generation, flare gas reinjection in secondary oil recovery, feedstock for petrochemical plants, LNG, CNG, & a small reactor that inexpensively breaks water and methane into carbon monoxide and hydrogen in the field (syngas), which can then be used for energy and industrial products

STATE TEXAS SUPREME COURT

CHIEF JUSTICE

Qualifications: What training, experience and background qualify you for this position?

Judicial Selection: Texas is one of the few states that elects judges in partisan elections. What changes, if any, in the judicial selection process would you recommend?

Standards: What changes, if any, do you think are necessary to improve public confidence in the legal profession?

Biases: What training and practices do you recommend for trial judges to guard against implicit biases?

Other Issues: What other issues do you believe will be the most pressing for the Texas Supreme Court?

.....



Amy Clark Meachum (D)

Qualifications: As a district court judge for a decade, I have presided over all types of cases heard by the Supreme Court: civil, family and administrative appeals. I am a guest lecturer for ethics, a member of the Public Law Council and an advocate for legal aid.

Campaign Website: <http://amymeachum.com>

Judicial Selection: The State should help voters by sending an information packet to each voter and providing that information at polling locations. The packet should contain background information, qualifications, and a statement of judicial philosophy for each candi-

date. That information would assist voters to make an informed selection and would reduce campaign costs for candidates.

Standards: Texas should increase public membership and participation on the Committee on Disciplinary Rules and Referenda, which recommends proposed changes in legal ethics rules in Texas. Currently, under Texas Gov't Code § 81.0872, just 2 of 9 members are public members. Also, members of the public who file grievances should be allowed to participate in some parts of the process.

Biases: We need to require every judge and lawyer in the state to take implicit bias training. This is simple and achievable. When I am elected Chief Justice this fall, we will make

STATE TEXAS SUPREME COURT

CHIEF JUSTICE

Amy Clark Meachum (D) (continued)

this part of the Texas justice system's mission on Day 1. We need to add a pledge of "Equal Justice under the Law" to the lawyer's and judge's oaths. It is past time to create a more fair system.

Other Issues: All Texans should have access to essential legal services. Access to justice is a top priority of mine, and one of the cornerstones of a fair and just society, especially during COVID. The current Court is considering a \$1.2 million cut to legal aid, but rising evictions, layoffs and domestic violence cases are creating a more urgent need for legal services—not less.



Nathan Hecht (R)

Qualifications: Yale BA 1971; SMU JD w/ honors 1974; USNR JAGC 1971-1979 (hon. disch); 1976-1981 Locke firm as soc., ptr; 1981-1986 95th Dist. Ct., Dallas; 1986-1988 5th Ct. of App., Dal-

las; 1989-2013, Tex. Supreme Ct Justice; Chief Justice 2013-present

Campaign Website: <http://justicenathanhecht.com/>

Judicial Selection: Voters should decide who their judges are, but in partisan elections, they don't get to, because there are too many judges on the ballot to know their qualifications. It's not voters' fault. Party politics and campaign fundraising are poisonous. Judges must follow the law. Appoint on qualifications, then voters elect to retain based on performance, holding them accountable.

Standards: Judges and lawyers should engage with community leaders to ensure the justice system is seen as fair to all, as the Supreme Court and I did in a "Beyond the Bench Summit" in Dallas. Civics education in schools should be stronger and more creative. A great example is the South Texas program for students to enact mock trials in a real courtroom, playing different roles.

Biases: Training Texas judges on issues of race and fairness has been required for many years. Implicit bias training is conducted annually for new judges and by the Texas Center for the Judiciary in many other courses and conferences. The Supreme Court's "Beyond the Bench Summit" featured implicit bias training. The Judicial Council that I chair is preparing other training.

Other Issues: The Court's work is completely current and has been since I've been Chief Justice. Its challenges are to continue to guide Texas courts through the pandemic and equip them with all they need to function. In these tight economic times, the Court must help ensure adequate funding for courts, and also for legal aid for the poor, to ensure equal access to justice for all.



Mark Ash (L)

Qualifications: I have mostly practiced criminal defense law for the last 27 years. Also, I have represented individuals in civil matters including divorce, property rights and personal injury.

Campaign Website: <https://www.facebook.com/markashfortexasupremecourt/>

Judicial Selection: Elections for judges should not be based on political party affiliation. At a minimum, judges should be in good standing with the state bar and have actively practiced law in Texas for a minimum time period of 5 or 10 years. Also, term limits for judges should be seriously considered limiting judges to no more than 2 or 3 terms per court.

Standards: The public needs access to more data from the

VOTING FOR JUDGES IN TEXAS

In some states, judges are chosen by the government. In Texas, judges are chosen by people like you. Judges make decisions that affect everyone, ranging from sending someone to jail, issuing warrants, ordering evictions, and presiding over disputes involving owing money, to performing marriage ceremonies and deciding whether a couple can adopt a child. Because of the power they hold, all persons elected as judges should know the law and treat people fairly.

To be fair and independent, judges avoid influence from politics and money. They cannot make promises about their decision in a case before they hear and see the evidence. Because of this, the questions posed to judges in this guide are limited to how they would make the courts better, the need for impartiality in their roles, and how they would make sure the system works for everyone.

What should voters look for when electing judges?

According to the American Bar Association, principles to consider in selection of judges include:

- Judges should uphold the rule of law.
- Judges should be independent and impartial.
- Judges should possess the appropriate temperament and character.
- Judges should possess the appropriate capabilities and credentials.
- Judges and the judiciary should have the confidence of the public.
- The judicial system should be diverse and reflective of the society it serves.
- Judges should be constrained to perform their duties in a manner that justifies public faith and confidence in the court.

How is the Texas court system organized?

The Texas court system is made up of a statewide network of trial courts and appellate courts. Most cases begin in a trial court. In a trial court, judges listen to witnesses, review evidence, hear arguments from lawyers, and give a decision on the case, or a verdict.

There are many types of trial courts. Some only handle criminal cases, ranging from parking tickets to murder. Others only handle civil cases, ranging from disputes between neighbors to multi-million dollar lawsuits. And some handle both.

If one of the parties disagrees with the trial court's decision, they can appeal the decision to an appellate court. Texas has fourteen Courts of Appeals distributed throughout the state.

Then, if a party still disagrees, the next appeal would be to:

- The Court of Criminal Appeals (criminal cases only), or
- The Supreme Court of Texas (civil and juvenile cases).

Appellate courts do not try cases, have juries, or hear witnesses. They review what the lower courts did and decide if the lower courts were correct.

An excellent chart of the Texas Court Structure is available at: txcourts.gov/media/1448645/court-structure-chart-january-2020.pdf

To learn more visit txcourts.gov/about-texas-courts/

STATE TEXAS SUPREME COURT

CHIEF JUSTICE

Mark Ash (L) (continued)

state bar. The public needs to know how many clients the lawyer has represented in the criminal or civil courts. Many times, clients are not aware of the limited experience a civil lawyer may have in crimi-

nal court and a criminal lawyer may have in civil court. Also, malpractice insurance information needs to be disclosed.

Biases: Judges should be required to attend a minimum number of hours of continuing legal education. Information about the courses/classes that the judges attended need to be available online for the public to view. Also, user friendly ac-

cess to campaign contributor information needs to be made available to the public.

Other Issues: The Texas Supreme court should continue to make more and more user friendly legal forms available online for simpler legal matters such as for family, probate and real estate. Links should be provided to trusted websites that give up-to-date information for pro se litigants.

JUSTICE

Qualifications: What training, experience and background qualify you for this position?

Judicial Selection: Texas is one of the few states that elects judges in partisan elections. What changes, if any, in the judicial selection process would you recommend?

Standards: What changes, if any, do you think are necessary to improve public confidence in the legal profession?

Biases: What training and practices do you recommend for trial judges to guard against implicit biases?

Other Issues: What other issues do you believe will be the most pressing for the Texas Supreme Court?

PLACE 6



Kathy Cheng (D)

Qualifications: I have almost twenty years of legal experience in areas including complex commercial issues, divorce and probate, tax and real estate cases. I have also served as adjudication officer for the City of Houston for about six years.

Campaign Website: <http://www.chengforjustice.com>

Judicial Selection: The beauty of democracy is that citizens can vote for individuals who they believe reflect their values, which in the State of Texas includes the election of judges. If that choice turns out to be a bad choice, being able to vote elected officials out of office is a mechanism to hold said officials accountable. As such, I see no need for change at the present time.

Standards: As time evolves, the means of disseminating the rules and standards for the legal profession shall also evolve. With the ease of digital accessibility, there should be more educational information available to the general public by digital means of the rules and standards governing said profession so that the general population are better informed as to their rights.

Biases: Raising awareness of the existence of implicit bias through regular meeting discussion can debias the years of

exposure to cultural stereotypes, narratives and/or systemic policies. In addition, implement a mandatory annual implicit bias training for judges and staff members.

Other Issues: With the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision to refrain from hearing challenges of partisan gerrymandering, partisan gerrymandering cases will now go before the Texas Supreme Court, which is an example of how this Court impacts its citizens even though the citizens themselves may never go before this Court.



Jane Bland (R)

Qualifications: I have served more than 20 years at three levels of the state judiciary: as a trial judge, as a justice on the court of appeals, and now on the Supreme Court of Texas. I am board certified in civil trial law and civil appellate law.

Campaign Website: <http://www.justicejanebland.com/>

Judicial Selection: No change in judicial selection can happen without the support of the voters and their elected representatives. Governor Abbott and the Texas Legislature have formed a bi-partisan commission charged with making recommendations about judicial selection. I look forward to these recommendations, and I support this process.

Standards: We can improve public confidence by respecting and valuing all people who encounter our courts, reducing the cost of resolving disputes through innovation and technology, educating lawyers about best practices, and serving needs of those who cannot afford a lawyer. I have done that work through leadership positions in the bar and as a community volunteer.

Biases: I recommend that trial judges cultivate standards of excellence by incorporating the best practices of others from all walks of life and foster understanding even in disagreement or when faced with terrible circumstances. The Texas Center for the Judiciary offers excellent courses for judges on understanding implicit bias and improving decision-making.

Other Issues: The Court will continue to work toward advancing justice and the rule of law during the pandemic.

PLACE 7



Staci Williams (D)

Qualifications: I am in my second term as Judge of the 101st District Court. The 101st District Court handles primarily commercial, personal injury, medical malpractice, oil and gas, and consumer issues.

I have over 27 years of legal experience.

Campaign Website: <http://judgestaci.com>

Judicial Selection: Texans have elected judges in partisan elections for more than 100 years. While I believe that this Texas tradition should not be disturbed, a Commission has been established to study options to selecting judges in urban areas by methods other than partisan elections. Recommendations will be made at the end of the year. I look forward to reviewing these alternatives.

Standards: The legal profession needs to get more involved in the community. My judicial outreach program, the Citizens' Civil Academy ("CCA"), was launched to educate citizens about the civil court system. The CCA explores the types of cases heard in the civil courts and what happens to a case from the time the case is filed until it is disposed. There have been over 350 graduates.

Biases: I believe they should attend training sessions and evaluate on a monthly basis what practices or procedures can be modified to reduce implicit bias. Every day, the judge should ask him/herself, "would I have treated this litigant differently if he had been a member of my own race?"

Other Issues: The Texas Supreme Court will be faced with what to do about the bar examination. Many states have an apprentice licensing program. We must consider how the Court will ensure safe testing locations and procedures or if the Supreme Court will allow the 2020 graduates to practice without an examination.



STATE TEXAS SUPREME COURT

PLACE 7 (continued)



Jeff Boyd (R)

Qualifications: My extensive and varied legal career—including 16 years in private practice, 3 years as the deputy attorney general in charge of civil litigation involving the state, and 2 years serving as general counsel and chief of staff for the governor's office

Campaign Website: <http://justicejeffboyd.org>

Judicial Selection: Electing judges creates issues that undermine the public's confidence in the system, but it also requires judges and judicial candidates to interact with the public. This gives the public the opportunity learn who will best serve to counteract those problems. If we were building the process from scratch, leave it to the public to decide to alter the system.

Standards: We must continue to make the system more accessible by reducing the costs and delays required to resolve common civil disputes. We must do more to promote the legal profession as a means for public service instead of private profit. And we must continue to promote transparency into the operations and activities of our courts and judges.

Biases: Programs like the “Beyond the Bench” conference the Court sponsored in 2016 can be effective for that purpose. Requiring judges' participation in such well-designed, high-quality programs as part of their annual continuing-education requirements would be a meaningful step in the right direction.

Other Issues: (1) Ongoing implementation of evolving technology to increase efficiency within the judicial system. (2) Maintaining timely decision-making processes through changes in the Court's make-up over time. (3) Ensuring continued operations throughout the judicial system in times of natural disasters.

William Bryan Strange, III (L)

Candidate has not yet responded.

PLACE 8



Gisela D. Triana (D)

Qualifications: For over 24 yrs, I have served as a judge in Texas: Municipal Ct, JP, County Ct, District Ct, Appellate Ct. I will be the first person on the TXSCT to have served on every lower level court.

Most of my 32-yr legal career has been in public service.

Campaign Website: <http://www.JudgeTriana.com>

Judicial Selection: This is a legitimate discussion if there was a nonpartisan way to select judges that Texans could trust. The issue is the timing: after the party that has been in power and benefited from partisan election of judges for decades begins to lose that power. It makes the concern seem

self-interested. Texans have clearly shown a preference for electing judges, I support that.

Standards: I believe that in today's racially and politically charged climate, lawyers and judges should be at the forefront and lead by example by requiring mandatory implicit bias training for all members of the Bar. We all have implicit bias and some even explicit bias. We need to learn how to identify it and work diligently to overcome it. I try to do this on a daily basis.

Biases: There are several continuing legal education courses that deal with the psychology behind our unconscious bias, how to identify it, and how best to combat it. Such courses should be compulsory for all Bar members. Project Implicit has several online tests that can be startling, yet should also be required for all judges. <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>

Other Issues: Restoring balance to the Court. Currently, all members are Republican. 7 of the 9 were originally political appointments by a Republican Governor. Our founders were wise to create a jury system that brought people from different walks of life, with different experiences to judge a case. We need diversity of thought on the Court, as well. It makes for better jurisprudence.



Brett Busby (R)

Qualifications: Based on my experience as a board-certified appellate lawyer and my record as a fair court of appeals judge, I earned the support of all Democrats and Republicans when the Texas Senate voted

unanimously to approve my appointment to the Supreme Court.

Campaign Website: <http://www.BrettBusby.com>

Judicial Selection: Our process should select experienced judges who will deliver justice: giving everyone the fair day in court they deserve and ruling impartially based on the law, never imposing their personal or political views to reach a desired result. I support the work of the Texas Commission on Judicial Selection, which the Legislature created to report on selection options in 2021.

Standards: Important conversations are taking place across Texas about equality and justice under the law. The Supreme Court's “Beyond the Bench: Law, Justice, and Communities Summit” developed a toolkit to foster dialogue on real solutions that will enhance public trust in our justice system. I encourage lawyers, judges, and local leaders to use this kit in their communities.

Biases: The Texas Center for the Judiciary provides all new Texas judges with training on recognizing and responding to implicit biases. As part of our ongoing commitment to assure that equal justice under law is a reality for all, the Center also offers continuing education on unconscious processes that affect decisions and best practices for increasing sound decision-making.

Other Issues: As the Court's liaison for access to justice, I champion reforms that help Texans of limited means—including veterans, domestic violence victims, families, and the elderly—get the basic civil legal services they need. Example: online hearings can significantly increase access and reduce cost, so we are planning how to use them most effectively even after the pandemic.



Tom Oxford (L)

Qualifications: With almost four decades of legal experience I will bring a broad range of knowledge to the bench. I have had the pleasure of successfully representing Texans before both the Texas Supreme

Court and the United States Court of Appeals.

Judicial Selection: The problem is not the partisan nature of the elections. The problem is the massive amount of money given to these candidates by the very firms that will be appearing before them. If a firm wants to give funds to a candidate that is their right. However when that firm appears before that same Judge appropriate conflict of issue standards should be applied.

Standards: An open system that treats all parties with an even hand, regardless of race or socio-economic status would be a good start. Too often a litigant's chances depend more on who their lawyer is and what connections they have with the judge than on the actual facts of the dispute. An honest recognition of that fact by our profession would be a good start.

Biases: I am not sure how to answer this question. You cannot train bias out of someone, it is part of human nature. We all favor our family over our neighbors, our neighbors over our community and our community over the community down the road. We must recognize our bias and constantly guard against it. A difficult task indeed!

Other Issues: Historically Judges decided the law and juries decided the facts. We have gotten away from that respect for the Jury System in Texas. Too often, when there are honest factual disputes, Judges will overrule the jury and substitute their own opinions for the Jury's. This tension will continue to be a pressing issue.

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STATE TEXAS COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

JUDGE

Qualifications: What training, experience, and background qualify you for this position?

Mental Health: How should the Court of Criminal Appeals address mental health issues of those who come before the court?

Access to Justice: What opportunities are there, if any, to improve the state's indigent defense system in criminal cases?

Other Issues: What other issues do you believe will be most pressing for the Court of Criminal Appeals?

.....

PLACE 3



Elizabeth Davis Frizell (D)

Qualifications: I have 27 years of trial experience and 13 years as a private practitioner. I have 20 years of experience as a Judge where I was elected as a Dallas County Criminal Court Judge and Dallas Criminal District Court Judge.

Campaign Website: <http://www.Frizell4Judge.com>

Mental Health: The Court of Criminal Appeals should ensure that trial courts examine mentally ill defendants for their capacity to know the difference between right and wrong as well as whether a mental illness affected their judgment and was properly asserted and applied for sentencing purposes.

Access to Justice: The State Bar should require internships similar to internships in the medical field where newly licensed attorneys work for non-profit organizations, government agencies, and firms doing trial work and appellate work for at least one year prior to becoming licensed. This will give non-profit and pro bono agencies more attorneys to handle an increased caseload.

Other Issues: Disparate sentencing, wrongful convictions, and death penalty cases.



Bert Richardson (R)

Qualifications: I am the incumbent in this race and have been a State judge for over 20 years. I am a former State and Federal prosecutor that is Board Certified in Criminal Law. I have participated in hundreds of appeals, writs and over 50 capital cases.

Campaign Website: <http://www.electjudge-richardson.com/>

Mental Health: Mental health issues are litigated at the trial level. As an appellate judge, in cases with mental health issues, I write legal opinions that determine whether a trial court properly admitted, or excluded mental health evidence. If evidence of mental health is improperly excluded, the Court has the authority to grant a new trial.

Access to Justice: There are opportunities to improve the system, but that requires additional funding and that assistance has to come from the legislature and individual counties, not the courts. In order to attract qualified lawyers to represent indigent defendants, the State will have to compensate those lawyers, or create more public defender offices.

Other Issues: In light of the current COVID crisis, one of the most pressing issues will involve getting the courts across the State back to work. I anticipate several legal challenges will follow the "new normal" including speedy trial claims, jury selection issues, witness testimonies and jury deliberations that result in fair verdicts.

PLACE 4



Tina Clinton (D)

Qualifications: I am the presiding district court judge of the oldest Criminal District Court in Texas. I have 14 years experience as a trial court judge over a felony district, county criminal and municipal courts. I have tried over 400 trials in my career.

Campaign Website: <http://facebook.com/JudgeTinaClinton>

Mental Health: The CCA is an appellate court so issues of mental health raised on appeal are the issues that may be addressed. The CCA also funds education programs and grants for judges, lawyers and prosecutors. Expanding the funding for additional education on mental health in criminal cases would make a vast difference in the entire criminal justice system.

Access to Justice: First, review cases of ineffective assistance of counsel closely. One can be ineffective not merely by not doing something they should have done but also for the lack of time they have based on carrying too heavy of a case load, based on ABA standards. Second, indigent defense attorneys must be given adequate resources for investigators, experts and other tools.

Other Issues: (1) To help answer and educate members of the legislature on where bail reform is currently in Texas. (2) Review staffing needs for additional lawyers on writs that come into the CCA. (3) To consider using differing platforms to increase transparency to the public. (4) Diversify internships to give access to law students that have not traditionally been given access.



Kevin Patrick Yeary (R)

Qualifications: *Law Clerk- Texas Court of Criminal Appeals 1yr (1992-1992) *Private Lawyer- Criminal/Civil Defense 3yrs (1992-1995) *Appellate Prosecutor- Dallas, Houston, San Antonio 19yrs (1995-2014) *Judge- Texas Court of Criminal Appeals 5+yrs (2015-Present)

Campaign Website: <http://www.judgeyeary.com/>

Mental Health: The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, along with the Texas Supreme Court, recently established the Texas Judicial Commission on Mental Health "to engage and empower court systems through collaboration, education, and leadership, and to thereby improve the lives of individuals with mental health needs and persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD)."

Access to Justice: The Texas Indigent Defense Commission "provides financial and technical support to counties to develop and maintain quality, cost-effective indigent defense systems that meet the needs of local communities and the requirements of the Constitution and state law."

Other Issues: The Court must follow the rule of law and ensure that the written law provides the even playing field that all citizens should expect from our judicial system. Judges must not be policy makers, but should instead decide disputes between parties to litigation, guided by reference to the constitution and laws, which are written by others.

PLACE 9



Brandon Birmingham (D)

Qualifications: Two-term Felony Trial Court Judge, former Presiding Judge-all Felony District Courts, Dallas. Lead counsel on over 100 jury trials from DWI to Capital Murder. 2 specialty court dockets, visiting professor at SMU Law School.

Campaign Website: <http://JudgeBirmingham.com>

Mental Health: My experience has taught me how important properly addressing mental health issues are to reducing recidivism. The CCA should help increase training for lawyers on these issues, and where appropriate, work to increase funding for courts across Texas for worthwhile mental health programs.

Access to Justice: Justice shouldn't depend upon a person's access to resources-lessons we've learned from the Dallas County exonerations. We must increase funding through the legislature to help counties pay for reasonable and necessary costs of providing indigent defense. Second, we have to establish state-wide best practices to define and manage the case loads of indigent defense counsel.

Other Issues: From allowing a verdict to stand while a lawyer slept in court, to letting politics impact decisions, or reversals by the United States Supreme Court in death penalty cases, rulings from the CCA have contributed to the public's skepticism of our criminal courts, and illustrate very clearly the need for change. If we don't learn from history, we are doomed to repeat it.

STATE TEXAS COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

PLACE 9 (continued)



David Newell (R)

Qualifications: I serve you as a Judge on the Court of Criminal Appeals. I have over two decades of experience handling and deciding criminal appeals as either a lawyer or a judge. I am board certified in both criminal and criminal appellate law.

Campaign Website: <http://keepjudgenewell.com>

Mental Health: It can adopt dynamic standards to allow non-dangerous citizens suffering from mental illness who commit a crime to easily transfer out of the criminal justice system from a jail bed to a hospital bed so they can get the help they deserve. Violent offenders should also be treated for their illnesses, but in a secure facility for the safety of the community.

Access to Justice: Creation of more regional public defender's offices could help ensure a standard level of competent representation. Additionally, the Court of Criminal Appeals

could pro-actively set out minimum standards for representation of indigent defendants in serious cases

Other Issues: Mental health issues, mentioned above, are obviously pressing. Wrongful convictions based upon junk science or police misconduct are also very serious. Additionally, reforming bail practices so that the indigent are not incarcerated for extended periods of time prior to conviction unless there is a flight or safety risk is another significant to address.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Qualifications: What training, experience and background qualify you for this position?

Curriculum: What is your philosophy for setting curriculum standards?

Civic Education: What changes, if any, do you recommend to prepare students for their civic responsibilities?

Charter Schools: What is your position on charter schools in the public education system?

Other Issues: What other issues do you believe will be the most pressing for the State Board of Education?

DISTRICT 5



Rebecca Bell-Metereau (D)

Qualifications: PhD. Prof TxSt U, Directs Media Minor; Faculty Senate, was Special Asst. TxSt Pres, Fulbright Scholar, Teaching Awards, 4 books/30 essays, Peace Corps teacher/interpreter Air Force flights Chad, San Marcos P&Z, Bonds Recycling Commissions, HOA board.

Campaign Website: <http://voterebecca.com/>

Curriculum: Restore respect for teachers, public schools. Teach data-based science, technology, literature, art, music, history, vocations, civics, financial, statistical literacy, sex ed, SpEd, critical thinking. Show leadership, stop costly high-stakes testing, ideological influence on education; listen to students, teachers, parents; find common ground, equity, voice for diversity

Civic Education: Teach history of voting rights, governmental branches, variety of governments, include democracies, etc. variation among counties, states, nations, worldwide, and basic principles of voting, jury duty. Note U.S. ranks 26th in eligible voter participation at 56% in 2016. Use mock debates and voting to develop civil discourse and constructive engagement/register all over-18

Charter Schools: SBOE must use better judgment. I saw SBOE approve a proposal for a charter in a strip mall alongside toxic businesses; luckily Abbott nixed it. Some charters, like Ann Richards school, are great models, admitting by lottery; some charters don't admit all students, siphon tax dollars from public schools, & aren't made to operate by same equitable standards as public schools

Other Issues: Science 2021 must teach scientific method, experimental techniques, peer review, biology and climate science, global warming, pandemics, biology and geology of evolution and latest in DNA research, influence of culture, politics and economics on scientific advancement, with engaging curriculum that offers hands-on experimental design, service learning, relevance of issues.



Lani Popp (R)

Qualifications: I have spent my life serving Texas students, including working 17 years in public schools (four in inner city schools) and 11 years in private school. I am a passionate champion for children with autism, with expertise in Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Campaign Website: <http://Lanipopp.com>

Curriculum: I believe curriculum standards should be historically and scientifically accurate and age appropriate. We need to foster critical thinking skills so students are able to actively debate and question instead of being passive recipients of information. We need to discontinue requiring a single process for math calculations and allow students to use a variety of processes.

Civic Education: I believe students should have civics in their junior year in high school. Thus if they are 18 in the fall of their senior year, they will have an adequate understanding of our constitutions and the freedoms, rights, and responsibilities therein. I believe students should have to demonstrate competence in this area by answering questions from our citizenship test.

Charter Schools: Having worked in an inner-city school district, I can see the benefit of charter schools for students who are more socio-economically disadvantaged. We need to make sure we are properly vetting charter schools, holding them to the same standards as other public schools. We also need to safeguard parent choice and must always promote the academic success of the student.

Other Issues: We need to reform our broken state standardized testing system. Many students with disabilities (high functioning autism, ADHD, students with anxiety, etc.) may be brilliant but not demonstrate that on a test. We need to make sure we are testing basic skills, but we need to look at more than just a test when judging a student's knowledge, abilities, or progress.

Stephanie Berlin (L)

Candidate has not yet responded.

DISTRICT 10



Marsha Burnett-Webster (D)

Qualifications: I am a career educator with 30 years of teaching and administration experience in middle schools, high schools, and colleges. I know what students need to be successful and I want a SBOE that meets those needs. I am ready to be their advocate.

Campaign Website: <http://www.webstertxsboe10.com/>
Curriculum: Students must receive an education that prepares them for the future. That should be the basis for setting curriculum standards. Too often, many (especially non-educators) believe that standardized testing validates whether students have learned the material they need for the future. That is a false narrative. Students learn differently. Our standards must reflect that.

Civic Education: School students should be required to take 'civics' classes so that they better understand how local,

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

DISTRICT 10

Marsha Burnett-Webster (D) (continued)

state, and federal governments work. As part of this training, visits to (or with) governmental entities must be included in the curriculum. Additionally, students should complete community service projects before graduation to reinforce their civic responsibility.

Charter Schools: While philosophically I do not have objections to the operation of charter schools, I do have an issue when much needed taxpayer money is diverted from public schools and given to charter schools (or private schools) with little to no accountability or taxpayer oversight. Such actions destroy public schools and prevent students from getting the education they deserve.

Other Issues: My priorities would focus on developing curriculums that are predicated on proven, fact-based methodologies. I would push to increase and enhanced STEM offerings, revive much needed vocational and industrial arts programs, and ensure the arts and humanities programs receive greater emphasis. I would support limits on class size to maximize student learning opportunities.



Tom Maynard (R)

Qualifications: State Board of Education, eight years, chairing Instruction and School Finance/Permanent School Fund Committees. Classroom teacher, 13 years; Texas FFA Executive Director, 17 years; Local school board trustee, six years; Public school parent of five.

Campaign Website: <http://www.maynardfortexas.com>

Curriculum: Curriculum standards, called Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, must be essential to the mission of

public education and the overall outcome of the course; they must be statutorily compliant where statutes apply, factual, clearly stated and measurable, challenging yet developmentally appropriate and deliverable—taught to depth and mastery—within a 180-day school year.

Civic Education: The board streamlined the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for social studies in 2018 to allow for more focus and depth. The TEKS had been voluminous, making it difficult to teach to much depth. Our standards are robust and when delivered with vigor and fidelity provide a solid grounding in founding principles and foster patriotism and pride in our country.

Charter Schools: Charter schools are public schools within the state's constitutional framework. Governance, financial structures and to an extent, accountability measures are different. Curriculum standards and assessments are the same. Charter schools are not a panacea for education issues, but are an option for families. Whether we have charter schools is a question for the Legislature.

Other Issues: Under the current conditions, providing support for the advances promulgated in HB3 in the last session is critical. Fiscal issues created by the pandemic has prompted the board to propose an additional \$300 million distribution to alleviate fiscal pressure for FY 2021. We must maximize our distribution for the next biennium without compromising future distributions.



Trip Seibold (L)

Qualifications: Performed a two year scientific study comparing block scheduling to traditional scheduling. Served as a guest teacher in high school and elementary classrooms. Served on a Citizen's

Bond Committee for Round Rock ISD. Junior Achievement volunteer.

Campaign Website: <http://www.facebook.com/TexasTeachPeace>

Curriculum: Remove at least three times as many entries in the TEKS as what is being added. The purpose of this is to give our educators the freedom to be creative in their classroom instruction. Areas to enhance our standards are in mental health education, financial literacy, life skills, and logical thinking for every student. Teaching logic in 9th grade geometry is too late.

Civic Education: I recommend teaching a broader view of civics. This includes teaching government and economic models which are used elsewhere in the world. How and why do they differ from the U.S.? Emphasizing the importance of voting and of rational, civil, and peaceful discourse. Teaching about many political parties within the U.S. (major & more minor). Ensure recent history is taught.

Charter Schools: Public schools behave like they're in fear and competition with charters. Excessive funds are spent building public school palaces. These funds could pay teachers. Lawmakers need to create a fairer system where public school districts don't behave worried. Charter schools are vital for students & parents to have school choice, but not at the expense of public schools.

Other Issues: Providing more student engagement and ownership over their own education through increased elective choices and offerings. Approving textbooks which will help our society heal from racism. Working with local school districts to better serve the needs of special education students. Moving away from abstinence only sex education. Broaden or eliminate public sex ed.

STATE 3RD COURT OF APPEALS

CHIEF JUSTICE

Qualifications: What training, experience, and background qualify you for this position?

Judicial Selection: Texas is one of the few states that elect judges in partisan elections. What changes in the judicial selection process would you recommend, if any?

Standards: What changes, if any, do you think are necessary to improve public confidence in the legal profession?

Biases: What training and practices do you recommend for trial judges to guard against implicit biases?

Other Issues: What other issues do you believe will be the most pressing for the Texas Supreme Court?

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Darlene Byrne (D)

Campaign Website:

<http://www.darlenebyrne.com>

Qualifications: My 20 years as a 5 time elected trial judge and 13 years as a trial attorney has exposed me to many areas of the law that are presided over by the 3rd Court of Appeals. Knowing the law is a given. Leading court improvement projects is what I do.

Judicial Selection: I believe in the election of judges and judges being accountable to the voters, not a politically selected committee. I believe in the judiciary being elected to office with the candidate's party affiliation being known to the voters. We trust the voters to select leaders in the execu-

tive and legislative branches. With education, I trust voters to select our judges.

Standards: When the legal profession gives back to its community confidence is raised. Being a community partner and problem solver builds trust. The Bar as a whole must engage, but individual lawyers must engage in pro bono service, engage on boards, on advisory councils and contribute as legal counsel to our non-profits, our churches, and political organizations.

Biases: Training sessions I have hosted or attended together with community members are those I would recommend for members of the judiciary. Some of the sessions are The Lens of Implicit Bias, Knowing Who You Are, Undoing Racism, Implicit Bias: Impact on Decision Making and Healing

STATE 3RD COURT OF APPEALS

Darlene Byrne (D) (continued)

Neen. Participating in a poverty simulation and the development of a bench card is helpful.

Other Issues: The Texas Supreme Court will be faced with legal issues arising out of congressional redistricting, voter suppression issues which arise from this election and COVID 19 related legal issues. The pandemic related issues may be those that arise from force majeure clause litigation, education funding issues, and unique personal injury claims that arise due to exposure.



Jeff Rose (R)

Campaign Website: <http://www.judgejeffrose.com>

Qualifications: I've led the Court to be one of Texas' most productive. I chaired the Chief Justices and have written nearly 1000 opinions. I am a Board Certified "Texas Super Law-

yer," former Deputy Attorney General, District Court judge and now 6 years as Chief.

Judicial Selection: Texas' system presents challenges and is the subject of legislative study. I recognize and respect the public's right to elect their judges... and I've seen the realities of trying to select fair judges in a partisan system. In a 2018 partisan sweep we lost 4 judges, despite being one of Texas' most productive courts. I hope my work as Chief is seen by voters.

Standards: Actual performance (did we reach the right result) and perceived performance (did you feel that justice had been done) are both vital to public confidence. Judges are the outward display. People lose confidence when rulings appear political. We must clearly explain reasoning for decisions. Judges should also set an example and discourage improper lawyer conduct.

Biases: Judges are human, thus imperfect. I wholeheartedly believe judges benefit from awareness programs to com-

bat implicit bias. I'm glad judicial leaders like the NCSC, the Texas Center (for which I serve on the Board and Curriculum committee), and the Texas Supreme Court are helping judges work toward the promise of equal justice under law.

Other Issues: While I do not serve on the Supreme Court of Texas, we are all affected by it. Aside from making correct decisions on specific cases, and insuring lower court judges have resources and are trained on implicit bias and other issues discussed above, I believe the most pressing role of today's Court is ensuring access to justice for those who cannot afford representation.



STATE TEXAS SENATE

Redistricting: What changes do you support, if any, to ensure fair and impartial redistricting?

COVID-19: What actions do you believe are needed at the state level to address the health and economic impact caused by COVID-19?

Criminal Justice: What criminal justice reform policies do you recommend, if any?

Highest Priority: What is your highest legislative priority for funding, and would you be willing to use Texas's "rainy day fund" to finance it?



DISTRICT 21



Judith Zaffirini (D)

Background: The 1st Hispanic woman elected to the Texas Senate, Zaffirini has passed 1,160 bills—more than any legislator in state history—and has a career-long 100% voting record.

Education: Self-supporting since she was 17 and married at 18, Senator Zaffirini worked her way through UT-Austin, where she earned B.S., M.A., and PhD degrees, each with a 3.9 GPA.

Campaign Website: <http://judithzaffirini.com>

Redistricting: Because redistricting is one of our most important legislative responsibilities, I support creating an independent, nonpartisan redistricting commission that can

develop fair, impartial legislative and other district maps based on sound logic and community interests, not on gerrymandering to enhance partisan advantage; and that reflect standards of transparency and accountability to the public.

COVID-19: State leaders must make clear, consistent, evidence-based decisions and mitigate the dire health and economic impact of COVID-19, including by enforcing public health orders to save and protect lives, prioritizing safe reopening of schools, easing the burden on working and unemployed Texans and small businesses, responding to crisis areas, and ensuring everyone has personal protective equipment.

Criminal Justice: I support systemic criminal justice reform that ensures all Texans are treated equally, regardless of how we look or how much we have. This includes improving communication and police training, oversight, and accountability; bolstering access to justice initiatives, especially for low-income persons; and ending modern debtors' prisons created by judges who jail persons for inability to pay fines.

Highest Priority: Education, from pre-K through higher ed, is my highest priority and investment. I favor using the "rainy day fund" to ensure our promises and students' potential are fulfilled. This includes funding universal, high-quality pre-K; enhancing student success; supporting teachers before, during, and after their teaching years; and reducing the crushing burden of college tuition and student loan debt.



Frank Pomeroy (R)

Background: U.S. Navy veteran, former motor controls professional, pastor for 18 years. Married for 34 years, with four biological children, two adopted children, and six grandchildren.

Education: B.S. in Biological Anthropology

Campaign Website: <http://pomeroyfortexasenate.com>

Redistricting: I believe that a bipartisan commission should be appointed to redistrict the state, equally and fairly, within a determined amount of time to be completed. If a consensus cannot be reached by that deadline, it should remain the same as the last redistricting.

COVID-19: I believe that Texas needs to immediately open businesses and allow the economy to open and grow, once again. Protect the vulnerable, and allow everyone else to get back to work. I also believe we need to reassess the emergency powers act. There should be a 2- to 3-day limit to any declarations, then an oversight committee to determine the need for special session for any rightful legislation.

Criminal Justice: Of the over 10 million arrests every year in the US, the majority—roughly 65%—are for low-level, nonviolent, non-drug related offenses. I believe the Attorney General and law enforcement groups should reassess punishments that best align with the severity of public safety risk. Incarcerate for violent/drug offenses, and reduce punishment for low-level offenses to citation/community service.

Highest Priority: Protecting children and the unborn—restructure and revitalize Child Protective Services. Within

STATE TEXAS SENATE

DISTRICT 21

Frank Pomeroy (R) (continued)

CPS portfolio, strengthen collaborations between public, private and faith-based programs to provide counseling, residential programs and support for unplanned pregnancies, to encourage adoption or raising the child, removing abortion as the only option. Yes to rainy day fund, this is a critical need.

DISTRICT 24



Clayton Tucker (D)

Background: Clayton Tucker is a former kindergarten teacher, a former water researcher, a beekeeper, rancher, author, and lead one of Commissioner Jim Hightower's political organizations.

Education: Clayton Tucker went to Southwestern University, where he studied International Studies. Clayton then studied Mandarin at National Chengchi University in Taipei, Taiwan.

Campaign Website: <http://www.tuckerfortexas.com/>
Redistricting: Clayton Tucker fully supports and will fight for an independent redistricting commission. Clayton believes that politicians should not be involved in redistricting as that inevitably lead to bias and corruption.

COVID-19: Clayton Tucker fully supports and will fight for Medicaid Expansion. This will help provide healthcare for the 3.7+ uninsured adults and over 700,000+ children in Texas, will help struggling rural hospitals, and more. Expanding Medicaid will also cause a drop in property taxes, helping communities to have more resources. We also must greatly boost the number of tests, labs, and testing sites.

Criminal Justice: Clayton Tucker fully supports and will fight for the legalization of cannabis. Clayton will also fight for increasing mental healthcare, end the school to prison pipeline, end for-profit prisons, end no-knock raids, create independent civilian review boards to investigate all police shootings, and more.

Highest Priority: Clayton Tucker's highest priority is expanding Medicaid at a minimum, which is already paid for. Otherwise, Clayton will push for Texas to no longer be in the bottom 5 of US states in terms of public school funding. Clayton will strive to push Texas' rank up to the top 25 within the next few years. Clayton is willing to use the "rainy day fund" to help accomplish this goal.

Dawn Buckingham (R)

No response received

STATE TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Redistricting: What changes do you support, if any, to ensure fair and impartial redistricting?

COVID-19: What actions do you believe are needed at the state level to address the health and economic impact caused by COVID-19?

Criminal Justice: What criminal justice reform policies do you recommend, if any?

Highest Priority: What is your highest legislative priority for funding, and would you be willing to use Texas's "rainy day fund" to finance it?

DISTRICT 20



Jessica Tiedt (D)

Background: I was born and raised in Texas. Work experience includes 10 years in computer technology and 2 years as a Chief Administrator for a Justice of the Peace.

Education: I held every Apple Certificate available for Server administrators and Hardware service technicians in 2016 when I switched to working as a Senior Technical Support Engineer.

Campaign Website: <http://jessica4tx.com>

Redistricting: Unfortunately, the rules are already set for this round of map drawing. What we have to do is vote for individuals who are going to use the rules to draw fair maps for all Texans. I would support future sessions enabling a

non-partisan committee to draw the maps before sending them to the State House for ratification.

COVID-19: We need to expand Medicaid for all Texans by passing the Healthy Texas Act, which would expand coverage and programs available to all Texans. Most of the funding required to do this is already at our disposal; we need to take advantage of Federal Programs that we have already paid to expand Medicaid.

Criminal Justice: I support decriminalizing and legalizing cannabis for recreational and medicinal use. I also support ending the cash bail system, removing jail time from non-violent charges, and deprivatizing detention centers in Texas. Enacting these changes would reduce the number of inmates in Jails and Prisons, beginning to right some of the wrong with our current for-profit prison system.

Highest Priority: My priority is to take care of Texans and their families, with a focus on school funding and expanding healthcare and broadband internet to every home. To take advantage of programs and ensure that everyone has the same opportunity to succeed. I am willing to dip into the Rainy Day Fund. However, I don't think it'll be necessary if we close corporate tax loopholes.

Terry M. Wilson (R)

No response received

DISTRICT 46

Sheryl Cole (D)

Unopposed

DISTRICT 47



Vikki Goodwin (D)

Background: Vikki is the owner of Goodwin & Goodwin Real Estate. She raised her kids in SW Austin & is actively involved in the community. She is serving her first term as Representative.

Education: Vikki graduated in 1989 with a BBA from UT, major in Marketing, Minor in Government. She earned a Masters in Public Affairs in 1991 from UT's LBJ School of Public Affairs.

Campaign Website: <http://vikkigoodwin.com>

Redistricting: I support the establishment of an Independent Redistricting Commission to draw Congressional & Legislative maps. Politicians should not choose their voters. The public should have opportunities for giving input. A set of criteria for fair districts should be established including: compactness, contiguity, preservation of counties & political subdivisions. Using partisan data should be prohibited.

COVID-19: We should have robust testing, tracing & isolation combined with continual messaging about the importance of wearing a mask, social distancing and hygiene. Public schools should be provided with the funding, PPE, and guidelines to ensure teachers/students are able to follow safety protocols. Broadband should be available throughout the state. Support should be ongoing for those who have lost jobs.

Criminal Justice: The Texas Black Legislative Caucus has drafted the George Floyd Act which I support. It will

STATE TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DISTRICT 47

Vikki Goodwin (D) (continued)

address rules around police: use of force/de-escalation, duty to intervene (see something, do something), discipline and qualified immunity. I support decriminalizing small amounts of marijuana, ending arrests for fine-only offenses, ending the death penalty & banning the use of non-lethal rubber bullets.

Highest Priority: We must prioritize our investment in public education and public health, and we will need to use the rainy day fund to keep from cutting these vital needs. The economy will rebound more quickly if we stabilize it through investment. People are our greatest resource. Businesses come to Texas because of our workforce, our people, so we must ensure we are educating and providing health care for all.

Justin Berry (R)

No response received

Michael Clark (L)

No response received

DISTRICT 48



Donna Howard (D)

Background: Nurse, former Eanes School Board, who has represented HD 48 since 2006. House Appropriations Member since 2013, one of Texas Monthly's "Best Legislators" in 2019.

Education: Earned a Bachelor's degree in nursing and a Master's degree in health education from the University of Texas.

Campaign Website: <http://www.teamhowardtx.com>

Redistricting: Since 2015, I have filed legislation every session to create an independent redistricting commission for the State of Texas. Each time, GOP leadership has ensured that my bill does not even come up for a vote in committee. Hopefully, with new leadership in the Texas House, we can take redistricting out of the hands of politicians.

COVID-19: We need to utilize the federal money that the Governor is still sitting on—estimated around \$6 billion dollars. COVID-19 has devastated minority communities, we must reinstate the Office of Minority Health Statistics and Engagement. With 5 million Texans without health-care insurance, I support expanding Medicaid to cover those Texans without insurance.

Criminal Justice: I support the George Floyd Act, the CROWN Act, and other efforts to right the racial injustices in our criminal justice system. I will be focusing on improving the quality of evidence collection at police departments and continuing my work supporting survivors of

sexual violence in changing a system that delayed justice for too long.

Highest Priority: It would probably be a tie between ensuring Texas children have an equal opportunity for a quality education, and access to health care. I have and will vote to use the Economic Stabilization Fund (aka Rainy Day Fund) when needed.



Bill Strieber (R)

Background: Career in environmental reclamation project management and biotech equipment sales—and life sciences technology. Former executive in family business. Now, self-employed inve//

Education: B.S. Biology, University of Texas, San Antonio. Former Member of Citizens Advisory Council, University of Texas Marine Sciences Institute in Port Aransas.

Redistricting: U.S. Supreme Court has confirmed constitutionality of current system. No changes are necessary. When a majority puts one party in control in the Legislature, their endorsement includes a trust to draw district lines. Democrats had this power for 120 years. Now it is an issue? I oppose "independent" commissions on re-districting because, as the one in California proves, they are not independent.

COVID-19: 1) Promotions of personal hygiene in public awareness campaigns. Before there were antibiotics, states ran campaigns promoting public hygiene to slow the spread of TB. Made an impact. 2) Texas should make available reliable but inexpensive tests to anyone who wants to be tested. Saliva tests look promising for this. The state should provide free tests to as wide of population as is possible.

Criminal Justice: Texas should assist local law enforcement agencies in training. The DPS and Texas Rangers need to set the highest standard for dispute resolution training and share its findings and techniques throughout the state at the local level. Local police forces should lead the nation in excellence as far as their training is concerned, so no unnecessary tragic incidents occur in the state.

Highest Priority: As we see every day on Austin's streets, many—but not all—homeless persons need mental health assistance. We need to review state budget for mental health services provided by State of Texas. Clearly, those services are stretched too thin. To that end, I favor giving grants in performance trials to non-profit organizations proven to be effective in providing mental health services.

DISTRICT 49



Gina Hinojosa (D)

Background: State Representative of HD49, former AISD Trustee, attorney for social justice organizations, and community volunteer.

Education: B.A. from the University of

Texas at Austin, Plan II Honors/Government degree. Juris Doctorate from George Washington University Law School in Washington DC.

Campaign Website: <http://www.ginaforaustin.com>

Redistricting: The Texas Legislature has abused and overstepped their authority in how they have addressed redistricting in recent years, and Austin is a perfect example of this partisanship. I support the establishment of an Independent Redistricting Committee to draw fair maps.

COVID-19: We must dramatically increase COVID-19 testing in order to get an accurate representation of those affected & recommendations from health experts to develop an economic recovery plan. In addition, prior to COVID-19, Texans represented the highest number of uninsured in the US. It's past time for the state of Texas to expand Medicaid for more Texans have access to quality, affordable healthcare.

Criminal Justice: A culture of police brutality rests squarely on the leadership of the force. A local government must have the authority to terminate a police chief. Also, we must re-evaluate our laws on marijuana. Texans support, at minimum, the use of medical marijuana. Lastly, we must prioritize police reform policies that focus on de-escalation tactics and a reduction of physical force by officers.

Highest Priority: Our highest priority must be funding our public schools. We face a different landscape this session, and we cannot allow for any funding to public education to be cut. Not fully funding our schools is bad for our kids and their future, and I am in favor of using rain day funds to make up any financial gap if necessary.



Charles Allan Meyer (R)

Background: Military Service. Information Technology.

Education: Criminology. Information Technology.

Redistricting: Fully utilize Esri Redistricting software for redistricting processes thereby facilitating transparency for citizen involvement online and media participation.

COVID-19: A legislative appropriations adjustment for cost increases in economic development and social services.

Criminal Justice: Safeguarding family, friends, and neighbors is the duty of law enforcement. Law enforcement restrains crime and preserves the peace. Defend democracy by continuing to elect citizens committed to accountability in the preservation of our laws from becoming corrupted.

Highest Priority: Permanently authorize the Legislative Budget Board to submit the Texas State Government Effectiveness and Efficiency Report every biennium. A technology section should list all state government information technology budgets, data breach metrics, and server consolidation progress into Texas data center services. Ransomware is the foremost threat. Do not use the rainy-day fund.

STATE TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DISTRICT 49 (continued)



Kenneth M. Moore (L)

Background: Like many others, I came to Austin to go to UT and never left. I have been married for 45 years to my wife, Robin. We have 3 adult sons. I am retired from software consulting.

Education: I have a BA in Psychology from UT Austin (1973)

Redistricting: Having more than the two old indistinguishable parties involved would be a huge first step. As with so many other instances, increased competition yields improved results. As it stands now, to the victor belong the spoils. Imagine a system where co-operation is demanded in order to maintain political viability. Electing Libertarians can do that and so much more.

COVID-19: Get government out of the way of the citizens. Government delayed the recognition of the crisis. Government delayed effective testing. Government hindered entrepreneurial efforts to produce PPE for both healthcare workers and individuals. Government is choking the research into vaccines. Do you see a pattern here? The bigger Government gets, the more you lose.

Criminal Justice: 1. End the War on Drugs which is a de facto war on people of color. 2. End Qualified Immunity which shields police from accountability. 3. End the militarization of local police departments by the Federal Government. If there isn't a War on Drugs, you don't need tanks. 4. End Police Unions. Collective bargaining goes against the interests of the public. 5. Get back to having Peace Officers. **Highest Priority:** Provide for parents of Texas school-children the same level of choice demanded by Democrats in the realm of Women's healthcare and by Republicans in the realm of the Second Amendment. Monopolistic behavior as exhibited by the public school system would not be tolerated in any other sphere of life. The citizens of Texas deserve consistency of choice in all matters. All your freedoms, all the time.

DISTRICT 50



Celia Israel (D)

Background: Rep. Celia Israel began her public service working for Gov. Ann Richards. She is a realtor and small business owner. Rep. Israel is a founding member of the LGBTQ Caucus.

Education: B.A. in Government from the University of Texas at Austin

Campaign Website: <http://www.celiafortexas.com>

Redistricting: I support a statewide independent citizens' redistricting commission. Previously, I joint authored a bill to this effect and I will continue to support a more transpar-

ent process for the public to take part in redistricting. An independent commission that allows voters to choose their elected officials, not the other way around, would create a government that more accurately reflects Texas.

COVID-19: Texas families need guarantees they won't get sick, lose their homes, or lose their jobs due to COVID-19. Putting in place an aggressive statewide plan to minimize the spread of COVID-19 is key to protecting our community and restarting the economy. COVID-19 has worsened existing health disparities in our state, and passing Medicaid expansion in Texas would provide immediate health coverage.

Criminal Justice: I support the members of the House Black Caucus who announced plans to introduce the George Floyd Act next session. This bill would eliminate qualified immunity, ban chokeholds, and would establish a duty for officers to intervene when another is in violation of the law. I support additional reforms like passing the final piece of the Sandra Bland Act, prohibiting arrests for fine-only offenses.

Highest Priority: Fully funding our public schools and getting more Texans access to health care. Next session, I will fully support the use of the Economic Stabilization Fund to support our teachers, students, and health care providers on the frontlines of battle against COVID-19, due to recently projected revenue shortfalls.

Larry Delarose (R)

Background: Includes career in journalism with the Associated Press as writer, editor and Broadcast Executive. Also, second career in financial services VP Prudential Financial Services.

Education: High School—Newburgh Free Academy, Newburgh, NY

Campaign Website: <http://delarose2020.com>

Redistricting: Make districts more defined regions by towns, cities etc. instead of trying to shape them to pick up most registered voters for a particular party.

COVID-19: Increased response time by government agencies...reducing regulations in time of emergency to better deliver health services...make necessary funding available without politics.

Criminal Justice: Better training for officers and supervisors no lack of funding....strict enforcement of law....

Highest Priority: Education and public safety.

DISTRICT 51



Eddie Rodriguez (D)

Background: State Rep. Eddie Rodriguez (D-Austin) has served as the state representative for District 51 in the Texas House of Representatives since his first election in 2002.

Education: State Rep. Eddie Rodriguez earned his undergraduate degree (a BA in Government) from the University

of Texas at Austin. He earned a degree in law from the UT School of Law.

Campaign Website: <http://EddieforTexas.com>

Redistricting: I strongly support redistricting reform. I believe that we must replace the current method of redistricting under which politicians choose their voters in an inherently political process with an independent, nonpartisan redistricting commission that is tasked with drawing fair and impartial electoral maps. Redistricting reform is vital to our democracy and the functioning of our institutions.

COVID-19: Texas must expand Medicaid immediately to expand options for those without health insurance and who have lost their employer-sponsored insurance. We must strengthen our safety net, eliminate 'red tape' that limits access to public services and codify the rule changes that have been made as part of the pandemic response. We must work to understand and address the factors driving disproportionality.

Criminal Justice: I join the members of the Texas Legislative Black Caucus in supporting the George Floyd Act, a bill to be carried by Chair Senfronia Thompson in 2021 that will advance crucial policing reforms including narrowing use of force rules and ending arrests for fine-only offenses. I also believe that we must reform our marijuana laws and expand access to having one's criminal record cleared (expunction).

Highest Priority: My highest legislative priority for funding in 2021 is public education. Given the difficult budget that Texas is facing, I am particularly concerned that the state government will seek to make billions of dollars in cuts to public education and to healthcare. I would be willing to use Texas's "Rainy Day Fund" to offset budget cuts to public education and other crucial public services.

Robert Reynolds (R)

No response received

DISTRICT 52



James Talarico (D)

Background: Representative James Talarico is a former education non-profit leader and public school teacher elected to serve House District 52 in the Texas House of Representatives.

Education: McNeil High School The University of Texas at Austin—Bachelor's of Arts Harvard University—Master's of Education Policy

Campaign Website: <http://www.jamestalarico.com>

Redistricting: During the 87th legislative session, the Texas Legislature will be responsible for redrawing district boundaries. I commit to supporting equitable and fair district lines that allow for equal electoral representation for all Texans. Gerrymandered districts that prioritize one political party or racial identity over others have no place in our state.

STATE TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DISTRICT 52

James Talarico (D) (continued)

COVID-19: I'll support holding our government accountable and working towards a budget that does not pay for the pandemic off the backs of our children or working-class Texans, but one that increases the state minimum wage and expands Medicaid for all Texans. We can rebuild the Texas economy by providing well paying, safe jobs for Texans who need them and my bringing Medicaid funding into our state.

Criminal Justice: We must reform our criminal justice system to center rehabilitation and restoration, starting with legalizing marijuana, reforming bail bonds, and divesting from privately-owned prisons. I also plan to support the George Floyd Act, the Texas Legislative Black Caucus' comprehensive criminal justice reform legislation as well as policies to disrupt the school to prison pipeline.

Highest Priority: As a former public school teacher, my highest priority is protecting public education. Particularly now, as we confront COVID19, we will need to protect the commitment we made to our schools. I would absolutely be willing to use the "rainy day fund" to help overcome the current budget shortfall and while continuing to work to provide a sustainable revenue stream for our public education system.

Lucio Valdez (R)

No response received

DISTRICT 136



John H. Bucy III (D)

Background: Small biz owner, Central TX native, new dad | Authored Medicaid expansion amendment | HB 3 co-author | HDC Freshman of the Year | Hill Country News Best Local Elected Official

Education: Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts, major in History from Austin College

Campaign Website: <http://www.BucyForTexas.com>

Redistricting: A complete and accurate Census is critical to ensuring fair representation. I joined many of my colleagues in urging statewide leaders to fund a statewide complete count committee and Census outreach, like we have in WilCo. I also support an Independent Redistricting Committee to remove partisan politics from the process because voters should choose elected officials, not the other way around.

COVID-19: Full economic recovery won't happen until the virus is under control. It's critical that state leaders communicate the need for ongoing vigilance, expanded testing and contract tracing, and avoiding events that can lead to community spread. We also must expand Medicaid to help 1.5M Texans get healthcare while advocating for better unemployment benefits and increased support for small businesses.

Criminal Justice: I support diversion, treatment, and support services as an alternative to jail, especially for low-level, non-violent offenders; reducing recidivism thru re-entry programs and job training; decriminalizing mental illness; legalizing and regulating cannabis; and ending the school to prison pipeline. We must also transform policing to eliminate disparities while upholding accountability and safety.

Highest Priority: We must protect last session's historic gains on school finance and teacher raises while ensuring schools have the funding to meet the challenges due to COVID-19. I support using the "rainy day fund" to ensure core needs are met while generating new revenue by expanding Medicaid (bringing \$110B of our taxes back to TX), legalizing and taxing cannabis, and closing commercial property tax loopholes.

Mike Guevara (R)

No response received



Brian Elliott (L)

Background: I am a corporate lawyer, business executive and entrepreneur working to build and protect businesses, employ more people, and grow the economy. I will fight for your liberty.

Education: I have a BA in political science, a law degree from UMiami Law and studied disruptive strategy at Harvard Business School. Attorney in 3 states, plus TX real estate license.

Campaign Website: <http://elliottfortexas.com>

Redistricting: Partisan Gerrymandering has contributed to the perverse outcome that finds the US Congress with a 20% approval rating, but a 90% re-election rate. I support an end to partisan gerrymandering together with electoral reforms like term limits and ranked-choice or approval voting so that our votes will properly represent the will of the people and not be manipulated by partisan interests.

COVID-19: The government needs to get out of the way. I have written a comprehensive 10-point plan for post COVID-19 economic recovery. My plan includes: regulatory and occupational licensing relief, abolish property taxes, legalize marijuana and introduce sports betting in Texas. See how these ideas can work for Texas at <https://elliottfortexas.com/covid-19-recovery-plan/>

Criminal Justice: Texas has one of the highest incarceration rates in the world and needs comprehensive criminal justice reform including: ending the war on drugs, no jail for victimless crimes, end qualified immunity, cash bail reform, end civil asset forfeiture, repeal mandatory minimums, informed juries, alternatives to incarceration, divert funds to mental health. We can make real change without defunding.

Highest Priority: The problems in our communicates are exacerbated by political divisiveness and polarization that is brought on by the 2-Party system. I will advocate for true ballot access reform and remove partisan barriers to independents and third parties. All races should be decided by an inclusive voting method like STAR, approval or ranked choice voting. No "rainy day funds" would be needed.

LOCAL TRAVIS COUNTY

CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

167TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Dayna Blazey (D)

Unopposed

390TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Julie Kocurek (D)

Unopposed

427TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Tamara Needles (D)

Unopposed

450TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Brad Urrutia (D)

Unopposed

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LOCAL TRAVIS COUNTY

460TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Fairness: What quality is critical for a judge to possess for fair administration of justice, and how have you demonstrated this quality?

Priorities: Explain how this office is important to your constituents and provide details of your plans for improvement.

Equity: How would you ensure that all individuals who enter your court receive equal access to justice?

Imprisonment alternatives: What steps, if any, would you take to support alternatives to imprisonment to minimize the number of incarcerated people?



Selena Alvarenga (D)

Background: I've defended the indigent and at-risk juveniles for 23 yrs. I'll bring my experience and my perspective as a gay immigrant to run a fair court and promote safety and justice.

Education: Worked my way through community college, earned a BBA from Our Lady of the Lake and a JD from St. Mary's in San Antonio. I also obtained my citizenship while in law school.

Campaign Website: <http://www.selenaforjudge.com>

Fairness: A judge must be a good listener and be able to analyze each situation before making a decision. As a criminal defense lawyer with over 24 yrs. of experience, I have come into contact with individuals from all walks of life and know that solutions must be specifically tailored to each situation and individual. This is of particular importance in the criminal justice area.

Priorities: What happens in the courtroom affects all of us, whether you or someone you know has been in the criminal justice system or the victim of a crime, or if you're a taxpayer. I believe our community wants our courts to reflect our values—that means responding to threats to community safety, while taking a long-term approach to solving the cycles of abuse, violence, and poverty.

Equity: Every individual who sets foot in the courtroom de-

serves to be listened to and understood, not judged based on race, wealth, or identity—that is how I will run my courtroom. I also believe that Judges should start playing a role as advocates for measures that improve equity and accessibility in our local justice system, like indigent defense, diversion, bail reform, and victim support.

Imprisonment alternatives: End the school to prison pipeline, don't use jail/prison as makeshift clinics and shelters, and don't detain people just because they can't afford bail. Incarceration is for those who pose a safety threat—it does not heal the damage done by crime. The fact is a majority of offenders are eventually released. If they don't have a chance to reenter society productively, many will go on to reoffend.

Geoffrey Puryear (R)

No response received

CIVIL DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

53RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Maria Cantú Hexsel (D)

Unopposed

98TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Rhonda Hurley (D)

Unopposed

126TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Aurora Martinez Jones (D)

Unopposed

200TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Jessica Mangrum (D)

Unopposed

345TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Jan Soifer (D)

Unopposed

353RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Madeleine Connor (D)

Unopposed

COUNTY JUDGE

Priorities: Explain how this office is important to your constituents and provide details of your plans for improvement.

Criminal Justice: What criminal justice reform policies do you recommend, if any?

COVID-19: What plans do you have to address challenges relating to COVID-19?

Transportation: How will you address current and future transportation needs in the county?



Andy Brown (D)

Background: Former EMT, Travis County Democratic Party Chair, City Ethics Commission & The Sobering Center-Austin Board member. Attorney, dedicated community leader, & dad.

Education: McCallum High School 1990, B.A. in Political Science, Colorado College, 1994; Juris Doctorate, The University of Texas School of Law, 2002

Campaign Website: <http://www.voteandy.com>

Priorities: I collaborated with a team including the City and County and the State to create the Sobering Center. We've already been able to divert over 3400 people away from entering the criminal justice system because of it. Let's work to do more to reform our criminal justice system to save resources while investing to help people and making our community more stable and healthy at the same time.

Criminal Justice: My number one priority is overhauling our criminal justice system. Travis County must do

more to dedicate resources to invest in our community to improve mental and behavioral health resources, prioritize restorative justice, and fully fund our public defender program.

COVID-19: Travis County needs a stronger Public Health Prevention Campaign in partnership with local municipalities, to increase our healthcare investment in areas like Del Valle, Colony Park, and other areas most negatively affected by the virus. In addition, we must provide rental assistance, partner with AISD to continue feeding food insecure families, and develop a plan for economic recovery.

Transportation: In order to address congestion, air pollution, and carbon emissions, Travis County has to bridge the gap and develop a regional transit plan. My number one concern is traffic fatalities. Building roads is not the only option. Travis County must also reduce demand, better organize intersections, shift modes of transportation, and increase options for alternative modes of transportation.



Michael Lovins (R)

Background: My wife and I have been married and lived in Travis County for 21 years. I am a trial lawyer and small business owner. We have three amazing kids!

Education: Bachelor's degree with honors, Southern Methodist University. Majors Economics and Philosophy, minor in Political Science. 2001: JD, University of Texas Law School

Campaign Website: <http://michaelfortraviscountyjudge.com>

LOCAL TRAVIS COUNTY

COUNTY JUDGE

Michael Lovins (R) (continued)

Priorities: The Travis County Judge is the chief budget officer for the County. The County can fully fund the Sheriff's Office so that it can fill the public safety gap created by the City's homeless policy and defunding the police. The public health program must be modernized to deliver high quality care at reduced costs for those who rely on the County for their healthcare needs.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Priorities: Explain how this office is important to your constituents and provide details of your plans for improvement.

Criminal Justice: What criminal justice reform policies do you recommend, if any?

COVID-19: What plans do you have to address challenges relating to COVID-19?

Transportation: How will you address current and future transportation needs in the county?

PRECINCT 1



Jeff Travillion (D)

Background: Travis County Commissioner since January, 2017 30 years management experience in state and local government Former president of Austin NAACP; member state exec. committee

Education: University of Texas LBJ School of Public Affairs, Master of Public Administration Sloan Fellow, CMU and Harvard Jackson State University, BA Political Science

Campaign Website: <http://jefftravillion.com>

Priorities: County government is responsible for many basic services: health-related services, indigent care, a uniform system of civil and criminal justice, roads in unincorporated areas, and responding to emergencies, such as the current pandemic. While seeing to the efficient delivery of these services, I have also been involved in economic development representing the county on negotiations with Tesla.

Criminal Justice: We are working on jail diversion, allowing people to avail themselves of treatment where appropriate. We are implementing a public defenders office. I am very involved with job training and employment opportunities for people who are transitioning from jail back into the community. I support a new women's jail replacing out-of-date facilities with ones oriented towards treatment and training.

COVID-19: I am very involved in the response. On learning that a clinic in Del Valle, an area with high healthcare disparities, had been shut down, I worked with Central Health

Criminal Justice: Travis County should implement risk assessment tools to assist in evaluating an arrested person's risk of flight or potential violent activity if released. Cash bail should be limited in order to minimize the devastation to the life of a person arrested and held for minor offenses, or offenses of which they are not guilty.

COVID-19: We will protect local businesses and save jobs by using only specific data and reliable guidance to control the spread of coronavirus and defend the vulnerable. We will provide accurate, science-based guidance to the public to

and the community to get it quickly reopened. We provided funding to restaurants hurting for business so that they could provide meals for first responders and vulnerable populations. We are assisting small cities and businesses.

Transportation: I serve on the CAMPO and CapMetro boards. CAMPO encompasses a 6-county area in which we assess the condition of roads and projects that make it easier to travel throughout the region. On CapMetro, we've worked to serve underserved populations that depend on transit to reach work, medical services, shopping and other basic necessities.

Solomon Arcoven (R)

No response received

PRECINCT 3



Ann Howard (D)

Background: Mom. Lawyer. Advocate. Former Executive Director of Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO). ECHO received accolades for its role in ending local veteran homelessness.

Education: A native Texan, I attended the University of Texas earning a Bachelor of Arts, a Master's of Public Affairs from the LBJ School, and a Juris Doctorate from the law school.

Campaign Website: <http://www.annforcommissioner.com>

Priorities: Commissioners oversee budgets for wildfire and flood mitigation, roads and safety, jails and law enforcement, and access to healthcare. They lead regionally on economic development, conservation, and roads. I'll be thrifty with taxpayer money to ensure we spend each dollar wisely, leveraging partnerships when possible. Focus includes recovery from COVID, wildfire readiness, and transportation.

Criminal Justice: I've seen the crushing burden our justice system places on people, making it harder to secure housing or a living-wage job. I applaud County efforts to divert people battling mental health issues away from jail. But, more should be done to reserve incarceration for violent crimi-

empower them to take actions that keep themselves and others safe.

Transportation: I will oppose wasteful spending on subway tunnels and light rail while encouraging telework for county employees. I will support building new roadways and adding additional lanes to reduce the hours we spend idling in traffic. I will work to encourage private companies to permit telework.

nals. I plan to: (1) Support law enforcement with incentive training; and (2) Explore wider use of diversion programs.

COVID-19: I am grateful for our community's efforts to help each other during this pandemic. I will listen to small business owners to understand what they need and advocate for assistance from state and federal governments. I will look for opportunities to create new jobs, expand access to healthcare, ensure that public health and emergency responders are always ready for the next big challenge.

Transportation: Counties play a vital role in transportation. It is critical for Travis County to play a leadership role in local and regional planning to leverage our strengths at the state and federal levels. Together, we must focus on improving local transportation fundamentals. We must do this while exploring efficient means of moving people around and identifying increased work-from-home opportunities.



Becky Bray (R)

Background: I am a native Austinite and have been dedicated to serving my community for 40+ years. From serving on many non-profit to professional boards, I am committed to Travis County.

Education: I earned my Bachelors and Masters of Science degrees from Texas A&M. I am a Professional Engineer (PE), Land Planner (AICP), Traffic Operations Engineer (PTOE) and ENV SP.

Campaign Website: <http://electbeckybray.com/>

Priorities: A large portion of Precinct 3 lies in unincorporated areas; therefore, Travis County is the sole source of essential public safety, health and emergency services. I will work across party lines to protect resident's way of life, ensure public safety as well as maintain the highest levels of county services. My top priorities are transportation, public safety, fiscal responsibility, and land use.

Criminal Justice: There are many issues that must be addressed as part of criminal justice reform. The two most pressing pertain to residents with addiction and behavioral health issues and those in mental health crisis. The County lacks adequate treatment facilities and programs. As Commissioner, I will explore collaborative opportuni-

LOCAL TRAVIS COUNTY

PRECINCT 3

Becky Bray (R) (continued)

ties with agencies and non-profits and invest in alternatives to incarceration.

COVID-19: COVID has presented us with many challenges—from the health of our residents to our thriving

economy. I will ensure the necessary technology is in place so employees can work remotely and residents can communicate with the court. I will convene community round table discussions to fully understand the economic impacts. All must be addressed together to ensure our community continues to thrive.

Transportation: With nearly 1400 lane miles of County

Roads, Precinct 3 is home to many heavily traveled; often unsafe corridors. As part of any transportation initiative, we must develop a comprehensive network. COVID has given us an opportunity to revisit the County's needs. I will be actively engaged in alternative and integrated solutions—telecommuting, flex hours, transit, ride-share, bike, and pedestrian.

JUDGE, COUNTY COURT AT LAW

Fairness: What quality is critical for a judge to possess for fair administration of justice, and how have you demonstrated this quality?

Priorities: Explain how this office is important to your constituents and provide details of your plans for improvement.

Equity: How would you ensure that all individuals who enter your court receive equal access to justice?

COVID-19: What steps would you take during the pandemic to balance public safety with general access to the court?

COURT AT LAW NO. 4

Dimple Malhotra (D)

Unopposed

COURT AT LAW NO. 8

Carlos Berrera (D)

Unopposed

COURT AT LAW NO. 9



Kim Williams (D)

Campaign Website: <http://electkimwilliams.com>

Fairness: Judges must be fair, impartial and experienced. I have a proven record of fairness, integrity and independence. I received the highest rating of all Travis County Court at Law

Judges in the 2019 Austin Bar Association Judicial Evaluation Poll. I have extensive experience as both a judge and an attorney and have handled thousands of cases and over a hundred jury trials.

Priorities: Criminal cases significantly impact those accused of crimes, victims, loved ones of those involved, and our entire community. Courts should reflect our community values while keeping our community safe. I plan to expand diversion programs, increase mental health and substance abuse treatment services, and improve and better fund indigent defense.

Equity: Everyone accused of a crime deserves competent representation and equal treatment under the law regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation or income level. I am committed to treating each person, whether that person is an accused or a victim, with fairness, dignity, respect, and thorough consideration while bearing in mind each individual's unique needs and concerns.

COVID-19: I am conducting dockets and hearings virtually through Zoom. When appropriate under the law and circumstances, I virtually sign pleas, dismissals, bonds and other legal documents. I am available 24/7 by phone, email and Zoom to discuss cases with the parties and hear concerns of either side. For defendants without internet access, there are socially distanced computer stations at the courthouse.



Christopher David (L)

Fairness: A judge must have the integrity to focus solely on the law at issue for the specific case. The courtroom is not the forum to make a political statement or show personal bias. In my work and at home, I've demon-

strated integrity by being reliable, engaging in open and honest communication, and assuming responsibility for my actions.

Priorities: The Criminal County Courts at Law preside over Class A and Class B misdemeanor cases in our County. These lower level cases are often the first exposure constituents have with the criminal justice system. This is a critical time to either find ways to help these individuals avoid future issues by addressing problems landing them in this forum or, if necessary, providing a wake-up call.

Equity: I will work to make this process understandable for those brought into this system. Lost on some judges is understanding an issue before the court for many is potentially life altering and the most pressing issue in this person's life at that time.

COVID-19: This pandemic has created challenges for the courts which I am seeing firsthand. A speedy trial is imperative. That being said, a careless release to speed a docket or satisfy public pressure can have unintended consequences. A judge must work closely and invest additional hours with prosecution and defense counsel to create an equitable resolution.

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DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Priorities: Explain how this office is important to your constituents and provide details of your plans for improvement.

Imprisonment alternatives: What steps, if any, would you take to expand diversion programs and seek alternatives to imprisonment for defendants?

Deaths in Custody: How would you approach officer-involved shootings and other deaths in custody?

Bail: Do you think that cash bail or personal bonds better protect public safety? Please explain.

53RD DISTRICT



José Garza (D)

Background: I started my career as a Public Defender, served in the Obama Administration, and currently serve as the Executive Director of the Workers Defense Project.

Education: JD from Catholic University in Washington, D.C., 2005; Bachelor's Degree from the University of Texas at Austin, 2001.

Campaign Website: <http://www.joseforda.com>

Priorities: The job of the District Attorney is to keep our community safe and protect our most vulnerable. When I am elected DA, we will build a system that lifts up working people and people of color, where substance abuse is treated like the public health crisis that it is, and where women are believed.

Imprisonment alternatives: Our office will expand eligibility for diversion programs, and we will take away impediments, such as cost, to participation so more people can be successful in the programs. A person will

LOCAL TRAVIS COUNTY

53RD DISTRICT

Jose Garza (D) (continued)

never be denied access to diversion due to an inability to pay.

Deaths in Custody: Prosecutors play a key role in holding police accountable and ensuring that officers who commit misconduct are not allowed to continuously harm communities. When police use deadly force, prosecutors must investigate the case quickly and with transparency, to ensure no one is above the law. Police accountability is critical to rebuilding community trust, and also to the safety of our community.

Bail: The social costs of cash bail—the loss of housing, employment, and family—are devastating for people who simply don't have big enough wallets to buy their way out. No person should be held in our jail unless they pose a threat to our community. As District Attorney, I will work to end the cash bail system in Travis County.



Martin Harry (R)

Background: Owner, private law firm, 1996-Present; Staff Attorney, Social Security Admin., 1994-1996; Judge Advocate, U.S. Navy, 1989-1993, (prosecuted and defended criminal defendants).

Education: University of Missouri at St. Louis, B.A., Political Science, 1985; Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, J.D., cum laude, 1988; Articles Editor of SIU Law Journal.

Campaign Website: <http://MartinHarryforJustice.com>

Priorities: The DA is the most powerful law enforcement official, duty bound to enforce laws fairly and equally. Law enforcement is critical for public safety. I will enforce the law to prevent crime, prosecute criminals and protect crime victims without discrimination. I will launch a "Safer Streets" initiative to prevent abuses to the most vulnerable in our community: the elderly, children and animals.

Imprisonment alternatives: Rehabilitation is a legitimate objective of the criminal justice system. Diversion pro-

grams and specialty courts that provide a path for treatment for criminal defendants with mental impairments reduce recidivism. They benefit the public and defendants. These programs are predicated on law enforcement. Without law enforcement and treatment, offenders with impairments will more likely re-offend.

Deaths in Custody: When probable cause of criminal conduct by a police officer exists, the case will be referred to a grand jury for indictment as for all other cases. An officer's status cannot be the basis for discrimination. The objective remains to do justice. Because of public interests involved, the community must be timely informed of decisions. Decisions must be based on evidence, not politics, however.

Bail: The right to bail is constitutionally protected and cannot be abolished by a DA. Claims to the contrary are untrue. No one should be deprived of their liberty before trial unless a judge determines that release poses a risk to the community or a risk of flight. It is the risk assessment, not the nature of the charge, that should determine the type and amount of bail required. Every case is unique.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Delia Garza (D)

Unopposed

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SHERIFF

Priorities: Explain how this office is important to your constituents and provide details of your plans for improvement.

Transparency: How would you improve community trust and promote transparency in your office?

Deaths in Custody: As sheriff, how do you plan to minimize excessive force, officer-involved shootings, and other death-in-custody situations?

Women's Jail: Do you support the building of a women's jail? Why or why not?



Sally Hernandez (D)

Background: Elected Sheriff 2016. Elected Constable, Precinct 3 2012. Chief of Investigations for the Travis County District Attorney's Office 2005-2012.

Education: B.S. Criminal Justice from St. Edward's Univer-

sity. Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Master Peace Officer Certification.

Campaign Website: <http://www.vote4sally.com>

Priorities: TCSO is more than important; it's vital. We stand ready every minute of every day to respond to residents in need or crisis. We also care for hundreds of inmates. The very best thing I can do to improve upon what we do is to empower, encourage and enable our employees to keep this good thing going and growing. I know when someone calls us in their worst moment, they're in the very best hands.

Transparency: Trust is earned and we work hard at it. The key is good communication. Internally, I instituted a daily briefing where supervisors discuss agency-wide operations and achievements. It unites us and focuses us on common goals. Externally, we connect with our community in many ways; listening, then responding with purpose. Our response to 8 Can't Wait and our statement on racism are recent examples.

Deaths in Custody: It comes down to humanity. Most TCSO deputies start their careers and training as correc-

tions officers. Caring for inmates develops officers who see people rather than offenders. We revise policy when a better way is evident and hold ourselves accountable. Our commitment to the lives of staff and inmates is evidenced by the fact we set the standard for COVID prevention protocols in Texas jails.

Women's Jail: I support building a Trauma Informed Care Facility. Jails should not merely warehouse or cage. Influencing life change and ending repeat offenses doesn't happen in a dilapidated jail built for men in 1980. Repair costs on our current buildings will quickly overrun the cost of a new facility. We should be leading the way in a more dignified manner of handling incarceration. This is our chance.



Raul Vargas (R)

Background: Rio Grande Valley native. Law enforcement work of 36 years, retiring at the rank of Major with Texas DPS. Executive Director for the Texas Police Association. Family man.

LOCAL TRAVIS COUNTY

SHERIFF

Raul Vargas (R) (continued)

Education: High School graduate with some college. Multiple law enforcement training. Executive Management and Leadership courses and Emergency Management Certifications.

Campaign Website: <http://vargas2020.com>

Priorities: The Sheriff is elected by, for, and of the people. He reports directly to and answerable to them alone; charged with maintaining law and order in the county or cities when necessary. Police have long been trained in a way that is obviously not working. We will not be an agency of

numbers and statistics or revenue generators but focus on being true servants and guardians of the people.

Transparency: Have honest discussions with those we serve, providing opportunities for personal growth. Make oneself available to the public, have open, honest conversations with anyone needing assistance/guidance. Provide citizen academies/youth explorer posts for persons interested in law enforcement and those desiring to learn about police functions and duties.

Deaths in Custody: Remind and retrain personnel of their position and oath of office they took. Move away from traditional police training, work, expectations, and response, im-

plementing de-escalation measures. Custody deaths must be thoroughly investigated, and the family kept fully apprised of the process and findings. Make appropriate assistance programs immediately available to the family and officers involved.

Women's Jail: We know that women must never be housed in the same facilities as men. If building a women's jail is to meet growth of female inmates, then why are we experiencing such growth? How can programs help diminish growth? This is not a subject that I have all the facts for and would not be able to truly provide an educated, honest response to until then.

COUNTY CONSTABLE

PRECINCT 1

Tonya Nixon (D)

Unopposed

PRECINCT 2

Adán Ballesteros (D)

Unopposed

PRECINCT 3

Stacy Suits (D)

Unopposed

PRECINCT 4

George Morales (D)

Unopposed

PRECINCT 5

Carlos B. Lopez (D)

Unopposed

TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR

Critical issue: What is the most critical issue in the county tax assessor's office and how do you plan to address it?

Strengths: What would be your greatest strengths as tax assessor, and how have you demonstrated these strengths in your life and career?

COVID-19: How will you help those most affected financially by COVID-19, such as small businesses and unemployed persons?



Bruce Elfant (D)

Background: I have spent my career helping shape public policy. I have drafted and worked to pass legislation and conceived and implemented programs that benefit state and local citizens.

Education: BS, Communication, UT Austin-1980; Associates Degree, Criminal Justice, ACC-1995

Campaign Website: <http://Bruceelfant.com>

Critical issue: Ensure that the \$5.5 Billion collected by the Tax Office each year is securely and efficiently collected and dispersed to more than 130 state and local jurisdictions. I increased security and lowered costs by increasing online col-

lections by nearly \$1 Billion, improved internal audit tools and requested outside audits. I also implemented the nation's first E-Title program for auto dealers.

Strengths: I have collaborated with state and local partners for 35 years to implement beneficial programs including the state's 1st clean energy and water conservation financing program, 1st unregistered voter maps and a unique "data lake" that enables auditors to more closely detect errors and fraud. And I collaborated with the LWV-Austin to provide a First Vote civic engagement curriculum for students.

COVID-19: When the impacts of COVID-19 first began to force closures and layoffs, I was the first to ask Governor Abbott to suspend vehicle registration and title deadlines and penalty and interest on delinquent property taxes so we could offer more flexible and affordable payment plans. We are working closely with property tax payers who were adversely impacted to help keep them from losing their homes.



Marilyn Jackson (R)

Background: Born in Austin, TX, One of nine siblings, worked in both state government and private sector.

Education: High School and some College; studied Public Administration at St.

Edwards University.

Campaign Website: <http://MarilynforTexas.com>

Critical issue: [Portion of response removed; does not meet criteria.] I will appoint an outside audit, and do a full reset. I will also revamp, retool, and update the office and the customer service department and satellite offices and streamline the process. Also, I want to make certain that Voter Registration is done in an ethical and trustworthy manner.

Strengths: Integrity and the desire to dot every "i" and cross every "t." I have always tried to live an upright life, and have been a very law abiding citizen with an excellent work ethic. I have always enjoyed bringing solutions to problems. I have learned to provide excellent customer service as I have dealt with customers and clients, and trouble shooting throughout my career.

COVID-19: As far as the parameters of the position of Tax Assessor/Collector will allow, I will help create payment plans for those who have been affected, and will work with them to help them keep from losing their property or go out of business.



LOCAL WILLIAMSON COUNTY

DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

Fairness: What quality is critical for a judge to possess for fair administration of justice, and how have you demonstrated this quality?

Priorities: Explain how this office is important to your constituents and provide details of your plans for improvement.

Equity: How would you ensure that all individuals who enter your court receive equal access to justice?

COVID-19: How would you balance public safety with general access to the court during the pandemic?

.....

26TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Brian McConnell (D)



Background: I have been a lawyer since the year 2000. I have worked as a prosecutor and a defense attorney. I have also helped many people navigate their civil/personal injury claims.

Education: High school class of 1981. I studied in the USAF and worked on aircraft. I graduated from The University of Texas in 1989. I graduated from South Texas College of Law 2000.

Campaign Website: <http://www.brianmcconnellforjudge.com/>

Fairness: Open mindedness & humility are qualities a judge must possess. I have humbly grown from a young man to a humble, open minded adult. I have learned each person travels a unique path in life, colored by their individual background and life experiences. Going through my life, I have been willing to reconsider my viewpoint(s) to better understand other people. And I am better, wiser, for it.

Priorities: The people of Williamson County must believe, and it must be the fact, that the court is fair, impartial and equally available to all constituents. I will administer the rule of law without prejudice. At the end of the day a dispute will be resolved in court. One party is often more pleased than the other. But my goal is for all parties leaving the courthouse to know they were treated fairly.

Equity: People before the District Court are facing stressful, grave matters. Too often wealth and access to money determine people's fate in the legal system. People accused of non-violent offenses often sit in jail solely due to lack of money. When appropriate, especially in non-violent cases, I will set fair, achievable bonds. This will serve both the taxpayer and the presumptively innocent accused.

COVID-19: I will be at my post daily. I will use technology to maintain the docket as available. I will resist in person gatherings whenever possible and continue as such until it is safe to conduct in-person gatherings at the courthouse. Public safety is paramount. Open courts are essential. When the

two collide, public safety takes precedent. The pandemic should not be ignored for judicial economy.



Donna King (R)

Background: I am a native of Round Rock. Before becoming Judge of the 26th, I was a prosecutor, defense attorney and municipal court judge. I am married with 4 children and 6 dogs.

Education: Round Rock High School, 1988 B.A. Angelo State University, 1992 J.D. Texas Tech University School of Law, 1995

Campaign Website: <http://king4judge.com>

Fairness: Justice means a level playing field for all. Objectivity/neutrality are necessary as politics/bias have no place in the courtroom. One example is the Greg Kelley case where he sought to have his conviction overturned after serving 3 years in prison. Justice required a second look. I ultimately concluded that Mr. Kelley be declared "actually innocent" which was unanimously upheld upon review.

Priorities: Voters in Williamson County should have confidence that judges are experienced, compassionate and understand what's important to them. As Judge I've made the Court more transparent, efficient and accessible. I've implemented, and plan to continue, new programs for youthful defendants and those impacted by mental illness, to reduce recidivism and get defendants the help they need to be productive.

Equity: Indigent criminal defendants don't have money to hire an attorney, therefore, access to competent counsel must be a priority. I am very involved in oversight of the indigent defense plan and ensure accountability for lawyers who take these cases. Also, access to justice can be improved through the use of technology. I kept my court open during the pandemic by conducting court virtually.

COVID-19: The wheels of justice cannot stop during a pandemic. Keeping the courts open was and is a priority. I drafted the first electronic/virtual hearing process in March in order to do just that. I also developed a virtual process for empaneling a new Grand Jury so that cases could be considered for indictment without delay. These platforms have also been adopted for use in civil cases.

395TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT



Lucio del Toro (D)

Background: Born in the small town of Alice and raised in nearby Corpus Christi. Grandson of immigrants, child of parents raised as farm workers, father of three great teenagers.

Education: University of Texas at Austin, B.A. Government, Class of 2002 Texas Tech School of Law, J.D., Class of 2005

Campaign Website: <http://www.ldtforjudge.com>

Fairness: The most critical quality for a judge is to have perspective and understanding of the individuals coming before the court. I have obtained this knowledge in my 15 years of practicing family, criminal, and civil law. Representing individuals in courts throughout Central Texas, and through my work as an Assistant District Attorney, I have the experience to bring Balanced Justice to our courthouse.

Priorities: The 395th District Court is a court that all types of cases and sees families at their most critical juncture. I plan to raise the expectations of what we expect from a Judge. I will not only apply the law fairly on a case by case basis, but work to implement reforms and policies that will make our justice system more efficient, fair, and work for everyone regardless of their zip code.

Equity: Equal access to justice is achieved by not only having a court system that reduces case back logs so that families can be heard, but also breaking down barriers outside of the court room. We can begin achieving this by working with community partners to establish services and programs for families and individuals who need access to counseling and treatment instead of litigation and incarceration.

COVID-19: This balance can be achieved by reforming the manner in which court has traditionally been held. The advances in technology have made it possible to streamline cases and prioritize those who are required to appear in-person or remotely. I have the practical experience and bold leadership to transform business as usual and change our justice system for the better.



Ryan Larson (R)

Background: I am the judge of the 395th District Court, which primarily hears family and Child Protective Services cases. I am a devoted family man, committed to improving our community.

Education: UCLA, B.A., Political Science (NCAA Track & Cross-Country All-State Athlete; Campus Crusade for Christ); Southwestern University School of Law, J.D.

Campaign Website: <http://www.voteryanlarson.com>

Fairness: As a young man, I followed in my father's footsteps laboring as an iron worker to pay for school. That experience taught me the importance of persistence and hard work, as well as empathy for the struggles of people in our community. Those qualities guide me daily as I face a multitude of difficult decisions that affect people from all walks of life.

Priorities: This office protects children from abuse and neglect, including victims of human trafficking. As the appointed judicial representative to Texas' Statewide Task Force to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect, I worked with other state leaders to improve the child welfare system. Additionally, I recently launched the Family Recovery Court—aimed at addressing core problems such as addiction.

LOCAL WILLIAMSON COUNTY

395TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Ryan Larson (R) (continued)

Equity: In my first term, I brought systemic change to the judicial system through the creation of the Family Recovery Court. This specialty court is designed to break cycles of addiction and untreated mental health conditions. It provides critical services not previously provided to families in our community. I spearheaded this initiative to ensure the equal administration of justice for all people.

COVID-19: Recognizing the seriousness of the Covid-19

pandemic, along with the need to keep our legal system moving, I worked countless hours with the legal community to implement our first ever fully remote court system. Based on that hard work, we were back to hearings and bench trials before the end of March.

425TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Betsy F. Lambeth (R)

Unopposed

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

26TH DISTRICT

Shawn Dick (R)

Unopposed

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Priorities: Explain how this office is important to your constituents and provide details of your plans for improvement.

Public Engagement: How would you promote public confidence in and engagement with this office?

Imprisonment alternatives: What steps, if any, would you take to expand diversion programs and seek alternatives to imprisonment for defendants?

Bail: Do you think that cash bail or personal bonds better protect public safety? Please explain.

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Stan O. Springerley (D)

Background: Previously with Smith County District Attorney's Office (Tyler, TX) and current Assistant Counsel to Williamson County Commissioners Court. Lifelong Texan, husband and dad.

Education: J.D. from SMU School of Law (1999); B.A. from the University of Texas at Tyler (1995); and A.A.S. from Tyler Junior College (1990).

Campaign Website: <http://sosforwilco.com>

Priorities: The office has great impact and handles misdemeanors, juvenile law, CPS cases, domestic violence protective orders, and mental commitments. The office is currently mismanaged with too high of a turnover rate and clogged court dockets, which costs the taxpayers more due to inefficiencies. My goal is to restore good management, focus on core functions, provide stability and uphold public safety.

Public Engagement: Instead of political decision making behind closed doors, I will create a criminal justice coordinating committee where all stakeholders may attend a public forum to address concerns and issues relevant to the legal systems in Williamson County. The courtroom is a place where justice is done and truth is discovered, and it must be transparent while treating all individuals equally and fairly.

Imprisonment alternatives: I intend a full review of office procedures and policies—e.g., how bond forfeiture cases are handled and how this may affect the bail bond system. I will work with budget writers to allocate funding and prioritize programs and systems representing alternatives to incarceration while keeping communities safe and saving the taxpayers money.

Bail: The Texas Constitution art. I, § 11 requires the availability of bail in most cases and prohibits “excessive bail.” Thus, bail must have reasonable fact-driven application. Taxpayers fund the high costs of housing inmates on minor crimes; therefore, increasing release options like more personal bonds for those charged with non-violent crimes and no history of danger to the public makes sense.

Dee Hobbs (R)

No response received

COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Growth: How will you ensure purposeful growth and development to improve living and business conditions in Williamson County?

Transparency: What, if anything, would you do to promote transparency and accountability regarding controversial cases handled by the Sheriff's Department?

Quarry Activities: What policies or regulations would you propose, if any, to ensure safe quarry activities and address blasting affecting neighborhoods and flying debris from trucks?

Criminal Justice: What actions would you take as a commissioner to uphold the proper administration of justice in our county?

.....

PRECINCT 1



Terry Cook (D)

Background: Commissioner for last 3.75 years; prior, small business owner in Property Staging; 23 years in high tech: S/W Engineering, Engineering Mgmt., Marketing

Education: BS Biochemistry, East Carolina University; MS Biomedical Engineering, Duke University

Campaign Website: <http://terryforwilco.com> or wilco.org/comm1

Growth: With no ability to zone & 4% county population growth, work with the cities on road needs & priorities. Continuously update County Long-Range Transportation Plan of corridors, arterials & limited access roads on map to aid cities & developers in their planning & land acquisition, minimizing right-of-way costs to taxpayers. Wisely

consider any economic incentives; carefully rank & approve projects

Transparency: Tricky. Sheriff is an elected official & Commissioners Court has no power over elected officials beyond approval for budget, contracts and building use. Facing more lawsuits & EEOC charges in 3.5-yr against SO than prior admin of 16 yrs. County named in all legal cases; cannot publicly speak of them. Public access findings provided thru Public Information Act; fund needs not wants.

Quarry Activities: County has no authority to make laws, ordinances or zone. State regulates quarries and truck weights/restrictions. Can work with quarry owners to reduce impact to region & roads; encourage DPS/Sheriff to monitor & enforce truck weight restrictions & speeds. TCEQ enforces air quality; county can alert TCEQ of perceived ambient air issues.

Criminal Justice: Know how it is done today; be partner in discussions of changes; fund programs & positions appro-

LOCAL WILLIAMSON COUNTY

PRECINCT 1

Terry Cook (D) (continued)

privately encouraging judges to improve efficiency and fairness under the law. I have observed County Courts at Law & District Courts; I meet with many of our judges to understand their dilemmas in conducting business; have approved funding changes for improvement. Our specialty courts are magnificent.



Nikki Gonzales (R)

Background: As a proven leader in the community, I have served six years on the RRISD school board. I have worked 20 years in government relations both inside and out of the Capitol.

Education: Bachelors degree in Criminal Justice from Texas State University

Campaign Website: <https://nikkifortexas.com/>

Growth: As a proven leader in this community, I will continue to work on managing the growth of Pct. 1 by keeping infrastructure and mobility as a top priority in the area I represent while also listening to my constituents. Balancing a budget that represents the true needs of this community while not making senseless tax hikes on the back of our taxpayers. Making Pct.1 a great place to live and work.

Transparency: Having a background in Criminal Justice, I would work for any needed policy changes with the Sheriff's department to ensure transparency as well as accountability. I would advocate for the court and the Sheriff's Department to build a more adhesive partnership that will only benefit the Citizens of Wilco I hope to achieve an open dialog to formulate trust between the Court and Sheriff's Department

Quarry Activities: Williamson County has to date 34 quarries in the county so it is paramount that the standards of operation meet all legal requirements while ensuring the health of our citizens and minimalizing damage to our environment. Working with state and federal regulatory agencies to ensure the county is putting the citizens first as this industry grows within Williamson County.

Criminal Justice: Administrative Justice typically focuses on corrections and law enforcement and the criminal justice system as a whole. Before one can take action, they must be well versed in all areas of that agency. My first action would be closer examine they Williamson County Criminal Justice System and focus on what can be done collaboratively to reduce the numbers of offenders as well as recidivism.

PRECINCT 3



Sharon Cummings (D)

Background: President Ombudsmen of Hawaii Contracting Officer US Navy PACNAVFACENGCOM Pearl Harbor, HI, Program Analyst US Navy PHD NSWC Port Hueneme, CA Sales Dell,

Round Rock, TX

Education: Bachelor of Science Baylor University. Certified Professional Contracts Manager (CPCM)

Campaign Website: <http://sharon4thepeople.com/>

Growth: Vote for and Promote Renewable Energy that will bring good jobs Prioritize building Quality Affordable Workforce Housing close to work, school, shopping.

Transparency: Light is a great cleanser. I'll make as many of the facts available as possible. I'll condemn bad behavior and highlight the good. I'll not be silent while our people are abused. I'll use what influence I have to weed out the abusing Officers and thereby make both Citizens and Conscientious Officers alike Safer.

Quarry Activities: I, like most people, want business to move here and provide good jobs, but if an entity harms those around them, they must make amends as a normal cost of doing business. If we hold true to that rule, Business will find a safer way to operate. I work for the taxpayers. My job is keep them and their property safe.

Criminal Justice: Work to re-imagine Our Justice System based on Respect and Fairness. Our people are not the enemy. Vote for Less Boy Toys, More Funds for our Mental Health Response Teams to be on call 24/7, 365 days/year. Direct funds to train Officers as More Andy Griffith and Less Barney Fife. Ankle Bracelets, not Bail, so our most vul-

nerable don't sit in Jail and lose the jobs, homes, waiting for Court.



Valerie Covey (R)

Background: Elected in '06 & serves on various boards: Animal Shelter, Mental Health, Conservation Foundation, Opportunities Wilco/Burnett Counties, TIDC. Led debt defeasance saving \$57M.

Education: Valerie Covey graduated from The University of Texas at Austin, where she earned a BBA degree in accounting. She has been a Certified Public Accountant for 35 years.

Campaign Website: <https://valericovey.com/>

Growth: Counties in Texas are unable to regulate land use; however, I believe that a strong transportation system enhances Williamson County's livability and helps maintain a high quality of life. I will continue to support our long-range transportation plan to maintain the safety and mobility of the area. Also, I support the County's new subdivision rules that promotes quality development.

Transparency: A Commissioner can promote transparency and accountability for another elected official's department through the budget and through careful review of items that are placed on the agenda. I will continue monitoring the requested agreements and projects and continue asking questions to hold elected officials accountable for their actions.

Quarry Activities: With Texas' growth quarries are needed for homes & roads. However, quarries should not be allowed to make living conditions unsafe or unbearable for their neighbors. More transparency is needed during the permitting process. Quarries are regulated by the state & I will continue to work with our legislators on reasonable regulation and enforcement re: blasting, dust, water quality & rocks on roads.

Criminal Justice: I will continue to advocate for necessary funding to our criminal justice system & continue to work with our Judiciary to implement pretrial services aiming to assist magistrates thru a risk assessment to evaluate appropriate bail. This will help keep low risk offenders out of our jail enabling them to work & remain at home while waiting to appear in court.

SHERIFF

Mike Gleason (D)

No response received

Robert Chody (R)

No response received

CONSTABLE

Priorities: Explain how this office is important to your constituents and provide details of your plans for improvement.

Transparency: How would you improve community trust and promote transparency in your office?

Civil Process: How can your office improve the service of civil process for the court system?

Mental Health: Describe how your office would improve interactions with people suffering from mental health issues.



PRECINCT 1



Mickey Chance (D)

Background: I have been a resident of Williamson/Travis Counties for 57 years. I joined the Travis County Sheriff's Office in 1991, peace officer since 1997. Served as a sergeant for

16 years.

Education: Graduate of Round Rock High School in 1981,

LOCAL WILLIAMSON COUNTY

PRECINCT 1

Mickey Chance (D) (continued)

bachelor's degree in Business Management for Concordia Lutheran College in 1986.

Campaign Website: <http://mickey4wilco.com>

Priorities: Constables are mandated to serve civil process and protect the Justice Courts. I believe the elected Constable has a duty to the community to run the office in the most efficient manner possible. Improvements can be made through the use of technology for all office operations and by ensuring all Deputies are educated and proficient in civil process.

Transparency: I believe community trust hinges on transparency; public agencies have a duty to operate in a transparent manner. Law enforcement agencies must commit to the universal use of body and dash cameras. Video of critical incidents should be released as soon as possible, and all officers should be held accountable for violations of policy and law.

Civil Process: By focusing primarily on civil process, the office can greatly improve its service to the courts. Although Constables are peace officers, their primary duty is service to the courts. I believe the service of civil process should take precedent over service of low-level arrest warrants.

Mental Health: I believe that having a diverse group of deputies who reflect the population in the community is a good place to start. I believe all deputies should be trained Mental Health Officers, who possesses the skills and training to de-escalate people in crisis situations.

Vinnie Cherrone (R)

No response received

PRECINCT 2



Robert Tijerina (D)

Background: I have worked in law enforcement for 23 years. I worked for the Travis County Sheriffs Office for 11 years. I began my career as a correctional officer and later was promoted to the Patrol

Division. I am currently employed at Williamson County Pct. 2 and I have served as a Deputy Constable for the last 12 years. My family and I have been living in Cedar Park for 16 years.

Education: I graduated from Hobbs High School in New Mexico and attended Blinn Junior College, New Mexico Junior College and Austin Community College. I completed the Travis County Sheriff's Office Peace Officer Academy.

Campaign Website: <http://www.tijerinaforconstable.com>

Priorities: The office is a local point of contact for constituents seeking access to county resources and services. I plan to have extended business hours for persons working 8-5. We will implement brand new initiatives for senior citizens and for accessible parking for persons with disabilities. We will work with community partners to ensure resources are being used efficiently.

Transparency: We will open the Constable office to any person seeking access and maintain a policy of transparency and integrity. Access is only the beginning because all persons will be invited to be a participant in the initiatives we will implement. Under our leadership, the office will have a regular open house so the community can meet the staff and understand how the office works for the community.

Civil Process: We will work closely with the courts and their staff to ensure an open line of communication so the newly installed computer programs used by the Constables office and the courts is transferring information accurately and timely. Constable office staff will be provided with the proper training so our mission of delivering civil process efficiently to our customers is met.

Mental Health: All staff will receive periodic training with an emphasis on improving our ability to effectively, respectfully and safely interact with persons with mental illness and subsequently divert more of them away from the criminal justice system to mental health services. Our office will collaborate with area partners to provide mental health service information to all community members.



Jeff Anderson (R)

Background: I am married, have 4 children, and 6 grandchildren. I have lived in Leander since 1990. We have been members of Victory Baptist Church in Cedar park for over 25 years. I am retired from

both the Travis County Sheriff's Office and the US Air Force Reserves. I am a currently a small business owner, and a licensed real estate agent.

Education: I have a master peace officer and master corrections officer license. Am a graduate of Sam Houston States Leadership Command College—Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas. Am a graduate of FBI—Law Enforcement Executive Development. Studied Criminal Justice Organizational Management at Liberty University and American Military University.

Campaign Website: <http://www.jeffforconstable.com/>

Priorities: A constable is responsible for a precinct's civil processes, such as court summons and subpoenas for people to appear in court in civil matters and/or criminal matters. They investigate environmental crimes, and conduct other law enforcement activities. The way to curtail this is to increase manpower and to make sure that our deputy constables are well trained and equipped.

Transparency: My vision and mission is to work through the community engaging in communication cultivating a safer and stronger community. Our role in the community will be described as a vested interest. I will use my voice and position to advocate for those who can't. I advocate for fair equality, equal opportunities and the rights of citizens. Meeting with citizens is paramount.

Civil Process: Some defendants fail to show up for scheduled court appearances. When this happens, it not only disrupts the court docket, but it also contributes to additional court actions such as failure to appear or contempt of court proceedings. The way to curtail this is to work efficiently, increase manpower when/if necessary, and to make sure we are trained in issues that arise.

Mental Health: Make sure all personnel are CIT (Mental Health) certified and trained on handling emotionally disturbed persons. Reach out to non-profits who help handle a mental health crisis. Develop a working relationship with them and local hospitals to take in and treat someone suffering from a mental illness crisis. Do this instead of taking them to a jail facility. It is not the answer, intervention is.

PRECINCT 4



Perry Travis (D)

Background: New Orleans Police Officer for over 20 years. Recognized as the Police officer of the Year. Recognition from the Sheriff's Department Community Policing. Also, recognized by the U.S. Department of Justice Certificate of Appreciation.

Education: Pearl River College Orleans Levee District Police Academy Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff Academy Southern Anti-Terrorist Regional Training Academy Louisiana Mental Health Training Multi-jurisdictional Counterdrug Task Force Training Louisiana Supreme Court 5Th Circuit Training

Campaign Website: <http://perrytravis.com>

Priorities: This office is very significant to my constituents because I will assure that everyone's voice is heard and respected equally. I will make sure the community is informed of any change or improvement that will directly impact them while keeping them aware of the current events occurring within our community.

Transparency: I will provide a comfortable space where people feel free to express their emotions and concerns on certain issues in which I will take into great consideration to make changes. I will organize monthly meetings to ensure the community is informed and use that opportunity to prove feedback and listen to new ideas for future change.

Civil Process: I will ensure all police officers are providing the necessary court related documents and in the process

LOCAL WILLIAMSON COUNTY

PRECINCT 4

Perry Travis (D) (continued)

ensure that everything runs smoothly based on the courts decisions.

Mental Health: I will ensure everyone is able to take the appropriate training according to the right procedures. I will

provide safety and include everyone regardless of their disabilities. Everyone will be treated with respect within the Williamson County.

Paul Leal (R)

No response received

TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR

Larry Gaddes (R)

Unopposed

LOCAL CITY OF AUSTIN

CITY COUNCIL

Transparency: What strategies will you use to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall?

COVID-19: How do you expect COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact to affect your priorities?

Police Reform: What police reforms do you support, if any?

Growth: What specific actions related to city infrastructure would you introduce to city council to effectively manage growth (roads, utilities, etc.)?

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DISTRICT 2



David Chincanchan

Background: Community organizer with City Hall experience raised in Dove Springs. Fighting to empower working families and bring justice, equity, and opportunity to Southeast Austin.

Education: Proud first-generation college graduate from the University of Texas at Austin. Educated in AISD public schools, including J. Houston Elementary and Mendez Middle School.

Campaign Website: <http://www.DavidforD2.com/>

Transparency: Community engagement is key to representation. As someone who grew up in a working family with English as a second language, I know language access, job and childcare demands, and the digital divide, among other challenges, present major obstacles to participation. That's why I will proactively engage with the community and will work to ensure all residents have access to our local government.

COVID-19: COVID has made our priorities more urgent. District 2 has been disproportionately impacted because we have faced decades of institutional neglect, making us more vulnerable. We must protect our residents through paid sick leave, tenant protections like eviction moratoriums and utility assistance, stabilizing our childcare centers, assistance for medical expenses, and support for small businesses.

Police Reform: To better uphold justice, build public trust, and serve all of our communities, we need accountability

in public safety focused on inclusion. We need public safety leaders who understand that their role is to work in partnership with the community for progress. We must shift funding to preventative services, divert mental health calls to experts, create an officer early-warning system, and more.

Growth: District 2 has faced decades of infrastructure neglect, impacting health, mobility, and access to opportunity. We must invest in our parks, transit, flood mitigation, utilities, and more. Critically, we must prioritize funding based on equity. If we want an Austin that works for all, we cannot simply divide funding equally. We must take bold action to focus on historically neglected communities.



Vanessa Fuentes

Background: Raised in an immigrant, working-class family. Community organizer working to reduce health disparities. 10+ years working in progressive policy and advocacy.

Education: First generation college graduate. B.S. Public Relations from the University of Texas at Austin, Leadership Austin graduate 2011, Hispanic Austin Leadership graduate 2020.

Campaign Website: <http://www.VanessaForAustin.com>

Transparency: I want to let the people in. I want to bring the community's voice to City Hall and reshape how the City makes decisions that impact our daily lives. I will accomplish this by championing 21st century community engagement practices including virtual testimony from anywhere in the city, childcare availability at city hall, and electronic polling of the district on council agenda items.

COVID-19: This pandemic has magnified what many in our community have already known. There are deep structural inequities in Austin. We must improve and promote access to public health, healthcare, and social services which will help make our communities of color and low-wage Austinites more resilient to COVID-19 and future adversity.

Police Reform: We need to reimagine how we deliver public safety. We can do this by focusing on the parts of our community most negatively impacted by our criminal justice system. I support increased accountability and transparency

within the APD. Government has a significant role in ensuring the safety of our community. I support increased investments in mental health services and domestic violence prevention.

Growth: People continue to move to the urban areas in our state, straining local infrastructure. Expanding mass transit and increasing energy efficiency helps ensure that our city is not building more infrastructure than it needs. It's important that we not lose sight of the fundamentals needed to maintain the city. We need to ensure that our roads are repaired and sidewalks are connected.



Casey Ramos

Background: Family has lived in District 2 for three generations. Helped start numerous non-profit organizations that aim to advance and educate the people of District 2.

Education: High School Diploma from Akins High School Associates Degree from Austin Community College Bachelors Degree from St. Edward's University

Campaign Website: http://www.facebook.com/Casey-Ramos-District-2-112832543876629/?modal=admin_todo_tour

Transparency: Make all releasable information public; Communicate with the public through mass media to capture proper community engagement; Ensure that all departments are disaggregating data on contractors, clients, and community engagement participants; The city must provide information that is culturally appropriate and offers translation in various languages; Departments must offer accommodations.

COVID-19: Our immediate focus must be on measures to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and to treat the infected. Our policies must focus on providing help to individuals and small businesses while focusing on the greater need of the city. I believe that all decisions made will now have to include the impacts COVID-19 has on the outcome.

Police Reform: I believe that internal affairs should have a more engaged community policing program. One where police would need personal liability insurance to be a peace

LOCAL CITY OF AUSTIN

DISTRICT 2

Casey Ramos (continued)

officer. Much like how doctors have malpractice insurance. We would also advocate for stronger community engagement programs that teach citizens how to engage the police safely as well as distributing information on their rights as a citizen

Growth: Ensure that any up zoning of land for massive development must include responsible planning and infrastructure investment. The adoption of the Peoples' Plan which includes: Establish interim land restrictions in East Austin to limit the degradation of the natural and cultural environment; Establish a Low-Income Housing Trust Fund that makes public investments exclusively for income based housing.



Alex Strenger

Background: I am an activist, musician, athlete, and creative personality who drives a pedicab for a living. My job has enabled me to connect with a wide variety of people.

Education: B.A. Psychology SUNY Binghamton

Campaign Website: <https://www.alexanderstrenger.com/>

Transparency: Every single landlord should be required to disclose in writing why they are raising rent. Our council needs to be held accountable for its skyrocketing taxes and this will help bring to light the fact that higher taxes lead to higher rent. We also need to do a better job of giving honest and accurate Public Health advice related to covid-19 instead of peddling fear and division.

COVID-19: Our city used scientific misinformation in order to shut down our economy based on fear, destroying small businesses and decimating our economy. Today (8/30/2020) we found out via the CDC that 94% of all covid deaths either had pre-existing conditions or died of something else while having covid. We need to reopen our economy and also provide real aid to everyone in our service industry.

Police Reform: Our police need to consistently train in a grappling based martial art throughout their entire time in APD so that they are less likely to use excessive or deadly force when dealing with suspects. Our cops also need to have a current EMT basic certification throughout their entire time in law enforcement. We also need independent boards in order to investigate allegations of police misconduct.

Growth: Our city was shut down for over a month and a half and we made little to no progress on our roads and infrastructure during that time period. There was no better time to fix our roads, sidewalks etc then when people we're out of work and forced to stay at home, and we completely blew that opportunity.

DISTRICT 4



Greg Casar

Background: I'm a community organizer and a progressive fighter for everyday Austinites. I'm a champion for public safety reform, universal healthcare, and a safe & fair COVID recovery.

Education: BA, University of Virginia

Campaign Website: <http://www.casarforsouncil.com>

Transparency: When COVID hit and everything went virtual, I knew we needed to communicate more—not less—with our constituents. That's why I've started hosting town halls by phone and on the web. Hundreds of people have participated in each town hall event. I believe Austin should strive to be the most transparent and communicative local government in America.

COVID-19: We must prioritize saving lives. Many of the areas that were hit the hardest by COVID are in District 4. I'll implement our high-risk worker plan to keep essential workers safe. I will continue to champion the ban on evictions and to grow financial assistance for families and small businesses. We have free COVID testing in the heart of District 4, and we'll expand that further.

Police Reform: I will continue to champion police accountability, civil rights, and public safety for all. I was the lead sponsor of policies that banned police chokeholds, rewrote use-of-force rules, ended personal marijuana arrests, and reorganized the City budget to create mental health first responders, family violence shelters, gun violence intervention programs, homeless services, youth programs and more.

Growth: We've put Propositions A & B on the ballot this November that will save us time stuck in traffic, and gives us options to walk, bike, or take rapid transit. We can have clean electric public transportation that will help us reduce climate change and pollution, and create thousands of jobs building, engineering, and maintaining a real public transportation system.



Louis C. Herrin III

Background: Forty years as an Environmental Engineer. Serve as co-chair Campus Advisory Committee at Johnson High School and finance board at my church, and work with the Boy Scout.

Education: I am a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University. I am a register Professional Engineer in the State of Texas.

Campaign Website: <http://Louisherrin.com>

Transparency: I believe the city need to change the way they do business, first public hearings before the whole council should not be held during regular agenda meetings. These hearings should be held at a date and time and if possible at location that the people most affected by this issued

can attend. The way they conduct business the average citizen cannot participate with taking off at work or school.

COVID-19: With the loss of millions in tax revenue from all the cancel events and closings, I am worry that the council is going to take money from the maintenance funds from departments like Parks to fund their pet projects, instead of improving the quality of life in Austin. This is important because under the proposed CodeNEXT there will not be any new single family lots, kids can only play in the parks.

Police Reform: I believe all programs need to be review periodically to see what is and is not working and how we can make our programs better. What the city council did to police department without an audit of their system was criminal. No, I do not support the police defunding that the council did. Austin need a city council that leaded and a council that follows what is happening on the west coast.

Growth: First, Austin needs is for all the utilities to have a good asset management program. Managing growth you need to know the conditions of your infrastructures. Second, Austin need a realistic transportation plan not one that put barriers to driving your car so you are force to either ride your bike or walk maybe a mile to a bus stop in 100 degree heat.



Ramesses II Setepenre

Background: Self-Funded, Gay Eco-Socialist; Pro-Black, Brown, LGBTQIA+, Women's rights, Indigenous rights, Sex-Work, Drug Decriminalization, Health-care-for-all, Abolishing police unions.

Education: LMT from ACC & Working on a degree in Anthropology.

Transparency: When I worked at City Hall in 2018, my paycheck was defrauded. Yet management didn't do anything—it wasn't until I went publicly 13 months later that staff and management finally communicated and payed me—Yes, Wage theft happens even at City Hall—So my strategy would be to do business publicly, and to take things publicly so that the whole world knows—Spilling the Tea.

COVID-19: Divest funding to increase healthcare access, small businesses resuscitation, job creation, housing accommodation/eviction support, mental health access, and overall community support— When your environment changes, adapt.

Police Reform: De-Arming, De-Militarizing, Divesting, & Defunding. Abolishing Qualified Immunity & Police Unions. Increasing educational standards, age, and length of training. Independent investigations. Demoting the police chief via firing city manager Cronk. I don't believe in putting people in socially isolated human zoos—a.k.a Prison/Jail—as a means to rehabilitate them. Overall, Criminal Justice reform.

Growth: I would inquire multiple specialists that deal with city infrastructure, and then seek a proposal. This pedantic question principally shows the flaw in our government; We

LOCAL CITY OF AUSTIN

DISTRICT 4

Ramesses II Setepenre (continued)

expect politicians to have the scope of knowledge of multiple, lifetime professions as doctors, engineers, architects, climate-change experts, and scientists etc. I would call in the experts, instead of giving opinions.

DISTRICT 6



James 'Jimmy' Flannigan

Background: Lifelong Democrat w/extensive record of bipartisan work & leadership; 20yr NW Austin resident & small biz owner; NW Austin Coalition founder; frmr Pres. of Austin LGBT Chamber

Education: University of Texas McCombs School of Business, BBA—2001; University of Phoenix, MBA—2004.

Campaign Website: <http://www.jimmyflannigan.com>

Transparency: Our dynamic D6 constituent response via direct calls and email, plus outreach via 60+ town halls & over 1200 neighborhood, group, and stakeholder meetings will exceed these numbers in our 2nd term. We maintain 7 vibrant social media accts and websites, and I host a weekly livestream show. D6 constituents are #1: Open, diligent lines of comms are essential for the farthest district from City Hall. **COVID-19:** As COVID impacts essential \$\$ like hotel and sales tax, we've worked hard to address immediate health, safety, & economic needs of our most vulnerable. Immediately after shutdown I sponsored successful efforts to use fed \$\$ for small business, nonprofit, and childcare support. Affordability, public safety, and mobility are critical for future sustainability, and remain my top priorities.

Police Reform: First responders are our partners in public safety reform to serve & protect all citizens. Our transparent process includes officers & expert insight; research-driven data; training overhaul; and new investments in mental health 911 call diversion. As Public Safety Committee chair, I will ensure pragmatic fiscal responsibility so we can save \$\$ & remain one of the safest major cities in the US.

Growth: I voted no as CAMPO politics diverted \$\$ from 620 to I-35 & threw down the gauntlet—D6 must be a regional priority: With new & upgraded roads in D6, transit to D6 in Project Connect, the 100-yr Water Forward plan, new flood & wildfire solutions, and smart, efficient land use policies, my commitment to infrastructure in D6, the city's fastest growing area, is a 1st on Austin City Council.



Dee Harrison

Background: 15 years experience in community-based corrections and 15 years in Emergency Management at state and local levels serving crime victims, disaster survivors, & gov't officials.

Education: BS Criminal Justice, Sam Houston State University; Certified Emergency Manager; Master Continuity of Operations Practitioner; National Emergency Management Advanced Academy

Campaign Website: <http://www.deeharrisonfordistrict6.com>

Transparency: Effective communication and constituent services are critical for transparency. I will advocate leveraging existing platforms across the region to identify available pilot projects and grant funding for technology to improve communications, at a reduced cost wherever possible, and methods of distributing information to those communities that do not have connectivity or access to the internet.

COVID-19: We are facing unprecedented economic losses due to COVID-19. Residents have lost their jobs and their businesses. Some lost their homes, their coworkers, families, and friends. The city is facing a revenue shortfall and must be ready to rapidly adapt to these losses without placing undue tax burdens on homeowners and businesses. We must find ways to leverage capacity to meet the needs of our city.

Police Reform: I support the transition to problem-oriented policing, using evidence-based findings to support police reforms. Based on my experience working with law enforcement, crime victims, survivors, social services, the courts, and offenders, I do not support moving crime victim services out of the police department or reducing funding for drunk driver enforcement. We need to adopt current AI technology.

Growth: We must protect and enhance the capacity of our community lifelines and essential city services. I will advocate for more regional data-driven analysis and adoption of evidence-based solutions. We must adopt city planning efforts that reflect the long-term COVID-19-related reduction in tax revenues, changes in community population patterns, and develop more affordable housing solutions.



Mackenzie Kelly

Background: I was born and raised in Austin, Texas, in what is now considered District 6. I spent eight years as a volunteer firefighter at the Jollyville Fire Department.

Education: Class of 2005 graduate of Westwood High School. Some uncollege courses taken at Austin Community College, American Military University and Harvard University Extension School.

Campaign Website: <http://www.mackenzieforaustin.com>

Transparency: My strategy to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall include personally engaging in the constituency in person as well as online via social media to ensure their voices are heard. By hearing what the majority of our community needs and not just listening to those who show up to council meetings we will be opening up the echochamber that city hall has become.

COVID-19: COVID-19 has hurt many business owners and property owners in Austin. I would work to ensure that property taxes are not raised during an economic downturn and provide resources to people that have had their job situation affected by COVID. In addition I would ensure that meetings were accessible to anyone wanting to attend via online or other ways.

Police Reform: I support fully funding the police department and auditing their training programs. I would also be in support of funding additional training to officers. I would also support community policing which enables officers to build a presence and personable connections with local community members before a crime or shooting happens.

Growth: I would advocate for better roads. Currently the 620 corridor is being neglected. It was built for 40,000 travelers per day and is now over 75,000. This is a clear way we could assist those living in the four points area. Traffic is a concern in Austin and will continue to be one until we are able to fix our roads and make sure they can handle their capacity long term.



Jennifer Mushtaler

Background: I am an actively practicing board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist, an experienced successful small business owner, and a civic leader.

Education: Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Cum-Laude, The University of Texas, Austin; Doctorate of Medicine, UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas

Campaign Website: <http://DrJenforATX.com>

Transparency: I am committed to listening to the needs of District 6 and Austinites just as I do with my patients. I believe in exchanging ideas in a respectful and collaborative manner befitting of the office. I believe that government must be easily and universally accessible to all its citizens. This includes timely notice of meetings, citizen input and accurate documentation of actions taken.

COVID-19: As a medical doctor, I would take a public health, science-based approach to ensure clear public messaging regarding safety measures for our health, to get our students in school and to get our businesses open. I would prioritize an integrated and fully-funded public health system so that we can effectively treat the current crisis and address other chronic public health needs.

Police Reform: I will advocate for a city that is safe and for law enforcement that performs without prejudice or undue force. I do not believe in withdrawing funds necessary to ensure citizen safety, nor do I believe in shaming our law enforcement. I believe that citizen stakeholders should partner with our law enforcement to increase community-based programs and provide oversight into recruitment and training.

Growth: I would undertake critical connecting road projects that have been delayed or de-funded. I would advo-

LOCAL CITY OF AUSTIN

DISTRICT 6

Jennifer Mushtaler (continued)

cate for fully funding the sidewalk and bicycle master plan. I would implement water-saving recommendations of the Water Forward plan. I will prioritize infrastructure necessary to address flooding risks, wildfire risks and safe emergency evacuation plans in the event of either.

DISTRICT 7



Leslie Pool

Background: Council Member, District 7. 40-yr Austin resident. Running for final 4-year term. First person elected to serve this North-Central district on the new 10-one Council in 2014.

Education: MPAff, LBJ School of Public Affairs, 2000 (thesis not completed). Leadership Austin Class of 1999. B.A. cum laude, Communications & Literature, Grove City College, 1977.

Campaign Website: <http://lesliepoolcampaign.com>

Transparency: Throughout the pandemic and as we move forward, I am continuing to look for ways to build on the work I have already accomplished with respect to open, accessible, and transparent government. Transparency and accountability are core elements for building trust in government. How the City communicates, inward and outward, and how it connects with the community it serves, is of paramount importance.

COVID-19: We successfully navigated the FY21 budget, leaning on strong fiscal policies, financial relief support from various federal agencies, and a generally strong pre-COVID economy. I'm less sure what our community will look like a year from now, thinking that the hard economy is still ahead of us. I am optimistic, still, because of the strength of our policies and the resilience of our residents.

Police Reform: I listened to my constituents, and worked closely with advocates from criminal justice and policing groups to pass a slate of proposals that included a comprehensive audit of Austin's police force. This includes a top-to-bottom evaluation of recruiting, outreach, Academy curriculum, & train-the-trainer protocols, to effect cultural change & return APD to its core mission: the safety of the public.

Growth: I voted to put Mobility Bonds on the ballot in 2016, 2018, and 2020. Municipal governments traditionally use public securities to finance civic infrastructure. Austin has been in the midst of a building boom for at least the last decade as the city strives to keep up with the population growth. We could use more support from Texas state government and the federal government.



Morgan Witt

Background: A born-and-raised Austinite with a background in education, workforce training, community advocacy, and data/analytics. Experienced in project and change management.

Education: Bachelor of Science in Education, Bachelor of Arts in Spanish Linguistics (Southwestern University); Associate of Arts in Psychology (Austin Community College)

Campaign Website: <http://www.morganforaustin.com>

Transparency: City Hall's goal should be proactive outreach to residents, like through building partnerships with community leaders and organizations. Offices should exist in each district and more public meetings held online or in different locations. We should offer translated services and materials in more languages. I'd also invest in the Equity Office and integrate them into policy and process creation.

COVID-19: COVID-19 has only made Austin's need for change more urgent. We must focus on creating ample, equitable access to services and resources residents need to build strength/resiliency, especially in communities most vulnerable to hardship. For the long-term, build more affordable housing; pass Project Connect for a mobile and sustainable Austin; and make participating in democracy more accessible.

Police Reform: Going beyond budget changes, I want to redirect all civilian functions to appropriate civilian agencies and invest in community services for education, poverty, health services, and homelessness. Also establish independent processes for internal investigation/prosecution, forensics, victims services; bolster police accountability measures; overhaul academy curriculum and training requirements.

Growth: Urban sprawl seems cheap now, but in the long run makes housing costs, infrastructure, and property taxes higher. I'll reform our land use code to build more homes within city limits and make home buying more accessible. This can increase our tax revenue base without increasing taxes. If we reduce sprawl, it'll also reduce transport costs and the need to build new roads and utility infrastructure.

DISTRICT 10



Alison Alter

Background: I am a mom, entrepreneur, educator, and now a City Council Member. I have advocated for parks, the environment, schools, and gun safety because I want our community to thrive.

Education: BA in Public Policy, Stanford University; Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government, Harvard University; Leadership Austin Essentials Class 2015

Campaign Website: <http://alisonalter.com>

Transparency: I've worked to improve transparency, communication, and accountability at City Hall because everyday Austinites don't have special interest lobbyists. I provide detailed newsletters with updates on votes, initiatives, and ways to get involved. I hold monthly office hours, host town halls, meet with residents, send out community surveys, and spend hours responding to calls and emails each week.

COVID-19: Since March, I've focused on financial relief to local small businesses, nonprofits and childcare centers; improving our public health response; and protecting the most vulnerable. I also will continue to increase EMS and public health resources and to train and deploy unemployed Austinites in health and infrastructure jobs through the Austin Civilian Conservation Corps and other opportunities.

Police Reform: The steps I have taken so far will create a safer, healthier community for everyone. I advanced reforms to our police contract, cadet academies, recruiting, and training, focusing on de-escalation, implicit bias, and accountability. We must further increase investments in victim services, mental health, and violence prevention as we re-examine how the tools we deploy can best meet community needs.

Growth: I've championed recently adopted plans to improve mobility, shift to renewable energy affordably, and manage our water supply. It's time to implement. To grow responsibly, we also must improve broadband infrastructure and adopt new impact fees so developers pay their fair share for sidewalks and traffic mitigation. I'll insist that developers invest in our parks and control runoff and flooding.



Ben Easton

Background: Grew up in Houston, proud American, proud Texan, want to be, once again, a proud Austinite. Teacher, freelance writer, political philosopher, advocate of limited government.

Education: St. John's School, Houston; Washington & Lee University, Virginia; Grove School of Music, LA; School of common sense; Student of laissez faire economics, freedom, and justice.

Campaign Website: <http://beneastondistrict10.org>

Transparency: I have a lifelong habit of speaking my mind, often "unfiltered," meaning that I say things more boldly, clearly, articulately, and emphatically than most ... certainly most politicians and government stooges. In other words, I call a spade a spade. I tell the truth. You can quote me at any time, in any medium. I pledge to not use the PC gobbledygook other candidates and incumbents love to use.

COVID-19: COVID-19 has affected everybody in every aspect of life. This is unfortunate and tragic ... and foolish. The overall reactions and responses, from most people, liberal and conservative, have been fear-based and unnecessarily debilitating. I advocate an immediate lifting of the "Shut-

LOCAL CITY OF AUSTIN

DISTRICT 10

Ben Easton (continued)

down” mentality. Open the city! Open businesses! Open life! If you want to wear a mask and stay home, then do so.

Police Reform: A “reform” implies a major policy shift, not just the obvious and ongoing dedication to fine-tuning and improving any and all daily and weekly protocols. The recent cry to defund the APD is absurd and childish. To hold back resources from the most important branch of city government—our protectors—would be catastrophic to those who expect an answer to a call for help. Do so at your own risk!

Growth: We can do better in coordinating road work, utility work, street repairs. Whoever is running the show presently is obviously not out on the streets and sidewalks to see how interrupted traffic flow has become. I see barriers blocking major intersections for weeks at a time. Too many lanes stolen for buses and bicycles! Eliminate most e-scooters! Provide daily road crews to clean and clear the way!



Belinda Greene

Background: As a working mom, wife and native Texan, I offer a moderate perspective on issues facing our city. I believe much of our community does not believe in extremes.

Education: Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing, University of Houston-Clear Lake, Houston, Texas

Campaign Website: <http://greene4council.com>

Transparency: I will work to employ strategies that communicate city council updates and information in a concise and digestible manner. Currently, information provided by the city is hard to find, vague, and not easy to understand. I will continue to create and distribute a District 10 newsletter.

COVID-19: My platform and priorities will stay the same. I expect that COVID-19 planning will continue to be a part of all planning initiatives for the near future. We need to act in an agile manner to ensure that we are flexible to COVID-19.

Police Reform: The current police budget reform weakens the police force without addressing the real issues. I support better training at all stages of a police officer’s career, including training that focuses on social outreach with more positive community engagement. I support the review and understanding of what can be removed from APD’s duties, so they focus specifically on public safety.

Growth: It is widely agreed that transportation is a key issue for the growing Austin community. COVID-19 is currently changing the need for public transportation. What I would introduce is a Transportation Impact Study to assess the current and future demands from Austin businesses and workers. We need to understand what the future workforce will look like before investing funds in transportation.



Pooja Sethi

Background: Lawyer, nonprofit founder & mom. Serve on City of Austin Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission, Climate Plan Steering Committee, & ACC Regional Advisory Committee

Education: BA in Sociology specializing in Criminal Justice, Minor in Psychology from George Washington University; JD from Syracuse University College of Law

Campaign Website: <http://www.poojaforaustin.com>

Transparency: Open communication and transparency are top priorities for me to improve accountability. I would assess options to maintain virtual participation in city council meetings, advocate for more communication on possible agenda items, and create a District 10 Neighborhood Ambassador Program. In my district, I would hold monthly town halls and have weekly office hours to get public input and feedback.

COVID-19: As a small business owner and member of the Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce, I recognize the importance of a strong economic recovery plan. I would prioritize small business grants, support businesses to provide emergency paid sick leave, and increase support for individuals who are unemployed. I would further advocate for more testing sites, contact tracing, and increased access to masks

Police Reform: Our public safety system should make every Austinite feel safe. With community input, I developed a community center plan that invests in communities. These centers bring emergency health and mental health providers, domestic violence resources, and property investigators to our neighborhoods. I also support training that makes law enforcement better prepared to serve and protect our diverse city.

Growth: Our infrastructure must meet increasing demand. To reduce traffic and make Austin greener, we need expanded public transit, sidewalks, and trails. I support multigenerational affordable housing, while ensuring residents are not displaced by advocating for an anti-displacement office. Finally, smart growth must align with transit plans and shall not increase neighborhood flooding or wildfire risk.

Robert Thomas

Background: ATX 30 yrs. TDHCA Board, TFC Chairman. TWC Commissioner. AISD Chair-Budget Task Force and Bond Cmte. ACC Bond Cmte. Biz guy. Chair-SafePlace. Elem. school mentor. Family guy.

Education: Loyola University—BA PoliSci and BA German. UT Law—Law Degree. UT McCombs—Masters of Business Administration. UT Health Houston—PhD Student (Healthcare Mgmt & Policy)

Campaign Website: <http://www.RobertATX.com>

Transparency: Stop the marathon and unmanageable meetings and increase public access to council. Use AI to

capture broad public input. Report out district level responses to issues. The public perception is that council cuts backroom deals with select, narrow special interest groups and then ignores the voters when they unanimously vote against their citizens’ interests. Adopt other best practices.

COVID-19: Keeping Austin open and safe is fundamental to ensure the health, safety and economic welfare of our Austin workers and businesses. Ensure viable comprehensive regional governments preparedness plan, coordinated with the state. Advocate for state/fed incentives for local business to operate with best health practices so local businesses and workers can survive. While COVID exists, we must prevail.

Police Reform: No to knee-jerk defunding of the police with no plan. No to cutting the cadet classes. Support the good men/women who put their lives on the line for us every day, and listen when they try to tell us how to reform APD. Fire bad officers that lack the proper aptitude for good community policing. Follow the best practices model of recruiting, training and promoting ideal aptitude to change culture.

Growth: Pass and implement a transparent, reasonable, incremental, affordable, detailed and metric driven 50-100 year plan for all city infrastructure needs. Execute sensible strategic plans flawlessly, on a “pay as you go” model as is possible, so voters can decide if they trust the city with planning, execution and budgeting. Don’t build it & they won’t come failed, but so too will build it at any cost.

Noel Tristan

Withdrawn



Jennifer Virden

Background: Lifelong resident of D10. Independent Real Estate Broker & Designer/Remodeling Contractor. Married to Keith for 28 years & we have two amazing grown children, Nick & Savannah

Education: BBA in Finance from The University of Texas at Austin. (My children & I all attended Doss, Murchison, Anderson & graduated from McCombs School of Business at UT Austin.)

Campaign Website: <http://www.JenniferForAustin.com>

Transparency: Best practices include enacting policy during the workday, not regularly voting late at night. No meetings should go past 10 PM, so Council may need to meet more often than every other week. Council amendments should be posted online before sessions, so the public has an opportunity to adequately review them in advance. Public speaking times should not be unduly limited to less than 3 minutes.

COVID-19: I will proactively evaluate and prioritize the essential needs of our community. We need to decrease the tax burden on our city struggling with affordability, complete mobility projects already funded but not yet completed,

LOCAL CITY OF AUSTIN

DISTRICT 10

Jennifer Virden (continued)

implement proven mobility solutions that don't require more debt, and we must focus on getting the homeless problem solved. Supporting our first responders is always paramount.

BOND ELECTION

PROPOSITION A

Background

For several decades, efforts have been underway to propose a passenger rail or dedicated mass transit as a mobility option. In the past three years, the City and Capital Metro coordinated with each other as each entity engaged in major mobility planning projects.

On June 10th, the Project Connect System Plan, a comprehensive plan to expand the Austin area's regional transit system, was adopted by the Capital Metro Board and the Austin City Council. The Austin City Council met July 27th to decide ballot language and approve the Project Connect "Initial Investment."

Additionally, on August 8th, the two bodies approved creation of an independent board to oversee the plan. The independent board will include a City Councilmember and CapMetro Board member along with 3 citizens with financial, engineering/construction, or community planning and sustainability backgrounds. Based on community feedback, a "Contract with the Voters" was created to memorialize policy guidance on construction impact, affordable housing, worker protection, and local business participation.

On August 13th, the Council voted to authorize a special tax-rate election for the purpose of building and operating Project Connect via a dedicated property tax increase. The initial project cost is projected to be \$7.1 billion. Current financing assumes 45 percent of project funding will come from federal grants. Not all of the transit elements in the Project Connect System Plan are included in the Initial Investment.

Ballot Language

Approving the ad valorem tax rate of \$0.5335 per \$100 valuation in the City of Austin for the current year, a rate that is \$0.0875 higher per \$100 valuation than the voter-approval tax rate of the City of Austin for the purpose of providing funds for a citywide traffic-easing rapid transit system known as Project Connect, to address traffic congestion, expand service for essential workers, reduce climate change

Police Reform: I support fully funding community policing initiatives, which are proven to build rapport and reduce crime; City Council has repeatedly underfunded APD staffing in this regard. I do not support "Defunding the Police" of resources necessary to protect life and property. I don't support canceling cadet classes, canceling open positions, or having social workers solely respond to family disturbances.

emissions, decrease traffic fatalities, create jobs, and provide access to schools, health care, jobs and the airport; to include neighborhood supportive affordable housing investments along transit corridors and a fixed rail and bus rapid transit system, including associated road, sidewalk, bike, and street lighting improvements, park and ride hubs, on-demand neighborhood circulator shuttles, and improved access for seniors and persons with disabilities; to be operated by the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority, expending its funds to build, operate and maintain the fixed rail and bus rapid transit system; the additional revenue raised by the tax rate is to be dedicated by the City to an independent board to oversee and finance the acquisition, construction, equipping, and operations and maintenance of the rapid transit system by providing funds for loans and grants to develop or expand transportation within the City, and to finance the transit-supportive anti-displacement strategies related to Project Connect. Last year, the ad valorem tax rate in the City of Austin was \$0.4431 per \$100 valuation.

Explanation

This \$7.1-billion proposal would include the following Project Connect elements.

- 2 light rail lines and one commuter rail line, spanning 27 miles of service and 31 stations
 - The Orange Line would operate as light rail and run from North Austin to South Austin, more specifically from the North Lamar Transit Center at 183 and North Lamar down to Stassney via streets like Lamar, Guadalupe, and South Congress. It would serve destinations and neighborhoods like the North Lamar Transit Center, Highland Neighborhood, Ranch 99 shopping center, Crestview, Brentwood, The Triangle, Hyde Park, UT, Downtown, Auditorium Shores, SoCo, and St. Edwards.
 - The Blue Line would operate as light rail and run from North Austin to Southeast Austin and the ABIA Airport parallel to the Orange Line until Republic Square, where it would head off to the airport. It would serve destinations and neighborhoods like the North Lamar Transit Center, Highland Neighbor-

Growth: Austin voters approved \$720M in 2016 for mobility improvements. Let's complete implementing the projects that were promised in that package, which include improvements to roads, bike lanes, and sidewalks. Let's hit the pause button on committing any more tax dollars to any projects besides maintenance, until we see what permanent changes in our mobility needs that this pandemic has caused.

- hood, Ranch 99 shopping center, Crestview, Brentwood, The Triangle, Hyde Park, UT, Downtown, the Convention Center, Rainey Street, the Waterfront District/Statesman site, Travis Heights, Lakeshore, Riverside Drive corridor, Montopolis, and the Met Center before terminating at ABIA airport.
- The Green Line would operate as commuter rail and would connect East Austin to Downtown on the existing CapMetro rail line, and would serve destinations and neighborhoods like Colony Park, the Eastern Crescent, the East US-183 area, Springdale, Pleasant Valley, Plaza Saltillo and Downton.
- an underground transit tunnel downtown
- an expanded bus system
 - 9 new Park & Rides and 1 Transit Center: Four Points, Loop 360, ACC Highland, Delco Center, Expo Center, Wildflower Center, Goodnight Ranch, McKinney Falls, MetroCenter and the Eastside Bus Plaza Transit Center
 - 4 new MetroRapid routes: The Gold Line (from ACC Highland to South Congress and Ben White with the Gold Line beginning as a MetroRapid service that could be eventually converted to light rail as a part of the System Plan), Expo Center (from East Austin to UT and downtown), Pleasant Valley (from Mueller to the Goodnight Ranch Park & Ride), and Burnet (from The Domain to Menchaca and Oak Hill)
 - 3 new MetroExpress routes serving the Four Points area (from FM 620 to downtown), Oak Hill (from the Pinnacle Park & Ride to downtown), and South MoPac (from the Wildflower Center to downtown)
 - 15 new neighborhood circulators providing on-demand pickup services
- improvements to the existing MetroRail Red Line
- maintenance facility improvements
- new customer technology systems
- conversion to an all-electric zero-emissions bus fleet
- an all-electric bike fleet integrated into the CapMetro App for bike rentals and payment
- \$300 million for purchasing land along future transit lines for affordable housing and to support policy tools that will help communities manage neighbor-

LOCAL CITY OF AUSTIN

PROPOSITION A (continued)

hood change resulting from new investment along transit corridors

The initial project funding will be operated by CapMetro and the funds will be managed by the independent board that the Council and CapMetro voted to create. If Proposition A passes, a homeowner whose home is valued at \$250K would expect to pay an additional \$197 in property taxes per year.

A map of the System Plan and Initial Investment, along with more information can be found on the Project Connect website: <https://capmetro.org/projectconnect/initial-investment/>.

PROPOSITION B

Background

In the last five years, Austin has allocated money through bond elections for a safe and active transportation net-

work that included mobility projects like sidewalks, protected bike lanes, and urban trails. The money set aside for this in the 2018 and 2016 bond elections will be spent by 2024, leaving current projects unfinished and new projects without funding. In July 2020, local mobility advocates requested that a \$750 million safe mobility bond be added to the ballot in order to fund the gaps. The Austin City Council voted in August 2020 to move forward with a \$450 million bond on this issue for November. The money would be spent to fund the gaps in several active transportation plans including a plan to complete a network of trails and sidewalks, the Vision Zero road safety plan which works to eliminate traffic deaths, and several large infrastructure projects.

Ballot Language

The issuance of \$460,000,000 in tax supported general obligation bonds and notes for planning, constructing, reconstructing, and improving sidewalks, urban trails, bike-ways, bridges, roads, streets, intersections, and related utility and drainage infrastructure for the roads and streets; improving traffic signal synchronization and communica-

tions and control systems and acquiring and installing traffic signals and related technology to implement traffic safety and traffic fatality reduction strategies; and acquiring land and interests in land and property necessary to do so; and the levy of a tax sufficient to pay for the bonds and notes.

Explanation

This \$460 million bond proposal would fund city mobility projects, including:

- \$80 million for sidewalks
- \$80 million for urban trails
- \$40 million for bike lanes
- \$65 million for safety improvements
- \$20 million for Safe Routes to School
- \$19 million for transit enhancements
- \$53 million for street improvements
- \$102 million for large capital projects, and
- \$1 million for the Neighborhood Partnering Program.

If Proposition B passes, the average homeowner in Austin would expect to pay an additional \$77 in property taxes per year.

LOCAL CITY OF CEDAR PARK

MAYOR

Transparency: What strategies will you use to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall?

Growth: What are your top concerns related to rapid growth and how do you plan to address them?

COVID-19: How do you expect COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact to affect your priorities?

Systemic Racism: Do you feel that there is systemic and institutional racism that needs to be addressed in city hall (such as low diversity in staffing and commissions)? If so, how would you address it?



Jim Richardson

Background: Cedar Park has been my home since October 1998. I am married to my wife Ann and have 4 kids and 3 grand kids. I have enjoyed 38+ years working for a local Fortune 500 company.

Education: Following high school I studied pre-med and electrical engineering at Texas Tech University. I have enjoyed 38+ years working in my field working for a Fortune 500 company.

Campaign Website: <http://JimRichardsonForMayor.com>

Transparency: During my campaign I have included my personal email address and personal cell phone number on my literature. Many Cedar Park citizens have contacted me and shared great ideas and concerns. I believe in being open and transparent, and, if I am fortunate to be able to serve our city as your Mayor, I pledge to continue making myself easily available to those that need or would like to reach out.

Growth: Relieving traffic congestion is one of Cedar Park's greatest needs. I will work to create a comprehensive, long term plan to improve our traffic situation. This plan should be reviewed with the public, to allow for comments and incorporate citizen input. Reducing property the tax burden is another important priority for me. Property values have risen, we should reduce our tax rate burden.

COVID-19: Covid-19 has had a significant impact on our Cedar Park business community. They need all the assistance we can provide. Business has been and will continue to be a critical part of what makes our city great. A vibrant and healthy business environment eases the property tax burden on our residents. I will work with our land development community to continue the success we have enjoyed.

Systemic Racism: I am sensitive to this issue and will always work to be transparent and fair to everyone. At this time, I do not believe this is concern in Cedar Park. I will NEVER stand by and allow racism to be a part of our city government.



Corbin Van Arsdale

Background: 5th-generation Texan. Married. 5 children. Current mayor. Current CAMPO board member. Ex-CAPCOG chair. Ex-BCRUA board. Ex-council member & state legislator. Elected 6 times.

Education: UT-Austin—Finance (BBA) and law (JD) degrees, lettered in baseball. Attended public schools in Texas, California, Louisiana, and South Carolina—and private school in France.

Campaign Website: <http://www.corbincedarpark.org/>

Transparency: I've implemented several reforms already: making it easier for residents to address council in meetings; putting campaign contributions and expenditures online; putting a revolving-door ethics ordinance in place; using mass targeted social media posts to disseminate city information. Our staff does a great job of this already. We're always looking for new ideas and are open to them.

Growth: Cedar Park has little land left. So every development creates two issues: (1) how will it diversify the property tax base for our current residents and taxpayers, and (2) how will it create friction with current, surrounding developments? We will handle each of these through our Planning & Zoning process and our council's Future Land Use Petition Process—by openly communicating with our residents.

LOCAL CITY OF CEDAR PARK

MAYOR

Corbin Van Arsdale (continued)

COVID-19: COVID-19 is the most challenging thing I've had to handle in public service. It's uncertain, it's demanding, it's unprecedented, and it constantly divides our resi-

dents—who have deeply personal and individualized opinions and beliefs about every decision being made about it. It obviously impacts our revenues, which in turn impact our ability to provide services. It forces things to remain fluid.

Systemic Racism: I don't know, but it's been 2-3 years since I've heard a complaint about that in the 6.5 years I've

served on the council (and the complaint was about our boards, not our staff). But we must always ensure that our residents and employees feel represented. We've made huge strides in recent years towards a more diverse city council and city boards and commissions. And that's the mindset now.

COUNCILMEMBERS

Transparency: What strategies will you use to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall?

COVID-19: How do you expect COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact to affect your priorities?

Police Reform: What police reforms do you support, if any?

Growth: What specific actions related to city infrastructure would you introduce to city council to effectively manage growth (roads, utilities, etc.)?

PLACE 2



Bob Cornelius

Background: Native Texan. Born in Austin, Texas. Founder/CEO—90 Degrees Agency, LLC—2011 to Present Partner—Rodeo Construction, LLC—2018 to Present

Education: BUS—Social Science/Communication—Eastern New Mexico University

Campaign Website: <http://www.BobforCedarPark.com>

Transparency: I will host open office hours weekly at a local business, with my email and phone listed. I'll post the city council agenda to all social media platforms, when it is released Monday afternoon prior to all city council meetings. I will hold quarterly in person town hall meetings throughout the city, streaming them on Facebook Live to allow online access to those meetings and greater participation.

COVID-19: Current restrictions placed on people/businesses have reduced revenue for the city. Our city budget should reflect those restrictions by prioritizing public safety and infrastructure. I'll ensure our police department is completely funded, giving them the officers, equipment and training they need to keep us safe. With recent growth, we need to speed up infrastructure projects throughout the city.

Police Reform: I believe our police department should be fully funded, allowing them the officers, equipment, and training they need to fight crime and keep our city safe. As both population growth and crime increase, the need for a fully staffed department is vital. Body cameras, less lethal tools, and tech are needed. De-escalation and use of force continuum training will help our officers in trying situations

Growth: I would work to expedite much needed road projects. Our current council's infrastructure plans are far behind the growth that already exists. I would work with regional leaders to prioritize the frontage road project on 183-A, the extension of the New Hope corridor east, and the widening of both 1431 and Parmer/Ronald Reagan. We also need to focus on completion of the Bell Blvd & Lakeline Park.



Mel Kirkland

Background: Cedar Park since 2005 Own a Landscape Consulting Co. Chamber Member Tourism & Community Dev. 4B Board Incumbent City Council Mayor Pro-Tem BCRUA Board, CapCOG, Li-

brary Found.

Education: University of California, Santa Cruz: BA Biology and Psychology UCLA: Wellness Instructor Program

Campaign Website: <http://melforcedarpark.com>

Transparency: Government can only work if all citizens feel they have a voice, are represented and can engage when they desire. Maintaining open line of communications by offering multiple platforms help people to feel connected.

COVID-19: COVID has made open public meetings more difficult. During this time it is important to maintain a consistent and balanced message through online forums and social media. I believe that during tough times, we need to take the time to review what we have been doing, use the time to make changes and position ourselves for growth that will allow us to succeed as conditions become more favorable.

Police Reform: Cedar Park is already engaged in implementing Police Dep. services and support. In 2017/18 the city did a complete review of our law enforcement department. The results were presented City Council, who then decided to move forward with implementing the recommendations of the report. These actions continue to improve local policing, and provide continued positive interactions with residents

Growth: Cedar Park has very strong Community Master Plan (as well as Development, Road and Parks Plans) for how to address growth and infrastructure requirements. The city works to implement the plan(s), while allowing for flexibility due to evolving conditions and resident needs. It is

important that councils understand the plans and work to achieve the goals for all residents.

PLACE 4



Eric Boyce

Background: 14-year resident, local business owner; Economic Development Board, Planning & Zoning Commission, LEEF Board, Chamber Legislative Committee, Volunteer @ Reveal Resource Ctr

Education: BBA, University of Texas @ Austin MS, University of Texas @ Dallas CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst), CFA Institute Essential Class of Leadership Austin, 2008

Campaign Website: <http://ericforcedarpark.com>

Transparency: In addition to ongoing email/phone access with citizens, embrace bi-weekly office hours; participate in quarterly council town hall meetings with citizens; further enhance social media distribution of news and topics of interest; introduce online chat sessions with constituents and also possibly video webcasts; increase the presence at HOA meetings, key city events, and at local chamber events.

COVID-19: Small businesses, which employ many citizens, have been greatly impacted by COVID-19. First, I will be motivated to help existing businesses retain primary jobs, access resources and connections for support and future growth. Furthermore, the burdens on local non-profit organizations have increased, and I believe my role can help generate both helpful connections and positive communication.

Police Reform: I favor both qualitative and quantitative support for law enforcement. First, ensure adequate training in responding to cases involving mental health, behavioral disorders, and especially race-sensitive issues, while also providing more overall peer group Maintain compensation equity, tools and equipment in line with other cities within our size cohort.

Growth: We must scale our infrastructure to meet the needs of the Cedar Park of the future, not just the present. This includes road expansion along major arterials, traffic flow control, connectivity to places of recreation, maintenance of greenspace, as well as embracing leading edge "smart" technologies for such things as utility monitoring and management (perhaps bill credits for home adoption)

LOCAL CITY OF CEDAR PARK

PLACE 4 (continued)



Jim Penniman-Morin

Background: Twice awarded the Bronze Star for exceptional service as an infantry platoon leader in Afghanistan & Iraq, Jim is an attorney specializing in energy & business transactions.

Education: B.S., U.S. Military Academy (West Point), 2001; Graduate, U.S. Army Ranger School, 2002; Juris doctor, Georgetown University Law Center, 2008

Campaign Website: <http://www.jpforcedarpark.com>

Transparency: One of the skills I learned in the Army was how to be an accessible leader. For example, when one of my soldiers suggested we offer equine therapy for wounded soldiers recovering at Walter Reed hospital, I made it happen. The people of Cedar Park have many great ideas for our city too; I'm eager to hear and fight for those ideas through regular office hours, by phone, social media and email.

COVID-19: Public safety has always been my top priority, as it enables all others. As an Army officer and attorney I learned to trust the experts and then make the tough call, just as our Mayor has done this year. Our city's response has been a bright spot in an otherwise haphazard response by our county and state elected leaders. We must continue to be unafraid to make tough decisions to keep us safe.

Police Reform: In recent years, the CPPD has been very progressive in adopting modern policing techniques, banning chokeholds and implementing ICAT de-escalation

training that paid off in the recent hostage crisis. I will be a strong advocate for the City to invest in more the cutting-edge training, community resources and fair pay that attracts the very best officers. There are no shortcuts in public safety.

Growth: So many of our residents left other states to escape the soul-crushing traffic that results from too many people forced to commute by cars. We have just a few roads that can be expanded but if we truly want to avoid what's happened in LA and other metros, we need to explore reasonable investments in alternatives now before they become unreasonably expensive in lost time, opportunity and dollars.

PLACE 6

Dorian Chavez

No response received



Heather Jefts

Background: Small biz owner, 15 yr resident, fmr council member, wife & mom | Volunteer with VRHS Band boosters, PTA, HCCM, WCRAS, & Rotary | Hill Country News 2018 Best Elected Official

Education: Johns Hopkins University, 2 years, Biology major; Austin Community College, AS in Biology with Honors and AAS in Biotechnology with Honors

Campaign Website: <http://jeftsforgedarpark.com>

Transparency: I will prioritize proactive community engagement, transparency, and accountability. I've held over

80 office hour events and will continue to be accessible to constituents. I also use social media to inform the community on Council agendas, city business, and local events. I championed more public outreach, from drainage solution meetings, to Bell Blvd open houses, to Lakeline Park planning.

COVID-19: Ensuring the safety of our community while supporting our economy will be major priorities for the foreseeable future. Council Members must encourage people to adhere to local, state, and federal guidelines while also helping our local businesses stay in business. Our community has done a tremendous job rallying together, and it will be our job as city council to continue to lead by example.

Police Reform: Any discussion on reforms must include input from stakeholders, experts, and community members to get a broad picture of the reality of our policies and their impact across the community, especially for people of color. There were several action items in the 2018 review, providing a roadmap for changes to investigations, patrol, and traffic divisions, as well as procedural and operational updates.

Growth: Traffic is a big concern. When I was on Council, I spearheaded our Transportation Master Plan update and an independent study to examine existing infrastructure, explore options to meet needs, and get community feedback. We need thoughtful planning, signal updates, demand management, and a discussion on alternate transit options. It'll be critical to work with the business community for solutions.

LOCAL CITY OF ELGIN

MAYOR

Chris Cannon

No response received

Ron Ramirez

No response received

CITY COUNCIL

Transparency: What strategies will you use to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall?

COVID-19: How do you expect COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact to affect your priorities?

Police Reform: What police reforms do you support, if any?

Growth: What specific actions related to city infrastructure would you introduce to city council to effectively manage growth (roads, utilities, etc.)?

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WARD 1



Jessica A. Bega

Background: Jessica A. Bega represents Ward 1 and was elected to Elgin City Council in 2014. She currently serves as the Mayor Pro-Tem.

Education: BA, Texas State University

Transparency: I am active and visible in my ward. Open communication is ensured by consistent follow-up to issues brought to my attention and by my constituents. I of-

ten encourage and invite residents to attend council meetings and take advantage of providing public comments for additional support. More often, I formulate suitable partnerships with organizations and constituents to achieve sustained results.

COVID-19: My priorities are often identified along with my constituents. I serve the neighborhood to understand what is important to them. The ability to communicate with one another is not directly impacted by COVID-19. Fortunately, most of our current priorities are identified in the city's 5-year capital improvement plan and are either under-

LOCAL CITY OF ELGIN

WARD 1

Jessica A. Bega (continued)

way or have secured funds to proceed in the upcoming 20-21 FY.

Police Reform: Currently, there is active communication, engagement, and collaboration with the city's police force and church leaders to review and reform current policies. I support this effort and the open dialogue that is required to hear citizens to understand the issues and jointly resolve to produce outcomes that benefit citizenry and quality of life in our city.

Growth: As a council, we work to address the needs identified in the city's 5-year capital improvement plan. Future actions need to be closely aligned with the plan to meet the needs of our citizens. Currently, there are several infrastructure needs listed in the plan that directly impact and benefit Ward 1. A grant was recently secured to extend much-needed sidewalks to sections of the ward.



Arthur Gibson III

Background: I am a lifelong resident of Ward 1. I have spent my entire working career in Elgin serving the community. I seek being a strong advocate for Ward 1 and all of our residents.

Education: Elgin High School, Austin Community College, and St. Edward's University.

Campaign Website: <http://www.facebook.com/Arthur-Gibson-III-For-Elgin-City-Council-Ward-1-101669044799841/>

Transparency: With the ongoing pandemic, I would utilize technology and social media to provide open communication and transparency to our residents

COVID-19: My priorities are to ensure that our residents are able to continue to enjoy life and our community with an emphasis on safety during this pandemic.

Police Reform: I currently support more training specifically surrounding mental health. I also seek increased sup-

port for the officers that serve our community to include roundtable sessions and /or focus groups with community members to create a partnership and better understanding with all of us.

Growth: In Ward 1 specifically, I would like to introduce proposals for sidewalks and road maintenance. Within the city as a whole, protecting and preserving our water supply as well as updating all of our outdated water lines is important to me.

WARD 2

Susana Arreaga

Unopposed

WARD 4

Sue Prinz Brasher

Unopposed

LOCAL CITY OF GEORGETOWN

MAYOR

Transparency: What strategies will you use to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall?

Growth: What are your top concerns related to rapid growth and how do you plan to address them?

COVID-19: How do you expect COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact to affect your priorities?

Systemic Racism: Do you feel that there is systemic and institutional racism that needs to be addressed in city hall (such as low diversity in staffing and commissions)? If so, how would you address it?

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Larry J. Brundidge

Background: Having advanced the objectives of organizations through adept development of effective policies and procedures, I follow through, saying what I will do and doing what I say.

Education: BA Mathematics, UT Austin 1967 MBA Management, SMU 1969 Advanced instruction in accounting, 60 semester hours, SDSU

Campaign Website: <http://larryformayor.org>

Transparency: Transparency is not a process but an attitude. I will conduct City Council workshops on Monday nights preceding Council Meetings rather than Tuesday afternoons to encourage public participation, amend Georgetown City Charter to require executive decisions now

cloaked in secrecy to be opened, conduct quarterly "Talk with the Mayor" sessions, and effectively answer citizen communication.

Growth: We do not have the water or the money to sustain the effects of the chaotic growth we are now experiencing. We must initiate professional help to assess the demands and supply of these assets. We must shape and direct growth to ensure adequate supplies now and in the future. We cannot sustain the ill-advised Georgetown methodology of reaping benefits now and postponing costs to the future.

COVID-19: My priorities neither require nor anticipate additional revenue requirements. The City, you, and I are going to do the job despite the virus.

Systemic Racism: I do witness diversity of race, gender, and sexual orientation within the entire employment range of the City of Georgetown. I will encourage the City Manager to continue to monitor and adopt policies and procedures to provide opportunities for diversity.



Jonathan Dade

Background: After living around the world from my dad's service in the Air Force, and mine in the Navy, our family of four is grateful to have found a home in beautiful Georgetown.

Education: BS (Biology) Prairie View A&M University. OCS (Leadership) United States Navy. MBA (Business) Washington State University. MTS (Theology) Colorado Christian University.

Campaign Website: <http://rlbechad.org/jonathan-dade-campaign/>

Transparency: In order for the citizens of Georgetown to receive open communication and transparency from city hall, I will work to ensure all of your questions are answered, the answers are verified, and said answers are regularly published. I will also recommend highly qualified citizens, from all areas of our diverse community, to staff our boards and commissions, which in turn provide input to city hall.

Growth: As Mayor, I have plans to manage the growth that is coming to Georgetown, with a strategy that will reduce costs and improve efficiencies, while maintaining the beauty of our historic town square. An example is encouraging organizations to hire a certain percentage of local residents. Another idea is not incentivizing businesses that do not contribute to the overall well-being of our community.

COVID-19: While COVID-19 and Quarantine Orders have negatively affected many small businesses and families, this pandemic has positively strengthened my resolve to lead by example, and prioritize getting the average, working class person back on their feet. Everything from my campaign budget, to how I spend my day, shifted to help those who were hurt the most, and I look forward to doing more, as Mayor.

Systemic Racism: When I compare the demographics of those who serve in city hall, with that of the citizenry, I have no doubt that systemic and institutionalized racism (dis-

LOCAL CITY OF GEORGETOWN

MAYOR

Jonathan Dade (continued)

crimination) unfortunately exists. To address this, I will be very intentional about filling our job openings and commission spots with qualified, diverse people from our community, who will be specifically encouraged and prepared to apply.



Josh Schroeder

Background: I grew up in Taylor, and I have been married to my wife, Ashley, for almost 20 years. We have lived in Georgetown for 13 years. We have 3 kids in GISD, ages 14, 10, and 7.

Education: I have a B.A. in history, with honors (1998), and

a law degree, (2002) both from the University of Texas. I also studied at the University College of London.

Campaign Website: <http://www.joshforgeorgetown.com>

Transparency: In addition to pushing information out through social media, I will personally meet with any member of the community who asks, and I will encourage city staff to continue their efforts to be transparent. Specifically, I want to look very closely at our policy regarding responses to requests for public information. I want the City to err on the side of releasing information whenever possible.

Growth: We have to demand high quality growth in terms of residential design standards, roads and utilities that improve our infrastructure, and the proper mix of density throughout the City. We also have to be aggressive in maintaining our commercial corridors so that we can build our

property tax base, increase our sales tax revenue, and have retail and restaurants close to our residential development.

COVID-19: Despite our robust sales tax numbers throughout the pandemic, we have to be prepared for a decline once federal stimulus dollars run out. We also need to advocate at the state level for sales tax revenue to be collected at the location of the consumer, which would benefit us greatly. While some of our processes may have to change, we ultimately need to get Georgetown back to work.

Systemic Racism: I am not aware of any of those issues in either staffing or commission appointments. I am happy to consider any data indicating that such racism exists, and if it does, I am committed to eradicating it. I do believe that we need to be more proactive in identifying volunteers for our boards and commissions so that we can tap into the diverse areas of expertise in our community.

CITY COUNCIL

Transparency: What strategies will you use to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall?

COVID-19: How do you expect COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact to affect your priorities?

Police Reform: What police reforms do you support, if any?

Growth: What specific actions related to city infrastructure would you introduce to city council to effectively manage growth (roads, utilities, a new water treatment plant, etc.)?

DISTRICT 2



Shawn F. Hood

Background: As a 4th Generation Texan and Austin Native, my Arch. Office has been on The Square for 21 years. 30 years married to Vicki, with 3 adult children and 1 granddaughter.

Education: Elementary school & Jr. High school @ AISD. Graduate RRHS with Architectural vocational education. Attended ACC. Founded my Arch. Practice in 1990.

Campaign Website: <http://www.hoodfordistrict2.com>

Transparency: For District 2, I hope to increase communication between City Hall and COGT Residents. True communication also requires equitable parts of listening and speaking. Lack of Communication creates a VOID and it is usually filled with worse-case scenarios. At the COGT, we need to do a better job of limiting communication worse-case scenarios while maximizing transparency whenever possible.

COVID-19: I would hope to implement a Coronavirus Pandemic recovery management approach based on 3 pillars of: Functionality, Safety, and Openness. Are recovery plans Functional? Do recovery plans keep people safe starting with our First Responders, Hospital Heroes, and most importantly...our citizens young & old? And finally, are recovery proposals open to all individuals in our city?

Police Reform: As 3rd safest City in the State, per a May 2019 SafeHomes.org article, the COGT must maintain this rating or find ways to improve upon it. Safety is the highest mandate for a city. In District 2, I will fully support our Police, Fire, and First Responders. As to the question about police "reforms", perhaps a better word is to "Improve" something that appears to already be working well.

Growth: Infrastructure, like mobility is a mandate of the City of Georgetown just as Safety is. Pavement, Pipes, and Powerlines are going to continue to be a necessity of our City as we continue to experience tremendous growth. With Georgetown being the County Seat, we will need to continue to partner with Williamson County of many of our road initiatives like Williams Dr., Hwy. 29, and Leander Road.



Lisa King

Background: I've lived in Georgetown since 2010. I'm a local business owner and on the board of Downtown Georgetown Association. I'm thoroughly enamored by all Georgetown has to offer.

Education: BA in Psychology

Campaign Website: <http://www.LisaKing-Georgetown.com>

Transparency: Monitoring and follow-up. Often the challenge is disseminating information. Large amounts of information are produced by the City and the methods in which to share by a single entity are limited. My goal is to identify and implement an effective process for bi-directional communication—keeping people informed, but also encouraging them to share their feedback and ask questions.

COVID-19: While many suffer, others are thriving. Understanding how people and businesses are affected is imperative and then helping those who need support get connected with the appropriate resources will be key to minimizing the immediate and long-term effects of this pandemic. With respect to businesses, many in D2 were severely impacted by last year's Atmos gas leak and have barely recovered from that.

Police Reform: I would like to see mental health professionals integrated into the system—with GPD and part of the first responders team. This has proven to be a benefit to the agency and community where this has been implemented. There's definitely need for conversation as LE agencies vary greatly across the US. I strongly encourage citizens to learn more about GPD through one of their many programs.

Growth: Increased focus on foresight in planning. As a growing, thriving city, we need more of everything. There needs to be more focus on planning ahead and budgeting to support current and new infrastructure. Budgets must encompass not only the initial development, but also long-term costs (maintenance, staff, equip., etc.)

Jason Wirth

No response received

LOCAL CITY OF GEORGETOWN

DISTRICT 6



Rachael Jonrowe

Background: Native Texan, Gtown resident since 2006, lover of old homes, restorer, business owner, mother of 4 (temporary remote learning facilitator), voracious reader, secret introvert

Education: Top 10% of graduating class in Eanes ISD, National Merit Scholar, accepted into Plan II at UT Austin, culinary degree from the Texas Culinary Academy, Le Cor-don Bleu

Campaign Website: <http://www.rachaelforgeorgetown.com>

Transparency: By insisting on the same standards I have for myself: availability, strong presence in various media, willingness to engage in active listening, getting out in the community (especially those neighborhoods that have been historically under-represented), bringing more and varied people into the decision-making process, insisting on accountability, reject defensiveness and collaborate on solutions.

COVID-19: The effect of COVID-19 will likely be felt for years, and I encourage everyone to join me in voting for elected officials at every level who will support concrete and measurable steps to heal our nation, physically, emotionally, and economically. As a city, we need partners in government

who will work with us to make sure we don't have to make cuts that will impact vulnerable folks the most.

Police Reform: Nationally, we need common-sense reforms like use-of-force standards, chokehold bans, the use of body cameras, reporting standards, holistic training standards, and the financial support for such. Locally, I support the CommUNITY initiative proposed by the Chief of Police, and am awaiting input from our citizens about their expectations for GPD. I also believe in addressing the underlying causes

Growth: I think we have a good tool in our updated 2030 Comprehensive Plan, which provides a roadmap for building a sustainable future, but the council needs to be consistent and equitable in its implementation. We also need to revisit our efforts at conservation, to ensure that everyone will continue to have access to clean water, green spaces, and affordable electricity, now and in the future.



Michael Walton

Background: I was born and raised in Houston, TX. My wife, Samantha, a 3rd grade teacher for GISD, and I have been married for 15 years. We love to travel, enjoy wine, and watch baseball.

Education: I received my undergraduate degree from Florida State University and my Masters in Business Administration from Texas State.

Campaign Website: <http://waltonfordistrict6.com>

Transparency: I will be visible, accessible and engaged. You'll see me around town, on the square and at events. Listening respectfully and being responsive are key elements of my approach. I am also planning things such as periodic newsletters, community meeting events, polls and social media. I'll do what I can to engage and inform citizens through conversation.

COVID-19: The biggest impact of the pandemic will be financial; lost jobs, businesses closing and residents having difficulty paying their bills. I will support programs that can help minimize these financial burdens and support our local businesses. If data shows that we can ease restrictions, then I'll support that. Otherwise, then I will support keeping existing directives in place.

Police Reform: Overall, I believe our police department is doing a great job. We should confirm that officers are getting all of the training they need and if not, make sure it happens. I also believe that police officers are often asked to perform functions that may not be best handled by them. In those cases, we should explore opportunities to enhance the police force with alternative approaches.

Growth: As Georgetown grows, traffic issues will increase. We need to be proactive and deliberate in how we design roads, implement traffic controls, and reduce future mobility burdens. Our utility strategy should include options, not long term or speculative mandates. Where possible, Council must anticipate future infrastructure requirements and adopt policies accordingly.

LOCAL CITY OF HUTTO

CITY COUNCIL

PLACE 1

Scott Rose

No response received

Robin Sutton

No response received

PLACE 4

Peter Gordon

Unopposed



STUDENT VOTERS

Students may use either their parents' address or their college address for voter registration, whichever they consider to be their permanent address. Students cannot be registered in both places. Those who will be away from their permanent address on Election Day and during early voting may request a ballot by mail from their county clerk's office. Student voters should also know that college or university student photo IDs are not accepted at the polls. Be aware of the general ID requirements.

LOCAL CITY OF LAGO VISTA

COUNCILMEMBERS

Transparency: What strategies will you use to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall?

COVID-19: How do you expect COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact to affect your priorities?

Police Reform: What police reforms do you support, if any?

Growth: What specific actions related to city infrastructure would you introduce to city council to effectively manage growth (roads, utilities, etc.)?

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PLACE 2



Rob Durbin

Background: Presiding Municipal Judge for Lago Vista 2015-2019 Attorney and Mediator and a member of the State Bar College Formerly Lago Vista Board of Adjustments and Building Committee

Education: BS, Air Commerce and Transportation Technology, Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne FL 1978; Juris Doctor, South Texas College of Law, Houston, TX 1987

Transparency: I believe the current council abuse the executive session laws. Too many things are already decided, and little debate takes place in public prior to votes. I would insist that executive sessions be used only for the limited purposes for which they are intended. As to communication, I will answer any questions propounded to me or seek the answer and disseminate the information if I do not know.

COVID-19: The pandemic provides challenges every day. It remains to be seen what the ongoing effect will be in terms of economic recovery. Meanwhile, the people that are suffering with the disease and those who it may impact the most need to be supported by the entire socially responsible community. The City needs to address any concerns of this nature in a rapid, immediate and decisive manner.

Police Reform: As I was Municipal Judge for four (4) years I am familiar with not only the police force but the individual officers. I have no criticism for the guys on patrol, the detectives or the front-line supervisors. They already wear body cams and generally treat the citizens with respect and courtesy in difficult circumstances. I do think the PD organizational structure is top heavy.

Growth: The City is currently facing issues of alleged corruption, violation of procurement laws and kickbacks in the public works department and the management thereof. As an attorney and former judge, I have training and experience in finding the truth and exposing wrongdoing, if any. I have the ability to draft and implement policies, procedures and ordinances to help prevent wrongdoing in the future.



Kevin Sullivan

Background: Life-long Texan, worked 25 years in the technology industry, real estate broker now, with 2 grown children. Lago Vista resident since 2006, visited since the early 90's.

Education: BBA in Finance from UT Austin and an MBA from SMU

Campaign Website: <http://fb.me/KevinForPlace2>

Transparency: I share my personal phone number and email address openly and maintain a Facebook page where I disseminate information and receive and respond to citizens comments and inquiries.

COVID-19: I don't anticipate COVID-19 to adjust my priorities. I want to focus on core infrastructure in our city as well as economic development. I don't see those priorities changing as a result of COVID.

Police Reform: In our small city, I do not anticipate any changes to the police department. I will support the continued full funding or the police department that does an excellent job for our community.

Growth: I have previously advocated for an updated transportation study for our community to help us anticipate the needed improvements to our road infrastructure. I've also fully advocated for dedicating additional funds for the improvement to our roads. On the utility front, I've advocated for more fair and less punitive water and sewer rates while also focusing on the core W-W/W infrastructure needs.



DiAnn Tjon-Joe-Pin

Background: Raised in Mo Ozarks; 4yr Naval service as Hospital Corpsman/Physical Therapy; Houston 1976-2016, O&G Industry; co-founder, VP, O&G service co.; mother to 3

& grandmother to 3.

Education: College 115hr; Life: military, Mediator, Harris Co Dispute Resolution Ctr; 9yr GirlScout leader & PTA vol; 10yr Meals on Wheels; home/business constructn manuf'g fac/operations

Transparency: I will: be proactive toward encouraging community participation in monthly City Council mtgs & facilitating more ways to reach out to our community; be a proponent for all Commissions to report their mtg mins so all can see the progress of agendas before it just happens-or not; encourage more options for our community to engage w/me via phone, email, zoom & hopefully, 'town hall' type mtngs again.

COVID-19: As a council member, a priority responsibility is to do our best to mitigate any added hardships to our community as they do their best to navigate their indiv'l lives in the midst of COVID-19. We need to fct more efficiently to effectively keep our citizens informed & trusting that we are

working with their best interests in mind, spending tax \$\$ wisely & not per personal or special interests.

Police Reform: We are not static & City Depts must always work to improve & adjust to changes from within. To those ends, I will endeavor to engage on all fronts: budget'g, shifting priorities, positive reform & educat'n as to how our tax dollars are to be prioritized & spent. We value our police dept & we need to work together addressing cooperatively all of our concerns, navigating thru these difficult times.

Growth: Our city has a Comprehensive Plan for growth & development. However, there are public concerns as to whether our city govt is being properly accountable. I hope to be proactively effective toward restoring community trust in our city govt's ability to execute that plan. Information is power; an educated community w/ a transparent govt is a powerful community. I want our community to be powerful.

PLACE 4

Timothy J. Collins

Background: Currently serve as Councilman Place 4 for the City of Lago Vista. Retired Department Manager and Vice President of a subsidiary of a national financial services company

Education: My area of expertise is in the Financial Services Industry. I was a Registered Principal with the SEC. I am credentialed by the American College and currently an inactive CFP.

Transparency: We publicize all Council Meetings, both work shop and Council Meetings. We have a City web site that lists all committees, meeting dates, agendas, packets and minutes. Citizens are encouraged to attend meetings and ask questions.

COVID-19: Covid does not affect our priorities which is road rebuilding, water process and infrastructure and the expansion of all amenities used by citizens. We operate within all current Covid recommended or directed safeguards.

Police Reform: I don't support "police reforms" for our Lago Vista Police Department. We like and support our police. We are a growing small town where people still know each other. We know our police officers. Lago is a growing community. We are going to budget the hire of another police officer in 2021 for our expanding population.

Growth: Since my election we have been able to improve roads and water infrastructure that is about 50 years old. We are planning on expanding our water treatment and distribution system for our expected population growth. We have replaced old obsolete water piping and replaced with state of the art water piping. We are also addressing city amenities that benefit the entire populace.

LOCAL CITY OF LAGO VISTA



Chelaine Marion

Background: 23 years in education as a teacher, administrator, director and college lecturer; 17 years in leadership; experience with budget, contracts, and interpretation of law and rule

Education: Master of Education in Education Administration (summa cum laude) and Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies both from UTEP; I am a Certified Texas Contract Manager

Transparency: I will ensure that agendas and minutes for all city council and committee meetings are posted in a timely manner and are descriptive enough to accurately convey meeting outcomes. I will ensure that constituent inquiries and open record requests receive honest, timely, accurate, and complete responses the first time. I will work with other council members to review/revise city policies as needed.

COVID-19: I support economic incentives for local businesses who had to cut back during COVID restrictions and for new businesses that relocate here. I support funding for people who lost their jobs and would participate in efforts to get them back to work. I will work cooperatively with council members to support our Chamber of Commerce with new business development and expansion of existing businesses.

Police Reform: While I recognize that police reform may be warranted in other parts of the country, I do not believe that is the case in Lago Vista. I am proud of our police force and the phenomenal job they do every day protecting all of our citizens. In general, I am in favor of policies

that encourage and protect diversity and equity in hiring practices and that require fairness in human resource management.

Growth: The effective removal/disposal of residential and commercial solid and hazardous waste is a big issue facing Lago Vista as our population grows. As more homes are built and residents move in, we will need to investigate innovative approaches to addressing this. I will work with the council to build on or improve current plans for expansion of water plants, wastewater disposal, and street repairs.

PLACE 6



Paul Prince

Background: Lago Vista is growing quickly. Investments in infrastructure must be carefully prioritized. I'm committed to extensive communication with citizens before issuing any bonds.

Education: As an engineer and director with Intel, Dell, and others, I have managed budgets in excess of \$20M per year. I am on the LV Planning&Zoning and Bldg&Stds commissions.

Transparency: My top campaign theme is that communication with citizens must be dramatically improved. To achieve this, I will actively push for more detailed and open discussions in City Council meetings, before decisions are made. I will continue to be an active member on Facebook and Nextdoor community message boards. I will be responsive to citizens via direct messaging and email.

COVID-19: Lago Vista's priorities remain unchanged by

Covid. Our city revenue is primarily property tax and utility services. We must invest wisely in water, sewer, and streets to meet the demands of growth, without incurring an undue amount of debt burden. I support investing in parks and amenities at a moderate rate, while prioritizing reducing taxes and utility costs.

Police Reform: At this time, there is no issue with police misconduct in Lago Vista. I support our police, as I always have, while simultaneously holding them to a high standard of conduct.

Growth: Repair of roads should continue at an aggressive pace of about \$3M per year as was begun this past year. Our water rates are quite high. I support managing down water rates for our citizens. We need a comprehensive prioritized plan for the long list of desired upgrades to pipes, water treatment and water pumping stations. I will push for this as a pre-requisite to issuing bonds.



Frank Robbins

Background: 33 years planning director and assistant city manager in fast growing cities, including 6 in Lago Vista. Incumbent city council member. President Keep Lago Vista Beautiful.

Education: MS Texas University Austin BA Texas A&M College Station

Transparency: Continue to allow conversations with citizens at council meetings. Responding on facebook. Encourage use of my email address. Continue to press for less policy discussion in executive session and discussion in open meeting. Advise public to use cleargov to review the budget. Attend and participate in Mayor's town hall meetings. Work to improve usability of city web page.

COVID-19: Most services and stores are open in Lago Vista, are safe, and doing OK except restaurants. Our covid recovery plan targets these services.

Police Reform: We have a great police department. The community rightly supports them. No reform needed or suggested.

Growth: I introduced road maintenance and impact fees worth \$250,000 to \$350,000 annually. Achieved thoroughfare planning update. Helped improve reporting on ongoing and planned capital improvements. Champion long range water and wastewater facility work and cost effective ways to pay for them. Improve justification statements for better understanding of need. Improve and expand city crew road work.

YOUR VOTE MATTERS

Early Vote **Oct. 13-30**

LWV MISSION STATEMENT

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

LOCAL CITY OF LAKEWAY

CHARTER ELECTION

Background

What is a charter? A municipal charter is a legal document that establishes a town and defines its powers. Think of it like the constitution of a city.

PROPOSITION A

Ballot language

Extension of Boundaries

Shall Section 1.03 be amended to make the city's power to annex new territory into the city conform to the requirements and limits of state law?

If approved, amended Section 1.03 would read: "The Council has the power to modify the boundaries of the City by ordinance as provided for in state law."

Explanation

Proposition A, if passed, would simplify language in Lakeway's charter to match state law concerning the ability of the city to extend its boundaries.

PROPOSITION B

Ballot language

2-year terms

Shall Section 3.01(a) be amended to return to two-year terms of office for council members and mayor to comply with the Texas Constitution?

If approved, amended Section 3.01(a) would read: "(a) Term of office for all members will be two (2) years. Office term will commence at the first regular Council meeting after a member of the Council has been declared elected."

Explanation

Currently, the charter lists 3-year terms of office for the mayor and councilmembers. Proposition B, if passed, would change the terms to 2-year in order to comply with the Texas Constitution.

PROPOSITION C

Ballot language

Limit on Successive Years of Service

Shall Section 3.01(c) be amended to permit a maximum of six (6) successive years in office for Mayor or Council and Section 3.09 be amended to exclude partial terms of one year or less from counting towards the limit on successive years of service?

If approved, amended Section 3.01(c) would read: "(c) No person shall serve as Mayor for more than six (6) successive years and no person shall serve as Councilmember for more than six (6) successive years."

If approved, the amended portion of Section 3.09 would read: "For purposes of applying the limit on successive years of service, any term filled by election or appointment of one year or less shall not count towards the limit on successive years of service in Section 3.01 (c), but service in a partial term of more than one year shall count towards the limit on successive years of service."

Explanation

Currently, the charter allows the mayor and councilmembers to serve a maximum of 2 successive 3-year terms. Proposition C, if passed, would amend the language to say 6 years instead of 2 terms, and it would specify that partial terms of less than a year won't count toward the 6 years, but terms of more than 1 year will.

PROPOSITION D

Ballot language

Residency Requirement for City Manager

Shall Section 4.01 be amended to eliminate the requirement that the City Manager reside within the City limits?

If approved the residency requirement would be deleted in its entirety.

Explanation

Lakeway's charter currently requires the city manager to live within the Lakeway city limits. Proposition D, if passed, would remove this requirement.

PROPOSITION E

Ballot language

Office of Treasurer

Shall Section 4.06 be deleted, thereby eliminating the volunteer office of City Treasurer, and other Charter provisions be amended as necessary to remove references to the City Treasurer?

If approved, Section 4.06 and all references to the City Treasurer in Sections 4.01, 8.01, 8.11, 8.12, and 8.15 would be deleted in their entirety.

Explanation

Lakeway's current charter states that the mayor, with approval from the city council, shall appoint a treasurer, a volunteer position. Proposition E, if passed, would eliminate the office of city treasurer and remove all references to this position in the charter.

PROPOSITION F

Ballot language

Official Ballots

Shall Section 5.02(a) relating to the placing of names of candidates on the ballot be amended to conform to the state law governing the withdrawal or death of a candidate?

If approved, the amended portion of Section 5.02(a) would read: "(a) The name of each candidate for office shall be printed on the official ballots without party designation or symbol. Candidates who have died or withdrawn shall be omitted from the ballot as provided for in State law."

Explanation

Proposition F, if passed, would simplify language in Lakeway's charter to match state law concerning the removal of candidate names from the ballot who have died or withdrawn from the election.

PROPOSITION G

Ballot language

Authorizing Bonds

Shall Section 8.09(b) be amended by deleting the reference to Certificates of Obligation to conform to state law in the first sentence, and adding a new sentence to Section 8.09(b) mandating that Certificates of Obligation may only be issued upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of the Council members?

If approved, amended Section 8.09(b) would read: "All Bonds, warrants, and revenue bonds shall not be issued unless authorized by a majority of the qualified voters at a City election held for that purpose. The ordinance calling the election and the manner of conducting such shall conform in all respects to the laws of the State of Texas and the provisions of this Charter. Certificates of obligation shall not be issued except on the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all Council members. [Refunding bonds are exempt from the provision of Sec. 8.09(b).]"

Explanation

Certificates of obligation are types of long-term debt that can fund certain things such as construction or materials. Lakeway's current charter says that certificates of obligation can be issued with a majority vote during a city election. Proposition G, if passed, would state that certificates of obligation can be issued by a two-thirds vote of city council, putting the language in line with state law.

LOCAL CITY OF MANOR

COUNCILMEMBERS

Transparency: What strategies will you use to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall?

COVID-19: How do you expect COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact to affect your priorities?

Police Reform: What police reforms do you support, if any?

Growth: What specific actions related to city infrastructure would you introduce to city council to effectively manage growth (roads, utilities, etc.)?

.....

PLACE 2



Anne Weir

Background: Raised in Austin, Tx 1st born American on maternal side. Married, Mother of 5. Volunteering since age 16. Previously served on the Manor City Council Place 3 from 2016 -2019

Education: High School Graduate 1982 Lyndon B. Johnson High, Austin, Texas Attended Rice University, Houston, Texas Attended ACC, Austin, Tex

Transparency: 1. Operate openly and transparently with respect for public disclosure. 2. I would love to establish a public information office as the central point for information providing services to council members ,employees and target audiences.

COVID-19: For those in my circle COVID-19 has meant for some a loss of jobs which equals a loss of income. You have to be very discriminating in what you choose to spend you're available money on .Additionally in our area we only have 1chain grocery store in our zip code. It's a little bit of a double-edged sword, you need the business to be here but the citizens during COVID-19 may be short on funds .

Police Reform: 1. Recruiting a very professional work force I believe choosing a high-caliber of officers is imperative. 2. Training -create a uniform code of policing ,there is no standard code of police education. More education to work through problems of systemic racism is extremely important. 3.Reveal—A wider adoption of body worn camera is super important

Growth: I would like to take a look at the 5-yr plan that the city has already been working with & ensure that those plans are being followed through. While I was previously on the council we were working to towards building and getting up an running a wastewater treatment plant that could handle & maintain our growth(we did) & I'd like to see some more of these infrastructure plans and build from that.



William Willner

Background: Born in MO. Grew up in Africa 3rd of 7 157 IQ, college at 16 1st \$million at 24 3 languages ex-Judge Gemini Awards, (CAN's Emmy's) once cleared 4 US-MIL nuclear bases Neighbor

Education: Canadian gov't correspondence until Age 15, in the Congo. Full ride to College at 16 w/out finishing H.S. Drop out at age 18. 20 yrs Tech/Gov't/Mili/Fortune 500 consultant

Campaign Website: <http://www.facebook.com/william.willner.775/>

Transparency: I'll try 'em all and then stick to what works. There's no sense in starting with a bunch of pre-conceptions, I'll problem solve just like I did for 20 years as a government, military and Fortune 500 consultant. Define the objectives, then identify obstacles and build a plan. Flyers, meeting reminders, email lists, red-inked notes on 1st page of utility bills, ms'g boards @ Intersections, anything!

COVID-19: I expect it to have a huge impact. Thankfully we've been able to continue paying all of our employees, even while two out of three of our companies are essentially shut down. People need food and shelter first and foremost. I expect to be involved in crisis management at the same time as developing a viable economic plan to address the massive changes that are 100% for sure on their way to Manor!

Police Reform: More training in conflict de-escalation, mandatory 1hr/week weapons training, 1hr/day fitness and unarmed combat training. As a former trainer myself I see no reason to shoot people 7 times in the back, nor to kneel on necks. Also, hire different resources for different things! The police are a very expensive option to use in many cases, often in situations which they're not trained for.

Growth: Traffic diversion efforts, possibly heavy tolls (if possible,) for vehicles not registered within the city. A comprehensive development plan, as opposed to a reactionary approach of only reviewing development as it is presented to the city. Re-assessment of some of the absurd new changes made to zoning, allow higher density in some areas. We must know who we are, so that can we say no sometimes.

PLACE 4

Todd R. Shaner

No response received



Sonia Wallace

Background: Resident of Manor for over 15 years, Co-founder of Youth 4 Unity And Christ, a member of The Manor Chamber of Commerce, a former board member of Manor Men & Women

Education: A graduate of Ramstein American High School West Germany A graduate with an Associates of Applied Science in Electrical Engineering from ITT Technical Institute Austin

Transparency: I will make myself available to speak with people on matters wherever I can speak, without crossing any ethical or confidentiality boundaries. I believe people should know what their elected officials are doing, and why they are doing it. After all, we represent them, not the other way around.

COVID-19: To me the community is the priority. Because we all have to live here and share this space together, taking care of the community should be first priority. There is a lot of growth all around the city. Therefore, we have to make sure that the city infrastructure can handle all of the growth, without displacing its current residents.

Police Reform: I am in favor of more training on how to deal with people from different backgrounds also more Mental Health Training.

Growth: I, for one, would like to see us have more than one option for electricity. Also, there are some roads in the Manor area that need more lighting to be safe. However, I realize that it is a process. Some things take time and effort. We must build relationships with other governing bodies, and work hand-in-hand with the state and the county.

PLACE 6



Jacob Hammersmith

Background: US Army veteran, small business owner, Manor Planning & Zoning Commissioner, Community Impact Fee Committee Chair, HOA board member, and founder of kids

STEM club nonprofit.

Education: Bachelor of Science in Information Technology Master of Science in Information Assurance and Cyber Security

Campaign Website: <http://www.hamvertime.online>

Transparency: We need our government to be transparent in all matters. We should implement improved verbal and visual communications with the community. Often agenda items are published, but there is a lack of reasoning behind the agenda items. As a representative of the community residents we should be accessible to learn and address the needs of the community.

COVID-19: The COVID-19 virus was unexpected during a high economic growth period. We need strong leadership to improve planning for health, economic, and other potential crises. Being more prepared for changes in how businesses can safely operate, linking up resources for those seeking employment, and changes in health orders will help insulate our community more from these disasters.

LOCAL CITY OF MANOR

PLACE 6

Jacob Hammersmith (continued)

Police Reform: We need to bring police, city leadership, and residents together to address concerns and analyze the data to better understand where reforms may be needed. Making policy changes prior to analyzing the data and receiving feedback from residents can have an adverse impact on the community, by making the officers duties impossible to perform and residents not receiving all of the tax-funded services.

Growth: Everyone in Manor should be able to have more quality time with family and friends. We should plan and work to have the shortest commute of any city in the Austin metro area. We should plan and work to have the most accessible city to all residents. We will work to improve intersections, make repairs during non-peak commuting hours, and extend sidewalks and trails so residents can move freely.



Gene Kruppa

Background: Born in Wharton, TX. Retired US Navy Submarine Forces with 20 yrs Honorable service, Retired State of Texas employee. 8 yrs as Manor City Council member, currently semiretired

Education: AS in Nuclear Technology, Studied Business Administration at Hawaii Pacific University for two years, Naval Nuclear Power School and Nuclear Power Prototype School

Transparency: Exclusive email address for public comments, suggestions and questions. Ensure public has continued access to City Council minutes, Notice of Ordinance changes, City budget and expenditures on line and in print. Directly speaking with the residents of Manor and surrounding areas (ETJ). I am very approachable and love to discuss current and future situations which involve the City of Manor.

COVID-19: My priorities will be affected by socially distancing and mask requirements in the day to day operations. One priority is to fully equip our Police force with all modern

equipment and personnel possible within our budget. Another priority is to have continued funding of our water and waste water projects, equipment, operations and personnel to meet our growing population and the Public Works Dept.

Police Reform: I fully support Chief Phipps in his efforts. Police Chief Phipps reports annually on Bias Based Policing for traffic stops, arrests, and other related incidents, this gives some prospective to our Police forces efforts and actions. The Chief has started discussions and recruitment for three committees; Public Safety Committee, Emergency Management Committee, and Chief's Community Advisory Board.

Growth: Support of the City Engineer in plans providing water and waste water system to meet growing population and funding of such projects. Act to ensure Street Dept. has required equipment to repair and upkeep roadways within Manor City limits. Support the City Manager in talks and efforts with State and County officials to have current roads accommodate current and future traffic needs.

LOCAL CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE

CITY COUNCIL

Transparency: What strategies will you use to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall?

COVID-19: How do you expect COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact to affect your priorities?

Police Reform: What police reforms do you support, if any?

Growth: What specific actions related to city infrastructure would you introduce to city council to effectively manage growth (roads, utilities, etc.)?



PLACE 2



Caesar Ruiz

Background: Born and raised in San Angelo, TX to a very economically humble beginning. Enlisted and honorably served 8 years in the United States Navy. Proud father and husband of 21 yrs.

Education: St. Edwards University -Bachelor of Arts -Magna Cum Laude -History with Education Concentration

Campaign Website: <https://www.facebook.com/CesarRuizforPflugerville/>

Transparency: First and foremost public access to information must continue to be a top priority. As your next

city council representative I will always keep our community well updated on what is happening and why. You can count on me to find the answers. Also, I will continue to encourage more citizens to participate in public comment before every Council meeting. Let us know how we can better serve you.

COVID-19: Public health and Public safety will always be my top priority. On Council I will work diligently with our Mayor and other council members to ensure the safety of our citizens is maintained. I am also open to exploring budget and/or project priority reallocation if it becomes necessary in order to keep our community safe, happy, and healthy.

Police Reform: As our wonderful little city continues to grow and development continues to expand we must be ever mindful and open to the necessary changes we must make for this growth. I will always be open minded to the potential necessary policy changes we may have to address in the future and stand ready to fight for these policy changes for the benefit our citizens and our community.

Growth: As our city grows the citizens are often left footing the bill in order to accommodate the stress this development places on our infrastructure. I believe any new expansion we make to our city's infrastructure (i.e. roads, water, sewage, etc.) in order to accommodate this growth must be shared both by the city and the new development. On Council I will work tirelessly to make sure this happens.



Victor To

Background: Victor is a Pflugerville Native who has grown up in the city. He is committed to serving his hometown and has been apart of various city boards and committees.

Education: PFISD Graduate, Bachelors in Government/Sociology from The University of Texas at Austin

Campaign Website: <http://www.victorto.com>

Transparency: I will regularly share the work I am doing on council across social media to keep citizens informed. I am also committed to being accessible and answering correspondence from our community as well as reaching out to citizens for their comments and concerns.

COVID-19: Pflugerville was a COVID hotspot in Travis county. With a possible second wave looming on the horizon, lack of leadership will endanger citizens and hinder the return to normal we've been anxiously longing for. Right now, It makes no sense that students are returning to school while council is still meeting virtually. There must be more effort to protect our community.

Police Reform: Our chief has done good work implementing community policing in the city. A strategy that has proven time and again to work. That being said, It is overdue that we have a conversation about how we can lift some of the weight off law enforcement. This includes bringing in specialists/professionals to handle situations officers may

LOCAL CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE

PLACE 2

Victor To (continued)

not be trained for. Relieving an overburdened/too generalized system

Growth: We need to do regular surveys of our infrastructure to identify needs. Once this is finished, we should begin planning and addressing areas that need attention as well as be proactive on future growth. If we are to meet the city motto of “where quality meets life” we must ensure that all citizens have maintained roads, drinkable water, and utilities.

PLACE 4



Rudy Metayer

Background: Son of Haitian Immigrants. 1st generation college, public policy, and law school graduate. Soccer coach. Married, proud father of 3 girls and Pflugerville Councilmember.

Education: Bachelor of Arts, University of Texas Master of Public Affairs, University of Texas LBJ School of Public Affairs Doctor of Jurisprudence, University of Texas School of Law
Campaign Website: <http://www.facebook.com/vote4rudy/>

Transparency: I will continue to reach out and solicit feedback from all citizens via traditional and social media. For the duration of the COVID crisis, I will expand my use of digital communications to ensure all citizens are heard. I will continue to work with city staff to ensure they do the same so that our citizens are met “where they are” with timely, transparent, and informative responses.

COVID-19: Everyone should be rethinking priorities in the wake of COVID. My role on Council is no exception. As we evaluate the physical, economic, and psychological toll, we must continue to be fiscally responsible and work to protect local businesses, create new jobs, and recruit new business opportunities so that we can continue lowering the tax rate while providing citizens with the resources they need.

Police Reform: Public safety will remain one of my key priorities. It is vital to ensure Pflugerville law enforcement has the resources to serve and protect all our citizens. We sometimes overlook the foundation of trust we’ve built between law enforcement and citizens in this majority-minority city. Pflugerville should be leading the national discussion of how to do this right.

Growth: I have made it a priority on council to expand roads and infrastructure to meet the needs of our citizens. While being recognized as the 3rd fastest growing city in the United States, I personally testified at TxDOT to ask for the expansion of SH 130 to accommodate the growing traffic needs. With the recruitment of businesses such as Amazon to the city, we must continue to get a head of our growth



Bob Reichenbach

Background: 55 years in electronics for defense, space, automotive, semiconductor, and medical devices including cardiac pacemakers and implantable defibrillators. I have 5 patents.

Education: Ridley High school Penn State University Penn Morton College Dale Carnegie Course Seven Habits of Highly Successful People Stephen R. Covey

Transparency: I will promote Pflugerville’s submission of its budget and annual financial report to the Texas State Comptroller’s office for consideration as a Texas Transparency Star city.

COVID-19: Cutting wasteful spending, and improving government transparency to show the residents that we do care. I will promote the idea that the city of Pflugerville, become more frugal, and a Texas Transparency Star city, under the State of Texas’ Comptroller’s Transparency Star program. During this crisis, to ask for so much more money, shows a lack of care and compassion.

Police Reform: Our city should never be conflicted about support for the police. They have considered delaying funding police needs to “try” a new bus route to the city. Police must be first, convenience later. We will support training, what Stephen Covey calls: “Sharpening the saw.” which is needed due to use. Extra refresher training to keep them sharp and ready at all times.

Growth: They have a history of biting off more than they can properly deal with. I will suggest narrowing the focus to needs, and delay the “wants” projects. Infrastructure must have priority over parks and recreation centers. I also want to remove any contractor, whose previous roads did not hold up well, from the city’s “Approved contractor list” so we get a great job on every new road we build.

PLACE 6



Jim McDonald

Background: My family moved to Waxahachie, Texas in the mid 70’s. I moved to Pflugerville in 1997 to work for an Internet startup as part of the booming Dot Com era.

Education: I attended Cornell University in the 80’s and the University of Texas at Arlington in the 90’s, pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science and Engineering.

Campaign Website: <http://www.jimmcdonald.com>

Transparency: One of the best tools employed by the City of Pflugerville is Social Media. The Council summary is presented in the Pflugerville Pfocus video series, which recently published its 100th episode. The city newsletter, Key to the City is presented in email and included in utility bills. For new projects that directly impact our neighbors, the city presents Open House events to solicit citizen input.

COVID-19: First and foremost I look to provide safeguards

for my family. When considering Council action, I prioritize the safety of our Community as if it is my Pfamily. As a small business owner facing very specific shut down orders from the State, my wife and I personally feel the impact of the economic toll. As our knowledge of COVID-19 expands, so do the actions with which we meet the threat.

Police Reform: Community Policing is the key to a successful integration of Citizens and Officers. We must be willing to invest into them, with mental health and wellness programs. Just as firearms training is necessary, so must other programs, like Implicit Bias training and Deescalation Strategies, become part of our DNA. Data-driven intervention can be useful in identifying issues before they become problems.

Growth: Planning. It is said that it is difficult to see the forest for the trees. Oftentimes it is hard for us to forecast our growing needs as we are fighting to maintain the existing standards and level of service. This makes it critical to engage with outside entities to prepare 5, 10, and even 20-year plans to get a new perspective on the direction of the rapid growth of our “big little town”.



David Rogers

Background: Pflugerville Community Development Corporation, longest serving member on Pflugerville Board of Adjustment, Attorney representing homeowners, community, police & firefighters.

Education: J.D., Texas Tech University M.F.A., University of Southern California B.S., University of Houston Austin High School O. Henry Junior High Baker 6th Grade Casis Maplewood

Campaign Website: <http://www.facebook.com/MisterRogersforCityCouncil/>

Transparency: I’ll use transparent electronic public communications channels, and continue normal cable and internet broadcasts of all city agencies, board and commissions.

COVID-19: I expect COVID-19 to be under control by the time I assume office. The economic fallout means that luxury government is a thing of the past, and city council needs to focus on essentials—parks, police, water and roads. Entertainment can be left in the capable hands of the private sector.

Police Reform: Pflugerville police and community don’t have the history of division and strife that exists in many cities. I support additional training for Pflugerville police, similar to that Cedar Park police have undergone, in recognizing and managing potentially violent situations that are mental health problems in crisis. Body cams and effective high-tech communications are essential.

Growth: I would prioritize road-building and maintenance, particularly in areas with high commercial traffic. The city of Pflugerville also needs to prioritize water safety and distribution. Luxury government needs to take a back seat for as long as it takes to fully recover from the economic impact of COVID-19.

LOCAL CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE

BOND ELECTION

Background

The Pflugerville City Council appointed citizen volunteers and members of the transportation oversight committee to the 2020 Capital Improvement Bond Committee. The committee met weekly from December 18, 2019 through February 11, 2020 and presented three recommendations for bond consideration to council: transportation, parks projects and a new recreation center. Together, the three propositions total \$191.3 million and would be funded by general obligation bonds, which are repaid by property taxes.

PROPOSITION A

Ballot language

The issuance of \$101,700,000 bonds by the city of Pflugerville, Texas, for transportation projects for city intersection improvements, city neighborhood street reconstruction, Immanuel Road, FM 685 corridor improvements, SH 45 frontage roads, Kelly Lane, Pflugerville Farm Lane North, Main Street, Central Commerce Drive, Picadilly Drive, Weiss Lane extension/realignment with Cameron Road, East Pflugerville Parkway and East Pecan Street. Taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds will be imposed.

Explanation

This \$101.7 million bond proposal would fund transportation projects, including:

- city intersection improvements (\$15.1 million)
- city neighborhood street reconstruction (\$20.3 million)
- the widening of Immanuel Road (\$12.6 million)
- FM 685 corridor improvements (\$5.8 million)
- connecting gaps on SH 45 frontage roads (\$9 million)
- Pflugerville Farm Ln North upgrades (\$5.7 million)
- the widening of Kelly Ln, Picadilly Dr, Central Commerce Dr (\$20.7 million)
- Lane/extension and realignment with Cameron Rd (\$4.4 million), and
- engineering and design plans for Main St, E Pflugerville Pkwy, and E Pecan St. (\$8.2 million).

If Proposition A passes, a homeowner whose home is valued at \$100K would expect to pay an additional \$39.39 in property taxes per year.

PROPOSITION B

Ballot language

The issuance of \$42,300,000 bonds by the City of Pflugerville, Texas, for parks and recreation projects for trail improvements, neighborhood parks, land acquisition, Lake Pflugerville, 1849 Park, and destination play space. Taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds will be imposed.

Explanation

This \$42 million bond proposal would fund park improvements, including:

- trail improvements (\$1.6 million)
- the development of neighborhood parks including Mallard, Pecan, Kelly Ln, Picadilly, and Wilbarger Phase 2
- the purchase of more than 20 acres of land for future recreation space
- the development of the north side of Lake Pflugerville
- the expansion of sports fields at 1849 Park, and
- the development of a destination play space.

If Proposition B passes, a homeowner whose home is valued at \$100K would expect to pay an additional \$16.38 in property taxes per year.

PROPOSITION C

Ballot language

The issuance of \$47,300,000 bonds by the City of Pflugerville, Texas, for a recreation and senior center. Taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds will be imposed.

Explanation

This \$47 million bond proposal would fund a new recreation and senior center. If Proposition C passes, a homeowner whose home is valued at \$100K would expect to pay an additional \$18.32 in property taxes per year.

LOCAL CITY OF ROUND ROCK

MAYOR

Craig Morgan

Unopposed

COUNCILMEMBERS

Transparency: What strategies will you use to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall?

COVID-19: How do you expect COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact to affect your priorities?

Police Reform: What police reforms do you support, if any?

Growth: What specific actions related to city infrastructure would you introduce to city council to effectively manage growth (roads, utilities, etc.)?

.....

PLACE 1



Michelle Ly

Background: Vietnamese—American small business owner. Her husband and her together started Hall Roofing and Construction, Rock Sports Bar, Alcove Cantina and The Flats RR.

Education: Round Rock High School Graduate, class of 1999. BBA—Management Degree from Texas State University—San Marcos.

Campaign Website: <http://www.votemichellely.com>

Transparency: Being a small business owner, I have learned that the best strategy is being accessible. If citizens have questions or concerns, they should be able to easily find the answer. Educating people where to find the answers or how the processes work can ease their concerns.

COVID-19: I do not believe COVID-19 will be disappearing from our lives anytime in the foreseeable future. I feel like as a community, we must learn how to live safely and find a new normal. I think it is important to support our local businesses opening in a safe way. I think businesses need

LOCAL CITY OF ROUND ROCK

PLACE 1

Michelle Ly (continued)

to make an effort to implement safety protocols. I think our residents need to act responsibly in the community.

Police Reform: I fully support the Round Rock Police Department and the work that they do for our community. They have a strong community outreach through several events like Pops with a Cop or Trunk or Treat. They have adapted to continue programs safely. They have invested in dash cameras and body cameras to have accountability.

Growth: Growth is not a possibility but it is actuality. We must determine the best way to grow our community. With growth, we must improve and invest in the city infrastructure as an ongoing project. There must be continued foresight in improvements needed to the city infrastructure.



Tina Steiner

Background: I am a 4th gen RR native; educator; RRHS, Leadership RR, RR UniverCity, Citizen Police Academy grad; served on 2 city & 1 county commissions; Vice Chair State Rep Talarico CAB

Education: Doctor of Philosophy (student) Grand Canyon U; Masters in Ed- C & I, Masters in Ed- Reading- Grand Canyon U; TESOL- Tx A&M U Bachelor of Science- Tx State; Assoc of Arts- ACC

Campaign Website: <http://tinaforroundrock.com/>

Transparency: I will make inclusivity a priority by sharing information in more ways than simply posting meeting agendas at City Hall; ensure websites are updated; increase transparency so citizens are up to date on current affairs ensure clarity in regard to city roles, responsibilities, & procedures; I will also actively listen & follow through on citizen communication and concerns that the community may have

COVID-19: Instead of allowing COVID-19 to adversely affect my priorities I plan to use the time as an opportunity to focus on finding solutions & crafting policy to address the recovery of small and family business and to assist with the critical needs of low-income people harmed by the pan-

demical all of which will address the adverse economic impact it has caused.

Police Reform: I believe that systemic changes must be made to policy & practices. I also believe that equity, justice, & accountability are vital and that communication, dialogue, & education are key to creating this. There should be more education regarding mental health, use of force, as well as finding ways in which to demilitarize & options allowed for restorative justice.

Growth: I will focus on: planning Infrastructure for our worsening traffic; ensuring that the city has adequate public transportation; Equitable zoning in order to take care of our lifelong residents and older neighborhoods; and guaranteeing affordable housing for our public servants, veterans, and students attending our city's institutes of higher learning.

PLACE 4



Frank Ortega

Background: Former Lubbock Planning and Zoning Commission State Board Member of the Hispanic Organization for Public Education Texas State Board of the League of United Latin Am Citiz

Education: Howard College with an Associate In Applied Arts. Certificate Real Estate Investment Analysis Certified Negotiation Expert Real Estate Agent

Campaign Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Frank4RR/>

Transparency: First, government officials needed to make publicly available all releasable information, whether it sheds a positive or negative light on the organization. This dissemination needs to be timely and completely accurate. Communicate with the public. Citizens expect their governments to be transparent about fiscal, safety, and policy issues that affect them. That's what I plan to do.

COVID-19: COVID-19 has already affect everyones priorities within city government. We will need to have a close watch on the cities spending, Definitely pay as we go. The city will loss millions of revenue from tourism, hotel revenue

and business closures. We would need to set priorities for the safety of are citizens, keep funding the city police, fire department and city projects.

Police Reform: To make sure that are police dept. reflects the citizens of Round Rock.

Growth: Affordable Housing, transportation like more bus route, rail and smart growth.



Will Peckham

Background: Former Mayor Pro-Tem City of Round Rock, Vice Pres. RR Transportation & Economic Development Corp., RR Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Past Vice Chair RR Ethics Comm.

Education: Bachelor of Science, Texas A&M University
Campaign Website: <http://www.willpeckham.com>

Transparency: Over the past six years, I have worked to make Round Rock city government more transparent to its citizens and more accountable to taxpayers. Examples include online videos explaining the city budget, information on the city website and social media, and ads in local newspapers.

COVID-19: At least for the moment, handling COVID-19 needs to be our top priority. While I'd prefer to focus on attracting new employers to Round Rock, that requires getting the coronavirus under control first. Since the beginning, the City Council has focused on listening to the medical experts and working to keep our community as safe as possible, so that we can return to normal as quickly as possible.

Police Reform: Since I've been on City Council, Round Rock has repeatedly been named one of the safest cities of its size in America. That's why I'm so proud to stand with our brave police officers and first responders. While we can always do a better job in providing our law enforcement with the tools and training to be effective, the recent movement to "defund the police" is something I cannot support.

Growth: As our community continues to grow, we must be able to grow with it. As a member of the Round Rock City Council, I've led with my colleagues to outline a long-term road and infrastructure development plan to address the rapid growth our city has experienced.

CHARTER ELECTION

Background

What is a charter? A municipal charter is a legal document that establishes a town and defines its powers. Think of it like the constitution of a city.

PROPOSITION A

Ballot language

Amendment to Sec. 14.04 of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Round Rock, Texas changing the conflict of interest regulations to follow Chapter 171 of the Texas Local Government Code.

Explanation

Round Rock's current charter states that city council and city employees shall not have a conflict of interest with the city. Proposition A, if passed, would clarify that conflicts of interest are defined and governed by Chapter 171 of the Texas Local Government Code. Additionally, it also changes the language of the section to refer only to city council, not city employees.

LOCAL CITY OF ROUND ROCK

PROPOSITION B

Ballot language

Amendment to Sec. 14.08(a)(3) of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Round Rock, Texas to clarify the prohibitions against city officials and candidates requesting or accepting political contributions from city employees.

Explanation

City elected officials or candidates are currently prohibited from asking for campaign donations from city employees. Proposition B, if passed, would clarify that while city elected officials or candidates still cannot directly ask for campaign contributions from city employees, this does not mean that they cannot conduct indirect mass marketing such as radio or tv ads, social media posts, and mass mailers that city employees may inadvertently receive.

PROPOSITION C

Ballot language

Amendment to Sec. 14.08(a)(4) of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Round Rock, Texas to prohibit city employees from contributing funds to a political action committee for use in a city election.

Explanation

Currently, city employees cannot donate, receive, or request donations that can be used in a city election. Proposition C,

if passed, would add language that would also prohibit city employees from donating, receiving, or requesting campaign funds to any political action committee to be used in a city election or campaign for city office.

PROPOSITION D

Ballot language

Amendment to Sec. 3.01 of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Round Rock, Texas to delete the second paragraph related to the transition from two-year terms to three-year terms.

Explanation

Round Rock's charter discusses the transition process for council members and the mayor to move from two-year terms to three-year terms. Proposition D, if passed, would delete the transition language since the transition process is over.

PROPOSITION E

Ballot language

Amendment to the Home Rule Charter of the City of Round Rock, Texas to repeal Sec. 14.10 regarding the submission of the original charter to the voters in 1977.

Explanation

Round Rock's charter discusses the process for submitting the original charter to voters in 1977. Proposition E, if passed, will repeal this language.

PROPOSITION F

Ballot language

Amendment to the Home Rule Charter of the City of Round Rock, Texas to clarify in Sec. 3.08(c) the prohibitions against interference with administration.

Explanation

Currently, city council is prohibited from officially interfering with city employees' duties. Proposition F, if passed, will confirm that city council cannot interfere with the jobs of city employees, except in the cases of an investigation or if a city employee has been designated by the city manager to do administrative work for the city council. In all other cases, city employees are under the supervision of the city manager.

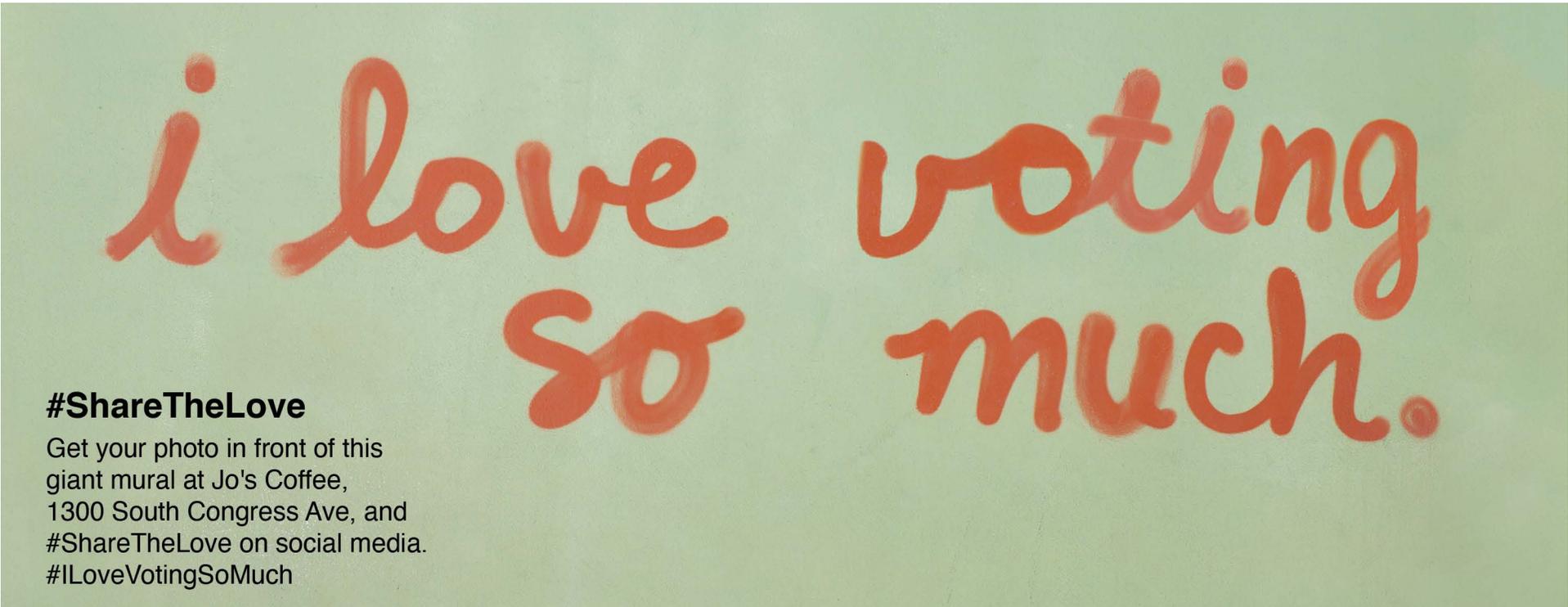
PROPOSITION G

Ballot language

Amendment to the Home Rule Charter of the City of Round Rock, Texas to clarify in Sec. 3.17 the city manager's authority to designate assistant(s) for the mayor and city council.

Explanation

Currently, the city manager can appoint city employees to provide administrative support to the city council. Proposition G, if passed, will clarify that the mayor and council may communicate with and direct these appointed employees.



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LOCAL CITY OF SUNSET VALLEY

MAYOR

Transparency: What strategies will you use to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall?

Growth: What are your top concerns related to rapid growth and how do you plan to address them?

COVID-19: How do you expect COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact to affect your priorities?

Systemic Racism: Do you feel that there is systemic and institutional racism that needs to be addressed in city hall (such as low diversity in staffing and commissions)? If so, how would you address it?

.....



Marc Bruner

Background: Government experience: Sunset Valley City Council, 2015-2019; Mayor Pro Tem Sunset Valley, 2016-2017; President, Sunset Valley Crime Control and Prevention District, 2017-2019

Education: University of Texas at Austin: Master of Science, Software Engineering, 2008; Bachelor of Arts, English Literature, 1997; Bachelor of Science, Mathematics, 1996

Campaign Website: <http://marcforsunsetvalley.org>

Transparency: We need to prioritize collaborative civic participation by: Continuing to enhance our tools for collecting community feedback, including the use of digital portals and surveys.; Posting clear agendas with consistent and adequate timelines for notifying the public and providing an opportunity for comments.; Directing communication to occur in public-facing forums where appropriate.

Growth: Sunset Valley's proximity to Austin drives my primary concerns for rapid growth, including growing traffic, noise, and light pollution. I want to continue to strengthen

regulations that reinforce our community values of conservation, green spaces, and shared public infrastructure. I also want to work with outside government entities to mitigate the impact of existing and proposed development.

COVID-19: Addressing COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact is my primary priority. We must help our retail partners to recover while consistently following the medical community's guidelines and county and state authorities for safe re-opening. We should weigh means to best apply our city resources, including marketing support, staff hires, and code updates to facilitate that recovery.

Systemic Racism: While I have not seen evidence of systemic and institutional racism in city hall, any issues of racism or discrimination should be immediately addressed by city leadership. We need to have strong policies in place to support equal and fair treatment of all staff and residents, and speak up when discrimination is present in any city forum.

Phil Ellett

No response received

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

Choose 1 or 2

Transparency: What strategies will you use to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall?

COVID-19: How do you expect COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact to affect your priorities?

Police Reform: What police reforms do you support, if any?

Growth: What specific actions related to city infrastructure would you introduce to city council to effectively manage growth (roads, utilities, etc.)?

.....



Rose Ann Cardona

Background: Past Chair of P&E and Public Safety in SV. Served since 2009 as council member, Mayor Pro Tem and Mayor. Attorney with business, government and collaborative experience.

Education: Licensed attorney since 2008. Attended Southwestern undergraduate and completed extensive study abroad in South America and Mexico.

Campaign Website: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/rose-cardona-hargrave-3320793a/>

Transparency: My Public Dashboard which shows work in progress; completed research; and transparency to sponsorship for upcoming meetings. I will maintain my commitment to the time required to do the job right: Responding to phone calls and e-mails; not initiating "phone trees" or convoluted messaging with residents; taking my work and ideas to the public for proper deliberation, vote and public record.

COVID-19: We have an opportunity, while some events and activities are limited, to focus on areas typically neglected such as Capital Planning and establishing a current and accurate Cost of Services to serve as a true blueprint to what we should spend on workforce, outsourced labor and other expenses. In doing this, I believe we can actually INCREASE the services that residents MOST want and appreciate.

Police Reform: We have great officers and SVPD is an under appreciated part of our City. I support helping the PD and community better understand one another through outreach and community education. This year, SVPD has been a quiet leader in managing COVID and homeless issues that have a daily impact on resident safety and commercial vitality. They do it better than any other department in Travis County.

Growth: A proper and current Capital Planning Schedule for all roads in the City. A clear understanding of COA—SV road, utility and water responsibilities that will cost our city money and liability (eg. Sterns Lane, Country White and AISD). Ensure that we do not take on additional costs or liabilities unless understood and adopted by the entire community.



Alfonso Carmona

Background: Central TX Municipal Manager & Asst. Director 30+ yrs. Private consultant. Texas A&M Engineering Extension Services Instructor. SV Finance/Budget & Public Works committees.

Education: Engineer/teacher w/studies in Industrial Chemical Engineering & Environmental Sciences. Earned AAA State Licenses in water, wastewater, and solid waste management.

Campaign Website: <http://www.alfonsosunsetvalley.org>

Transparency: We need to work on how we approach communication and not just the delivery methods. Council should be guided by residents in agenda-setting. Communication needs to be transparent, delivered with accurate context, and easy to understand. Information shouldn't be withheld. We should explore social media, reinstate comprehensive resident surveys and include residents who prefer mailed communication.

COVID-19: Retail revenue loss reduced SV's budget by 25% and it's projected to remain so through the pandemic. It's important to focus on providing essential services and use this time to evaluate, prioritize, and continue to save money. I want to bring programs back by making careful, data-driven decisions with community input. Recovery and sustainability needs engaging our retail partners and community.

Police Reform: The citizens of SV and its police department enjoy a unique relationship due to the size of the city. I value and appreciate that our police and community make SV safe and secure to live and shop. We should work with the police dept. to identify additional training areas specific to officer duties as well as training in communication skills, de-escalation, crisis intervention, and use of force.

Growth: We need a Capital Improvements Program to plan/budget infrastructure projects. Our current infrastructure plans are in silos. Combining them through a CIP would let us allocate funds and prioritize/coordinate the work to accomplish more and save money. While SV is almost fully developed; future improvements, maintenance, and the impact of surrounding development needs to be addressed in the plan.

Rob Johnson

No response received

LOCAL CITY OF TAYLOR

CITY COUNCILMEMBER AT-LARGE

Transparency: What strategies will you use to ensure open communication and transparency from city hall?

COVID-19: How do you expect COVID-19 and its ongoing economic impact to affect your priorities?

Police Reform: What police reforms do you support, if any?

Growth: What specific actions related to city infrastructure would you introduce to city council to effectively manage growth (roads, utilities, etc.)?

Dwayne E. Ariola

No response received



Christopher Gonzales

Background: Campus & District Education Improvement Council; CAPCOG Representative 4+years; Council Member 2009-2018; Coach for Little League/Pony Colt; Meals on Wheels Volunteer

Education: Graduated from Taylor High School; Honorable Discharge United States Marine Corp; Temple College Graduate—associate degree in business administration

Transparency: Listen to understand citizens questions and concerns; Safely Re-open city council meetings in public meetings; Planning and specific responses on items during budget hearings; Utilize and enhance engagement through all technical advancements; Encourage and ensure all mem-

bers of citizens have an opportunity to participate on boards and commissions

COVID-19: Priority will be to safely re-open the city to include local tournaments; Support local businesses by seeking state funding; Look to re-open/welcome new business and stores

Police Reform: Will partner with community and Taylor Police Department to ensure: Police have adequate staffing; Look and provide resources and further training; Increased leadership field engagement while on patrol

Growth: Continue the CIP program to ensure infrastructure is capable of sustaining future growth.; Seek grants for projects; Revisit all fees and look for opportunities to decrease fees

CHARTER ELECTION

Background

What is a charter? A municipal charter is a legal document that establishes a town and defines its powers. Think of it like the constitution of a city.

PROPOSITION A

Ballot language

Shall Article 4, Section 4.1 of the Taylor City Charter be amended to require that Council members be elected by a majority vote.

Explanation

Currently, council members are elected by a plurality vote. Proposition A, if passed, will require that council members are to be elected by a majority vote. A plurality of votes means that a winning candidate needs more votes than their opponents. A majority of votes means that the candidate needs to get more than half the votes, or 50%. Should this amendment pass, if a majority is not achieved by a candidate in the regular election, a run-off election would be required.

PROPOSITION B

Ballot language

Shall Article 4, Section 4.2 of the Taylor City Charter be amended to state that a conflict of interest between a Council Member and the City Council shall be defined by Chapter 171 Texas Local Government Code as written or subsequently amended and upon compliance with Chapter 171 the conflict of interest shall be deemed properly disclosed.

Explanation

Taylor's charter states that councilmembers shall not have a conflict of interest with the city under Texas state law. Proposition B, if passed, would clarify that conflicts of interest are defined and governed by Chapter 171 of the Texas Local Government Code.

PROPOSITION C

Ballot language

Shall Article 9, Section 9.1 of the Taylor City Charter be amended to allow the City Manager to hire and remove employees of the City.

Explanation

Currently, the city manager needs the approval of city council to hire and remove city employees. Proposition C, if passed, would give the city manager the authority to hire and remove employees without further approval.

SAVE TIME—USE OUR INTERACTIVE VOTERS GUIDE!

More information about the candidates can be reviewed by visiting VOTE411.org, a one-stop online resource for upcoming elections made possible by the League of Women Voters Education Fund. Simply enter your address to find your polling place, build your ballot with our online *Voters Guide*, and compare candidates side by side. Answers from candidates who didn't respond by the print deadline may be available online.

NEW VOTING SYSTEM

Both Travis and Williamson Counties are now using an ExpressVote Ballot Marking Device (BMD), which uses touch-screen technology but produces a paper ballot for tabulation. It's modern, secure, and allows you to verify your selections before casting your vote.

For more information, please visit:

<https://countyclerk.traviscountytexas.gov/elections/meet-your-new-voting-system.html>

or

www.wilco.org/wilcovotes

Steps to Vote

1. VOTE: At check-in you will receive a blank ballot. Insert this ballot into any ExpressVote BMD. Follow instructions on the screen to make your selections.



Poll workers will be available if you need assistance.

2. REVIEW: When prompted, print your ballot. Carefully review all the selections printed on the card to be sure it accurately reflects your choices.



3. SCAN: You MUST then scan your DS200 scanner to cast your vote. Do NOT leave the polling location with your ballot.



LOCAL AUSTIN ISD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Budget: What strategies would you use to manage your school district's funding to maintain or improve educational quality?

Police Reform: What reforms to your district's school policing system do you support, if any?

Discipline: How would you ensure that schools implement fair and unbiased disciplinary policies district-wide?

COVID-19: Given the effects of COVID-19, how will you promote equitable learning opportunities and equal access to resources for all students?



DISTRICT 2



Adolphus "Andy" Anderson

Background: For over 20 years, I have served on many Committees which benefits student success along with Neighborhoods. I served in AISD, Texas PTA, and Austin Neighborhood Council

Education: Prairie View A&M University Texas A&M University

Budget: What I would like to see as part of change is the utilization of campuses and how we as a District can get the most out of them. Furthermore, we need to continue to evaluate our Budget to ensure we are getting the resources where they are needed most.

Police Reform: To ensure our children are safe from not only the outside but also within the schools. Furthermore, interventions need to be in place before removing students from campuses. An example would be GoLoveMe or Restorative Practices

Discipline: As long as parents and community are involved in the review of policies to ensure they are in line with today's conditions, then we should have a fair policy that works for all. Disciplinary policies should be carefully looked at in the same manner

COVID-19: We need to continue to provide resources for all such that their learning is not impeded. There has been actions already but we need to have resources also in place to maintain these initiatives



John McKiernan-Gonzalez

Background: Born in New York, I grew up in Colombia, Mexico and Alabama. I first worked in public health. I now research & teach Latino History and the history of medicine.

Education: I did junior high and high school in Alabama, Mexico and New Mexico. I graduated from Oberlin College in 1991 and earned my Ph.D from the University of Michigan in 2002.

Campaign Website: <http://mckiernangonzalez4d2.com>

Budget: My priority for Austin ISD is to direct school funding to the people who benefit the most from attention, students and staff in low income and Title I schools. Building a strong base for elementary schools will expand the communities involved in public schools, allowing the district to grow with the City of Austin.

Police Reform: My mom brought me up with a simple truth: Nothing good can come from interacting with police. Nada bueno resulta. The presence of police needs to be justified by this standard—what good, compared to more sped staff, counselors, nurses, library resources, parent support services staff, teachers, physical ed staff, custodians, maintenance and office staff can an SRO contribute to a school.

Discipline: In addition to Social & Emotional Learning, disability awareness and Cultural Proficiency training for staff and students, I would push for restorative justice measures and regular evaluations of schools and districts based on racial and gender disparities in suspension data.

COVID-19: AISD must publicly defend students, staff and families based on local COVID conditions. The district must find ways to keep staff, students & family safe from a dangerous and potentially chronic disease. AISD must continue providing free breakfast and lunch. AISD must build education policy out from the needs of the most vulnerable students to other situations. Countywide public broadband//



Ofelia Maldonado Zapata

Background: Community Organizer. Helped reorganize AISD Community Education campuses. Co-founded programs for after school activities; adult ESL/GED classes; and, Summer Youth Employment

Education: Travis High School graduate. Attended ACC Criminal Justice Program. As a blind student, I advocated for five years for adequate accommodations for the visually impaired.

Budget: I propose an audit of spending during the pandemic shutdown by the central office and campus administrators. Results may identify nonessential administrative costs that can be used to ensure high academic achievement for students and better teacher compensation. I also propose examining how virtual classes may offer innovative methods to achieve high academic outcomes at lower cost.

Police Reform: We need to work together as a community to eradicate racism in our schools. I support using school resource officers (SRO) to ensure campus safety. All campus officers should receive anti-racism and other social justice training. SRO conducted presentations about alcohol, drugs and other youth related issues can build relationships between students and officers to reduce negative behavior.

Discipline: Conduct a district-wide staff training on the 1928 city charter that includes discussions that lead to re-writing the current disciplinary policies applicable to staff

and students. The new policies should include measures such as body cameras to allow for greater accountability when disciplinary actions are taken against staff and students. Annual reporting and reviews should be included.

COVID-19: Virtual learning must be available and accessible to all low-income and special needs students. AISD must assure that its technology response plan accommodates students with special needs to stay engaged and prevent them from falling behind. Furthermore, AISD should make training and technical resources available to support teachers in the transition to virtual classrooms.

DISTRICT 3

Kevin Foster

Unopposed

DISTRICT 5



Lynn Boswell

Background: Austin Council of PTAs pres. 2018-20—AISD District Advisory Council—Travis County Census Complete Count Cmte—Austin Juvenile Justice Workgroup—journalism/

documentaries

Education: B.A. Journalism & B.A. Latin American Studies from SMU; J.D. from The University of Texas School of Law

Campaign Website: <http://lynnforaisd.com>

Budget: Teacher turnover & student loss to charters reduce funds available to improve educational quality. Replacing teachers is expensive. We must do more to give teachers reasons to stay: mentorship, support, respectful workplaces. We must strengthen relationships with families by addressing reasons people leave for charters. AISD must advocate at the Capitol for reduced recapture & increased funding.

Police Reform: Reforms must begin with conversation in our community—with students at the center, and with input from teachers, families & local groups that work on racial justice & the school to prison pipeline. We must recognize that campus police have a role in keeping schools safe & must also recognize the valid concerns raised by the presence of armed officers on campus, especially for young men of color.

Discipline: Fair & unbiased discipline policies start with a deep look at data, disaggregated by race, special education status, gender, campus, disability & other factors. AISD's discipline policy needs a stronger focus on equity, de-escalation & restorative practices. Teachers need professional development & support. AISD must use regular analysis of data to establish a stronger system of accountability.

LOCAL AUSTIN ISD

DISTRICT 5

Lynn Boswell (continued)

COVID-19: AISD's work to provide computers & hotspots is necessary but not adequate. Many families need support to ensure meaningful access. True learning takes more than technology. AISD must work thoughtfully & strategically to learn from families what's working & what's not. Specific strategies are needed for students receiving special education services, dyslexic students & emerging bilingual students.



Jennifer Littlefield

Background: I am an attorney as well as an Austin High parent and graduate. I served on the 2017 bond committee that led to a \$1 billion investment in AISD schools.

Education: I earned a Political Science degree from Texas State University then worked as a policy aide at the Texas Legislature. I earned a law degree from UT with two kids under four.

Campaign Website: <http://www.JenniferForAISD.com>

Budget: AISD must prioritize funding for teachers. An effective teacher is the most important component of educational quality. Strategic investments in fine arts, athletics, CTE, and dual language programs benefit the district by attracting families to AISD. AISD must also seek to increase funds through legislative advocacy, maximizing community partnerships, and attracting students from charter schools.

Police Reform: AISD should expand its restorative justice programs and shift funds from school policing to mental health services. School Resource Officers should play an outward facing role, rather than inward policing of students. AISD must also continue its investment in dyslexia identification and intervention services. Dyslexic people make up 20% of the population, but almost half of the US prison system.

Discipline: I would implement cultural competency training requirements for teachers and school administrators. Further, I would leverage community partnerships with mental healthcare providers and social workers to expand the community schools model, improve recruitment and retention of teachers of color, and implement a periodic equity assessment of district practices.

COVID-19: All students must be given academic support, mental health services, and technology for success. We are fortunate to have community partners like the Austin Ed Fund and Communities in Schools that provide counseling, telehealth benefits, and more. Strengthening these partnerships is essential to meeting students primary needs, addressing COVID-19 concerns, and ensuring student academic engagement.



Piper Stege Nelson

Background: An Austin native, I have dedicated my career to women's political and educational empowerment and am the mother of two AISD elementary school students.

Education: A graduate of Carleton College with a degree in Spanish and Women's Studies, I had a Fulbright in Ecuador and then earned a master's from UT's LBJ School of Public Affairs.

Campaign Website: <http://www.piper4aisd.com>

Budget: To create a realistic and success-driven budget for AISD, I'd invest in the learning/success of principals and teachers; direct resources to the schools with the highest need; and provide school leaders with the discretionary resources to make community-led decisions. I'd also partner with UT, the City of Austin and local business to leverage local innovation, and lobby TEA for more local control.

Police Reform: School Resource Officers often become the police of the school, the entity that students are scared to encounter—and this fear keeps our schools from implementing fully trauma-informed education. Some suggest we should use social workers instead of SROs, which sounds good to me. But it should be up to each individual school administration to evaluate what would work best in their community.

Discipline: To address the historical racism in our education system, the disparities in disciplinary measures taken with Black and Brown children versus White children must be taken into account when measuring the "success" of a school; when racial disparities in discipline actions decrease, the school may be on the right track. In fact, a general decrease in disciplinary actions might be a sign of success.

COVID-19: For students that can learn from home, let's keep them learning remotely. But for those students that cannot learn from home (i.e. kids with Special Education needs, with language needs, lacking internet or devices, etc.), we must find spaces for them to safely learn in person. Those teachers that are able and willing to be present in person with those children must be compensated for that risk.

DISTRICT 8 AT-LARGE



Jared D. Breckenridge

Background: Jared D. Breckenridge, a fourth generation Austin native, a former elementary through high school student of AISD, a courageous community leader, and a current AISD educator.

Education: Jared has spent several decades inside of numerous Austin ISD campuses (as a student, a volunteer and an employee). Jared is also a graduating Senior at Huston-Tillotson Univ.

Campaign Website: <http://www.jaredforaisd.com>

Budget: The primary strategy that I will use to manage AISD's funding is to utilize a student-first & equity-based model system. When faced with annual budget decisions, I will strongly challenge both myself and my colleagues to make sure that each child (despite their race, SES, disability, zip code, etc.) will be able to receive what they need in order to reach their full academic and social potential.

Police Reform: I am fully in support of being able to collaborate & create with our students, families, teachers, staff members, police officers, and community members ways to reform our police department. I am also in support of all of our officers receiving mandatory bias, culture, race, and equity training and being held accountable for that. We must ensure that everyone feels both safe and respected in AISD.

Discipline: Having lived experiences working at ALC and TCJDC, I will personally be requesting disaggregated data (student, staff, campus, etc) in order to check for alarming discipline patterns. If it appears that a certain group of students are overly represented in discipline, I will visit the campus myself to see if there are any additional resources or even staffing needs that can better help the campus.

COVID-19: I will promote equitable learning opportunities for every one of our 80,900+ students by ensuring that each and every one of them has access to technology. I will also make sure that we are hiring and assigning our most highly effective teachers and staff members to our campuses that have extremely low academic performance. Lastly, I will be prioritizing additional finances and resources for them.



Leticia Moreno Caballero

Background: AISD parent and graduate, campus level volunteer at Elementary, Middle School and High Schools. TRI-Chair of FABPAC and Vice Chair of Austin Ed Fund; district wide committees.

Education: Bachelor of Science in Communications, University of Texas at Austin

Campaign Website: <http://www.leticiaforaisd.com>

Budget: We must look at all available strategies to manage our funding. Improving educational quality must be looked at campus by campus. Each is experiencing different stresses that must be confronted. Educational quality includes academic quality, social and emotional learning, whole child wellness, and educating our special education students.

Police Reform: Students of color are disproportionately impacted by policing in schools. We should not treat any violation in school as a criminal act. We need training in our police departments that reinforce that Student Resource Officers are there to protect the students and staff.

Discipline: We should begin by looking at the data on who is being disciplined by campus by teacher. There are not consistent uniform measures on disciplinary action and there is too much subjectivity. The district should look at ending discretionary removals and suspensions from the classroom.

LOCAL AUSTIN ISD

DISTRICT 8 AT-LARGE

Leticia Moreno Caballero (continued)

COVID-19: COVID-19 pandemic has widened the achievement gaps that we already see in our students. Students have been out of school for 6 months without instruction. Students experienced months of social isolation. We need to look for a hybrid model to safely bring some students back to campus for in-person instruction, in a phased approach. This should be an optional for students and teachers.



Mike Herschenfeld

Background: Former teacher, district administrator, and state education leader with a focus on systemic change management to improve equity in access and opportunities for all students.

Education: B.A. in Sociology at Quinnipiac University
M.A. in Teaching Secondary Education at Quinnipiac University

Campaign Website: <http://www.mikeforaustin.com>

Budget: Develop a budget that is strategically aligned with clear and transparent goals and priorities and hold the administration accountable to it. Implement a student-based budgeting formula with weights to structurally address opportunity gaps between students based on race, income, and ability. Lobby the state to ensure funds generated by student weights are not subject to recapture/robinhood.

Police Reform: The presence of uniformed officers does

not make many students and families feel safer at school. Remove armed and uniformed police officers from within buildings and focus their mission on ensuring the perimeter of every building is secure, prevention of violence, and intelligence gathering. We should also reallocate funds to focus on counseling and wrap-around supports for students.

Discipline: Make all data available publicly. Ensure the equity audit includes a deep review of every policy in AISD, including discipline policies/procedures. Language must ensure that no student group is intentionally or unintentionally targeted and include transparent collaborative reviews. Processes must include checks and balances so no individual staff member can infringe on the rights of any student.

COVID-19: Ensure all students have the technology needed to access equitable learning opportunities based on need. When safe to do so, returning to campus should be prioritized for our students based on need, ability, and our youngest students working on early literacy. Lobby the state for full reimbursement of the costs posed by COVID-19 which is already disproportionately affecting our families of color.



Noelita L. Lugo

Background: I'm an Indigenous Latina (Otomi & Mexican), mom of three children, have over twenty years in public service (family-centered programs) and have lived in Austin for 25 years.

Education: I have a Bachelor of Arts in English, Psychology

and Master of Science in Social Work from the University of Texas at Austin.

Campaign Website: <http://facebook.com/Noelita4AISD>

Budget: The current public education funding structure is complicated and inequitable. As trustee, I would work with colleagues on the board & in the community, and with organizations like Just Fund It, to advocate for adequate public education funding for all school districts.

Police Reform: The over policing and criminalizing of behavioral issues does not remedy behavioral and mental health issues, and it disproportionately impacts children with disabilities and Black and Brown boys and girls. We must work with communities to identify solutions that meet individual community needs & wants and that ends the school to prison pipeline.

Discipline: We must prioritize mental & behavioral health services & provide ongoing cultural proficiency learning opportunities for educators, campus administrators, counselors & staff. We must continue policies & practices that treat behavioral issues with a restorative justice, culturally responsive & trauma-informed lens—not rely on ineffective punitive measures.

COVID-19: Our school district, city government, business community & community organizations should work creatively to provide safe & effective micro-learning groups for families who need face-to-face instruction. We should have publicly available wi-fi for low-income individuals & families. We should continue to enhance AISD's tech & instructional support for teachers, students & parents/caregivers.

LOCAL DEL VALLE ISD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Budget: What strategies would you use to manage your school district's funding to maintain or improve educational quality?

Police Reform: What reforms to your district's school policing system do you support, if any?

Discipline: How would you ensure that schools implement fair and unbiased disciplinary policies district-wide?

COVID-19: Given the effects of COVID-19, how will you promote equitable learning opportunities and equal access to resources for all students?

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PLACE 1

Ann Heuberger

Unopposed

PLACE 2



David J. Albert

Background: As a professional educator, I teach Government at ACC. I have also spent many years working on behalf of Democrats and labor unions and advocating for better education.

Education: BA in Government & History from the College of William & Mary (Virginia) and an MA in Middle East Studies and a PhD in Government—both from University of Texas—Austin,

Campaign Website: <http://www.davidfordelvalle.com/>

Budget: Given the funding pressures we face, we need to coordinate an active advocacy presence at the Legislature with other ISDs. We need to do everything in our power to protect the salaries and benefits of our employees in order to boost retention, since protecting our teachers and staff is the

best way to preserve and improve educational quality. Property tax increases are a last resort.

Police Reform: Last spring, Del Valle moved to establish an in-district police force rather than relying on the Travis County Sheriff's department to provide law enforcement on campus. This seems like a positive step. Once we resume in-person classes, the Board will need to receive regular reports in order to evaluate whether the new approach is effective. I'm optimistic that this is better approach

Discipline: Our police force needs to reflect the diversity of our student population and needs to be well-trained including anti-racism training. Minor infractions should not be turned into law enforcement issues. We need to prevent our schools from becoming part of the school-to-prison pipeline. We should also try to move from punitive methods like suspension to relying on a restorative justice approach.

COVID-19: Until we have an effective vaccine, we need to preserve the options of both in-person and remote learning.

LOCAL DEL VALLE ISD

PLACE 2

David J. Albert (continued)

We have made positive efforts in providing Chromebooks and meal delivery. We need be concerned about the disproportionate adverse impacts on our special education, ESL, and economically disadvantaged students. The Board must also protect the health of our employees and their families.



Damian Pantoja

Background: I am proud to serve as a trustee on the Del Valle ISD School Board. My votes as a Board trustee are made with careful consideration for needs of my students and community.

Education: Del Valle High School . St. Mary's University—Bachelor of Arts, English Communication Arts. Purdue University—Candidate for Master of Science, Communication & Leadership.

Budget: As a Board, all funding decisions are based on District's goals and student's needs. I weigh each decision carefully and only support a request with information on how it impacts the students and our finances. I am proud that we have diligently worked to focus our spending on equitable resources. Such as dual language, free after-school programming and competitive benefits for teachers and staff.

Police Reform: As a Trustee, I supported the proposal to create a Del Valle ISD Safety & Security Team. We heard from students and administration that our former School Resource Officers were not following positive behavior polices the district implemented. We created the department to align their procedures and use Restorative Justice practices, social-emotional learning, exhibit comfortable approachability.

Discipline: As a DVISD alumni and Montoplis native, it is important to have positive and supportive perspectives of our students. I want to make sure that our students have educators and professionals that support their diverse cultural needs and goals. We as a board have implemented Positive

Behavioral Intervention Systems (PBIS) on every campus. Which is used to strengthen relationships with our students.

COVID-19: I promoted efforts for equitable access and resources to all students: partnered with administration to support high-quality e-learning with enhanced training and resources for teachers; E-learning devices for all students; Access to internet service through hotspots; Continued meal services throughout the district via bus routes and at campus sites, Counseling and nursing services via phone.

PLACE 4

Richard Rendon

Unopposed

PLACE 6

Rebecca Birch

Unopposed

LOCAL EANES ISD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Budget: What strategies would you use to manage your school district's funding to maintain or improve educational quality?

Police Reform: What reforms to your district's school policing system do you support, if any?

Discipline: How would you ensure that schools implement fair and unbiased disciplinary policies district-wide?

COVID-19: Given the effects of COVID-19, how will you promote equitable learning opportunities and equal access to resources for all students?

PLACE 1



Kim McMath

Background: Corporate attorney with 2 kids who attended VVE, BPE, HCMS, and WHS this year. I have 11 yrs of Eanes volunteering, with a focus on monitoring finances and SEL/mental health.

Education: Austin College—BA LBJ School of Public Affairs—Masters of Public Affairs U.T. School of Law—Juris Doctorate Texas State University—adjunct professor Constant learner

Campaign Website: <http://kimforeanes.com>

Budget: Funding is difficult for recapture districts; We give away 60%+ of taxes; 85% of Eanes' M&O budget goes to

fund quality teachers. Teachers are the backbone of quality. To manage, we must use all available tools: allow transfers in schools where capacity (this year \$5.5M); encourage voters to pass the 2 "golden pennies"-the VATRE- to bring in \$3.3M; continue passing smart bonds-like in 2015/2019.

Police Reform: 1) Promote and make accessible SEL and mental health for students, including recommendations that may come through the DEI consultant & DEI committee 2) Continue working with our Security Resource Officer (SRO) to address consistency and deescalation of any safety concerns, both internally or externally 3) Continue to address safety issues on all campuses, including safety prevention passed 2019

Discipline: 1) Uphold recently updated Code of Conduct to make our schools safe and consistent for all students, addressing concerns as they are presented, and utilizing community input through DEI committee 2) Consistent training for all teachers, teachers' aids, and administrators 3) Constant communication to parents and students on expectations of student behavior, and to students as appropriate by grade

COVID-19: Continue progress monitoring (MAP test, quizzes) of students through the teachers/classes. All Eanes students have devices; vast majority have internet access. Eanes has a guaranteed viable curriculum, it strives for equity for ALL students (special ed and general ed), every single child. For students with special ed services and any at-risk community, monitor/uphold equal access/resources.



John Troy

Background: Founded org to help schools hire talent; Former investment banker & nonprofit leader; Non-profit school board experience; Eanes ISD volunteer; Elementary school

parent.

Education: Texas Public Schools (K-12); Texas A&M University (BBA, Finance); Duke University (MBA)

Campaign Website: <http://www.johntroy.org/>

Budget: Maintaining Eanes excellence & closing budget deficits is a main reasons I'm running. My kids will be in Eanes for the next 18 years; thus, I have a long-term view. 1) Pass the 2 additional golden pennies this Nov to keep more of our tax dollars 2) Strongly support EEF & Booster clubs through private donations 3) Pursue additional revenue streams (Robotics fundraising is a great example of this).

Police Reform: Our schools must be safe; students cannot learn, and teachers cannot teach, if not safe. But we also shouldn't criminalize student misconduct. Discipline should be handled administratively first and in a fair, consistent and equitable way. In considering reforms, we must listen to parents and students to understand experiences with our discipline system and be open to changes where necessary.

Discipline: Disciplinary policies should ensure equity & uniformity. Policies should be based on best practices, taking into account grade & any accommodations. All teach-

LOCAL EANES ISD

PLACE 1

John Troy (continued)

ers & staff should be properly & regularly trained & supported to ensure fairness & prevent bias. Our goal should be to maximize teaching & prevent the need for discipline in the first place, pursuing restorative justice whenever possible.

COVID-19: We must provide equal and safe access to both remote and in-person learning. Both must meet our high Eanes standards. Families must be supported so they can choose the best option for them without sacrificing quality. Both options are vital, equal parts of our Eanes community. Both options must have equal access to extracurriculars and electives. Teachers must be well supported in both options.

PLACE 2

Laura Clark

Unopposed

PLACE 3

John Havenstrite

Unopposed

LOCAL GEORGETOWN ISD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Critical Issue: If elected, please cite an initiative or area of interest on which you would focus? Explain how it would impact teaching and learning.

Discipline: How would you ensure that schools implement fair and unbiased disciplinary policies district-wide?

COVID-19: Given the effects of COVID-19, how will you promote equitable learning opportunities and equal access to resources for all students?

Accountability: Over the past five years, Georgetown ISD overall performance on state accountability tests has declined. Is this a primary concern for you, and if so, how would you address this?

PLACE 4



Stephanie Blanck

Background: Was an LSSP for 15 years before moving into administration. I have been an Asst. Principal and retired as Director of Special Education. 30 years total in Education.

Education: BA in Psychology and Social Work from UTA and an M.Ed. from SWTSU. Mid-Management Certification from TX. State.

Critical Issue: It is my perception, we have lost our unified collaborative district feel. We have a mission, vision and learner profile, but the campuses seem to be left adrift to come up with their own practices. Principals are left to captain their own ship instead of belonging to one fleet. Our teachers, are our most valuable resource, they seem to have the smallest voice at the table. Let's change that.

Discipline: There is no one currently looking at the data regularly. I know what questions to ask as a Board member. I would ask about the current Board policies and the state/federal laws. I would want to know what type and how often the campus administrators are attending workshops and conferences. What does the data say and is any-

one really doing a deep dive? What does the demographic data tell us?

COVID-19: Not being at the table currently, I am not sure what discussions have taken place. As of this writing, we have a disproportionate number of students without chrome books and/or hot spots. One device per 3 children in a family is insufficient. Why did we wait so long to order more? Our neighboring districts began ordering devices and hotspots last Spring. Have we accounted for all the children yet?

Accountability: This is a huge concern for me. As a data driven decision maker I became aware of the "missing pieces" by looking historically at the data since 2009. GISD has grown by only 1600 students in 10 yrs. but our central office staff doubled and our performance on state standards has been on a steady decline. It's not about teaching to the test, but quality teaching of the state curriculum.

Francis C. Jackson

Background: Retired teacher and retired US Army officer. **Education:** Graduate: Texas Military Institute- HS Baylor University Command and General Staff College Region 13 Alt. Cert. Program

Critical Issue: There is only one initiative that should be on everyone's lips: Student Achievement. Instead of continuing to lower standards, I will demand that we raise them. I have found that if you give a student an obtainable challenge they will rise to the task. I would want a three to five year program where standards are raised incrementally throughout all curriculum until targets are met.

Discipline: One or two disruptive students can destroy a classroom. I want school administrators to take an even more proactive role in their school's discipline program. When a student's inappropriate behavior warrants removal from class, then there must be programs in place at the school and district level to deal with the behaviors until they improve.

COVID-19: The pandemic and its effects will be with us for the foreseeable future and we must not allow it to stop the education process. This year teachers and administrators

are going to need to be extremely flexible to ensure all students are afforded equitable learning opportunities. Parents should not be left out of the equation.

Accountability: Georgetown ISD has been in a academic decline for eight years and probably if it wasn't for the pandemic it would be nine. I want to review administrators five year performance tests scores and those whose school's have been unsatisfactory a decision must be made as to whether the administrator be put on probation or non renew of contract. The priority is renewing student excellence.



David Phillips

Background: Former firefighter/paramedic. I have been Director, Chief or CEO for the past 20 years, including 5 companies I founded myself. Extensive experience as a teacher and educator

Education: Bachelor of Science in Education. Additional undergraduate and graduate work in finance, public admin and emergency management.

Campaign Website: <http://davidphillipsforgisd.com>

Critical Issue: My governance priorities are: 1) improve the mental and behavioral health of our students 2) fund better teacher compensation and additional classroom help while maintaining a balanced budget 3) manage our growth smartly so that every child has a real classroom, but no facilities are under-utilized and 4) improve our State test scores while maintaining our excellent performance on other measures

Discipline: Better and more frequent training of campus and district administration. Move policies and culture from "contain and control", isolation and punishment, instead to counseling and mental/behavioral health intervention, reserving traditional disciplinary actions only when absolutely needed. Increase counseling resources in our system. Have all Level 3 grievances come to Board, not an administrator.

COVID-19: We have invested heavily in equity and empowered a gifted leader in admin to forge our way forward. I support her and our efforts, personally check in and actually participate with the variety of pathways we are using, and

LOCAL GEORGETOWN ISD

PLACE 4

David Phillips (continued)

communicate my thoughts on adjustments to fellow Trustees and administration regularly.

Accountability: I helped lead the charge to revise our strategy to better align with the State accountability. We changed leadership within that area, re-designed our materials and our assessment tools, and added a clear call for improved scores to the Superintendent's evaluation (the most powerful tool a Board has).

PLACE 5



Melanie Dunham

Background: I grew up in Wilco and have raised 4 kids in GISD. I've held leadership positions in many service organizations, and spent my career serving veterans and families in need.

Education: I graduated Round Rock HS in 1995, and went on to become the first in my family to earn a college degree, earning a bachelor of arts from Texas A&M University in 1999.

Campaign Website: <http://melanieforgisd.com>

Critical Issue: The district's sweeping social-emotional learning initiative is one of my greatest passions. Beginning with targeted professional development in trauma-informed care, cultural awareness, and more, it will help students maintain positive mental health, be more successful in the classroom and with peers, reduce discipline issues, and master the Learner Profile attributes we know kids need to thrive.

Discipline: Last year, GISD began analyzing data to identify inequities and inequalities in disciplinary action. We began working with administrators to ensure staff are clear on policies, trained to implement them consistently and without bias, and are accountable for their decisions. I will ensure our processes are executed with fidelity, and push for transparency for students, parents, and staff.

COVID-19: Student equity and equality have been my priorities since long before the pandemic, but it does present lots of new challenges. I've pushed for multiple channels of communication, in both English and Spanish, so every family is informed and up-to-date; assistance for families without internet; childcare for working families, including staff; and robust curriculum for students at home or on-campus.

Accountability: There's a misconception that lower scores on state tests mean schools (and kids and teachers) are "failing." But our job isn't to create great test-takers, it's to prepare kids for their futures, whatever they may be. We're adjusting curriculum, teacher training, and student assessments, but we will not sacrifice recess, fine arts, or the mental health of students and teachers for test scores.



Eric Robinson

Background: I teach at Baylor and have spent 35 years working with public school personnel to successfully create academic and behavior plans at the district, school, and class level.

Education: An MA from U of S. Carolina and PhD from U of Kansas in school psychology; a psychology trainee at the U of Kansas Medical Center; internship at Boy's Town in Nebraska

Campaign Website: <http://www.ericrobinsonforgisd.com>

Critical Issue: Focus on a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) model to address academic growth. MTSS integrates dynamic academic assessments in reading, math, and written language and allows teachers to quickly and successfully respond to student deficits with research-based strategies. This approach allows teachers to efficiently and effectively improve learning opportunities for all students.

Discipline: I support engaging a cross-section of GISD personnel to accomplish two tasks. First, review our disciplinary policies to determine if they are fair and unbiased. Second, evaluate whether our procedures, including the appeal process, are transparent and consistently implemented. Once accomplished, our superintendent should provide an annual summary of disciplinary data to the board and community.

COVID-19: Pledge that 100% of our students have an electronic device that is adaptable to the district's web-based academic programs and guarantee all students have reliable WIFI access. Equitable means all our student's needs are being met and some need more support than others. We should focus more of our energy on our at-risk learners while monitoring our average and above-average learners.

Accountability: This is a major concern. While the STAAR test is imperfect, it is the single most publicized measure of academic progress in Texas and GISD performs much worse than our neighboring districts. Parents notice scores, often choosing where to live based on STAAR results. We must align our curriculum with the TEKS and provide comprehensive professional development and ongoing support for our teachers.

LOCAL HUTTO ISD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Choose 1 or 2

Budget: What strategies would you use to manage your school district's funding to maintain or improve educational quality?

Police Reform: What reforms to your district's school policing system do you support, if any?

Discipline: How would you ensure that schools implement fair and unbiased disciplinary policies district-wide?

COVID-19: Given the effects of COVID-19, how will you promote equitable learning opportunities and equal access to resources for all students?

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Matthew Brading

No response received



Felix Chavez

Background: Hutto/Round Rock resident since 2000 with three kids attended/attending Hutto ISD. Business owner and Board Member of Hutto Resource Center and mentor at Hutto High School.

Education: Attended The University of Texas at Pan Am and studied Economics and Business. Licensed Principal Insurance Agent with 20 years of Business experience.

Campaign Website: <http://www.facebook.com/FelixChavezforHuttoIsd/>

Budget: Fiscal responsibility is a driving force in my business along with economic principals that have shaped my agencies for 20 years. Hutto ISD is growing and an evaluation of current bonds and costs are essential to maximize the dollars this district needs. As a potential board member I will work with our superintendent and finance dept to find sound solutions to always improve our school district.

Police Reform: I am for upgrades in security at all our campuses to make sure campuses are safe and secure from unauthorized entry.

Discipline: Our code of conducts and fair treatment implementation guidelines should be reviewed yearly and revised as need by Hutto ISD Board along with school staff representatives of teaching groups and members of our community and parents.

LOCAL HUTTO ISD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Felix Chavez (continued)

COVID-19: The safety and health of all our Hutto ISD staff and students is essential. Distant learning should be offered in longer periods along with smaller classes for those attending face to face classrooms. Distant learning tutor support and face to face tutor support are necessary to help students learn and achieve curriculum goals.



Mina Davis

Background: I am a data scientist and currently working at a digital media company. I also am a board member for the East Williamson County Boys and Girls Club and African Caucus.

Education: I graduated from Creighton University with a Bachelors of Science in Business Intelligence and Analytics.

Campaign Website: <http://www.minaforhuttoisd.com>

Budget: The first strategy I would use would be to ensure that I am in contact with the stakeholders to understand how our budget is to be affected for the upcoming year. I would also encourage the community to reach out to the board to ensure demands of the community are met. I also would want to collaborate with our state representative in our district for other initiatives that could help the district

Police Reform: I want to make sure there is a continued emphasis for ensuring we can invest in mental health support services for students and to have open dialogue with community members that may be concerned about the policing system. I also want to ensure our district police have the resources they need to work to keep our community safe.

Discipline: I would encourage open dialogue with community members about issues regarding policies and also work with our district team to ensure our administration and staff have the resources needed to effectively carry out these pol-

icies. I would also encourage yearly reviews with input from stakeholders to ensure policies make sense. I want to make sure all those affected have input.

COVID-19: I want to work with our community partners, our families, and students to ensure immediate needs are met and that there are multiple ways for those who have needs to be able to get the resources in a timely fashion. I also want to work with our administration and staff to make sure they are supported in promoting equitable learning opportunities.



Christopher Parker

Background: My family moved to Hutto in 2007. I graduated from Hutto High School and earned my B.A. and M.Ed. before moving back to Hutto to start my career as a high school teacher.

Education: I earned my B.A. in English from Sam Houston State University and my M.Ed. from Texas State University. I'm also a graduate of the Hippo Nation University's inaugural class.

Campaign Website: <http://www.facebook.com/Christopher-Parker-for-Hutto-ISD-Board-of-Trustees-100325528480877/>

Budget: My primary strategy to maintain and improve educational quality is to continuously monitor data (student achievement, demographics, enrollment trends, etc.), public policy, and legislation to best align desired student outcomes with the limited amount of resources school districts receive. Furthermore, I will interpret, analyze, and implement the findings of our school finance officers.

Police Reform: I support the Hutto ISD Police Department. One of the things that has made HISD PD a success is the more than 80 years of combined law enforcement experience of the veteran officers who make up the department. One reform that will improve the efficacy of the HISD PD is to ensure that every officer obtains School-Based Law

Enforcement Proficiency and Mental Health Officer Proficiency Certificates.

Discipline: According to federal data collected by the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, schools disproportionately employ exclusion as punishment for students of color. One policy implementation to ensure fair and unbiased disciplinary policies is to prioritize alternative disciplinary measures over in-school and out-of-school suspension for minor and non-violent incidents of misbehavior.

COVID-19: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 establishes the right to equal access to school resources for all students. One of the greatest areas of opportunity that the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted is the digital divide prevalent in our community and many others. I will continuously evaluate access to resources within our schools and take immediate action to eliminate inequities.



Shara Turner

Background: 20 years in education as a teacher and curriculum developer. 10 years in Hutto ISD as PTA President and member of the GT, Technology, and Strategic Planning committees

Education: B.S., Applied Learning and Development (University of Texas) M. Ed, Elementary Education (Texas State University)

Budget: I would recommend putting standard processes in place for selecting high quality materials, using the materials with fidelity, and providing data to show return on investment. Selecting high-quality materials is one of the most cost-effective ways to increase student achievement. Hutto ISD should use an instructional material review rubric as part of their adoption process.

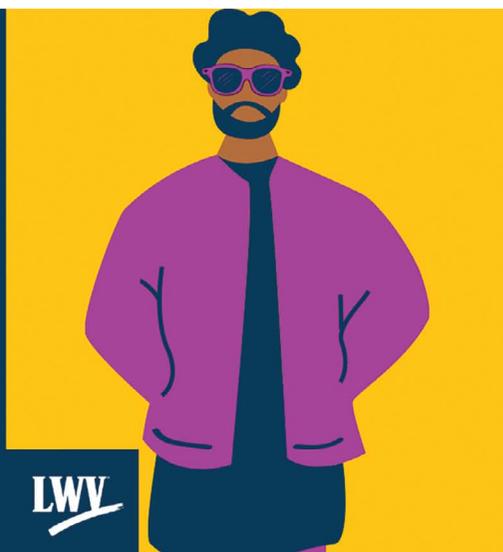
Police Reform: I support implementation of a school badge policy for students. Once students are held accountable for wearing their identification badge for daily tasks such as checking-out library books, taking attendance, and purchasing food in the cafeteria, then the badges can be expanded for use in additional ways. They can be used for active bus ridership tracking or entry and exit of the building.

Discipline: I would ensure that the district implements district-wide and research-based disciplinary policies that are fair and unbiased to ensure equity across all schools. Faculty and staff at each school should be required to attend district wide professional development, but schools should also be held accountable for reporting metrics around disciplinary issues.

COVID-19: I would promote flexible options to support the needs of all families. This includes both safe in-person learning options, as well as a long term virtual learning option. I would also ensure that the district provides chromebooks and hot spots for each student, responsive technical support, parent resources, and face-to-face individualized support for all students with 504 accommodations.

Did you Know

- Voters who mail in their ballot should allow plenty of time for the ballot to arrive at the county election office by election day.
- Governor Abbot's proclamation extending early voting, and allows a voter to deliver a marked ballot in person to the county election office during early voting and on election day while polls are open.
- In-person delivery for a marked ballot requires presentation of a photo ID.
- Check with your county election office for more details.



LOCAL LAGO VISTA ISD

BOND ELECTION

Background

In the fall of 2019, a Long-Range Planning Committee that included parents, community members, Lago Vista ISD staff, and local business owners was convened. The committee met seven times from October 2019 to January 2020 and presented recommendations to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees voted to call a bond election based on the committee's recommendations. Together, the three propositions total \$52.9 million and would be funded by general obligation bonds, which are repaid by property taxes. If all three propositions pass, a homeowner whose home is valued at \$200K would expect to pay an additional \$195 in property taxes per year.

PROPOSITION A

Ballot language

Shall the Board of Trustees (The "Board") of the Lago Vista Independent School District (The "District") be authorized to issue bonds of the district, in one or more series or installments in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$44,330,000 for the construction, acquisition and equipment of school buildings in the district (including but not limited to, the rehabilitation, renovation, expansion and/or improvement of elementary, middle and high school buildings and other school buildings in the district, the acquisition and update of technology equipment to be used for school security purposes, and the acquisition and update of technology infrastructure integral to the construction of a facility), and the purchase of the necessary sites for school buildings, which bonds shall mature, bear interest and be issued and sold in accordance with law at the time of issuance; and shall the board be authorized to levy, impose and pledge, and cause to be assessed and collected, annual ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the district sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds, and the costs of any credit agreements (including credit agreements executed or authorized in anticipation of, in relation to, or in connection with the bonds), all as authorized by the constitution and laws of the state of Texas and the United States of America?

Explanation

This \$44 million bond proposal would fund school improvements, including:

- changes to Lago Vista's elementary school infrastructure in order to eventually eliminate the intermediate school and move 4th and 5th grade to the elementary school
- the construction of additional classrooms, a playground, and parking at the elementary school

- the construction of new classrooms, the renovation and expansion of other parts of the school, and a new roof at the middle school
- an expanded cafeteria, new career and tech program facilities, and expanded extracurricular areas at the high school
- additional safety measures at all schools
- the purchase of land for future school sites, and
- the renovation and consolidation of administrative services.

PROPOSITION B

Ballot language

Shall the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Lago Vista Independent School District (the "District") be authorized to issue bonds of the district, in one or more series or installments, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$3,450,000 for the construction, acquisition and equipment of a bus barn/transportation center and related improvements, which bonds shall mature, bear interest and be issued and sold in accordance with law at the time of issuance; and shall the board be authorized to levy, impose and pledge, and cause to be assessed and collected, annual ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the district sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds, and the costs of any credit agreements (including credit agreements executed or authorized in anticipation of, in relation to, or in connection with the bonds), all as authorized by the constitution and laws of the state of Texas and the United States of America?

Explanation

This \$3.45 million bond proposal would fund a new transportation center/bus barn.

PROPOSITION C

Ballot language

Shall the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Lago Vista Independent School District (the "District") be authorized to issue bonds of the district, in one or more series or installments, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$5,130,000 for the construction, acquisition, and equipment of Lago Vista High School stadium (including but not limited to, field-house addition/renovation, bleacher and press box expansions and improvements, and pedestrian entry improvements), which bonds shall mature, bear interest and be issued and sold in accordance with law at the time of issuance; and shall the board be authorized to levy, impose and pledge, and cause to be assessed and collected, annual ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the district sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds, and the costs of any credit agreements (including credit agreements executed or authorized in anticipation of, in relation to, or in connection with the bonds), all as authorized by the constitution and laws of the state of Texas and the United States of America?

Explanation

This \$5.1 million bond proposal would fund stadium and field house improvements including expanded bleachers, additional parking, and an expanded fieldhouse.

Did you Know

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data indicate that 25.6% of adults in Texas have a disability:

If you are disabled, you have a choice:

Vote by mail:

- Voters with disabilities apply once a year to receive their ballots by mail.

Vote in person:

- Curbside voting is available during early voting and on Election Day.
- The notice of voting order allows a voter with a disability and their helper to request to move ahead of other voters in line.
- The ADA requires that all polling places meet strict accessibility standards.
- It is your right to cast a ballot privately and independently.
- Every polling place must have at least one voting machine designed for voters with disabilities.

LWV



LOCAL LEANDER ISD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Budget: What strategies would you use to manage your school district's funding to maintain or improve educational quality?

Police Reform: What reforms to your district's school policing system do you support, if any?

Discipline: How would you ensure that schools implement fair and unbiased disciplinary policies district-wide?

COVID-19: Given the effects of COVID-19, how will you promote equitable learning opportunities and equal access to resources for all students?



PLACE 3



Christine Mauer

Background: I am a 16-year resident of Cedar Park, a working mom, and a parent of Leander ISD students. I believe I have the right experience to represent all.

Education: I studied General Education at the California State University at Long Beach; Proud graduate of Point Loma High School, San Diego, CA, 1988.

Campaign Website: <http://www.mauer4lisd.com>

Budget: I believe we should use out of the box thinking to manage our district's funding. Some strategies to consider would include using our CTE instructors and students to come up with new ideas regarding ways to use what we have now to maximize funding. Things like solar projects where we can recoup some of our energy costs and provide a great educational opportunity at the same time.

Police Reform: School policing, while necessary for safety and security, should continue to evolve into more use of de-escalation tactics and reformative procedures. Reforming our school policing will require training, transparency, and accountability. Respecting the rights of students, teachers and the community in school is essential to creating inclusive policies.

Discipline: Keeping the dialogue open between the stakeholders of the school, parents, and community members is key. Creating committees to make recommendations is a great way to ensure that the policies are being reviewed on a regular basis. Listening sessions between school administration, parents, and students is a way we can all be sure we are serving our students equitably.

COVID-19: COVID-19 has exposed many inequities in our district. The current performance gaps will widen and the

district will need to allocate resources to ensure that we can mitigate these gaps effectively. Creating access to learning opportunities includes everything from extra help in person, to hotspots for technology, to our staff and teachers with extra training they may need to help students succeed.

Chris Remy

No response received

David 'Speedy' Wise

No response received

PLACE 4

Jeff Johnson

No response received

Anna Smith

No response received

PLACE 5

Jim MacKay

Unopposed

LOCAL MANOR ISD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Budget: What strategies would you use to manage your school district's funding to maintain or improve educational quality?

Police Reform: What reforms to your district's school policing system do you support, if any?

Discipline: How would you ensure that schools implement fair and unbiased disciplinary policies district-wide?

COVID-19: Given the effects of COVID-19, how will you promote equitable learning opportunities and equal access to resources for all students?



PLACE 5



Royce Avery

Background: Dr. Avery has 28 years of experience in education. His work experience is broad and diverse, working as a teacher, coach, principal, area superintendent & superintendent.

Education: Dr. Avery holds a bachelor's degree in Health Science from Rice University, a master's degree in school

leadership from TAMU Corpus Christi, and a doctorate from UT Austin.

Campaign Website: <http://Votedravery.com>

Budget: Being good stewards of tax payers dollars is a key function of school board members. Understanding and supporting the recommendations of administration in the purchasing of quality educational resources will enable the district to be innovative in providing a high quality education. A watchful eye on spending, will also allow the district to offer incentives to retain quality teachers and staff.

Police Reform: Manor ISD implemented their new police department at the onset of this school year. As a board member, I plan to support and monitor their successes and failures moving forward.

Discipline: Keeping up with the district-wide disciplinary data trends will help to ensure that no one gender or ethnic group will be targeted with such policies. In addition, data trends allow staff the ability to identify specific professional development needs to help support effective implementation.

COVID-19: It will be important for the district to monitor the distribution of all educational resources such as internet access, technology devices, food and nutrition options in order to ensure that all areas of the community have access to

equitable and reliable educational opportunities. The district must work with members of the community to mobilize additional resources where needed.



Temeika Thomas

Background: I'm an elementary school teacher navigating our new world of education. I have been an educator for 17 years. I'm a proud board member/advocate for the students of Manor ISD.

Education: University of Texas degree in education Lamar University for my Master of Education

Budget: One a greater level of transparency. Two we have a lot of students that live in Manor ISD boundaries that don't attend our schools. I would like to have a recapture campaign to show families our new pathways, incredible educational plan, and re-introduce them to Manor ISD. Manor is a phenomenal school district. I know if families look again they will see the greatness I see everyday.

Police Reform: I support a cultural competent workforce including the police department. I believe police officers that work for our district should have at least 3 years of professional experience with children. The police should have programs with students such as Baskets and Badges and young

LOCAL MANOR ISD

PLACE 5

Temeika Thomas (continued)

explorers. We have to stop the school to prison pipeline! Officers have to be helping our students develop character.

Discipline: We currently are hiring positions centered around equity. I believe the first step is having culturally competency training for all staff. So many of our disciplinary actions start with perception. We need an equity department that only focus on evaluating how well we're doing implementing equity. We need to be transparent with our data. Training and accountability will result in fairness.

COVID-19: As a teacher I get to see the effects of COVID-19 daily. One to one device distribution. All students have to have devices to do the work. We have to ensure every student is able to connect to the internet. We have to have robust opportunity in fine arts, athletics, coding, and other programs digitally. Students have to have options for small group and individualize instruction online.

PLACE 6



Monique Celedon

Background: I am a lifelong Texas resident and have lived in Manor for the past 22 years. I have five kids that attended MISD. I currently sit as Vice President on the MISD School Board.

Education: I attended LBJ High School in North East Austin. Afterwards, I pursued Real Estate and have been practicing now for over 27 years. I attended St. Edwards University (psych).

Budget: I want to work on financial stability. We've come a long way in Manor and Manor is a great place to live. We've come back from a \$16 million deficit. We've come from an F rating to B rating. I have had a contribution to those areas because we have supported our administration and we have supported our teachers and our staff to get us to that point.

Police Reform: Every child should feel safe at school and every parent should feel their child is safe at school. I fully support and respect the Manor police department. I would like to provide more training opportunities for the Manor ISD school resource officers. I support more training for our officers in the areas of counseling, mentoring, implicit bias in school, education and more.

Discipline: Classrooms need to have clear objectives and expectations set in place that are expected of all students equally. As so, disciplinary actions need to be clearly stated as well, therefore each action has an appropriate consequence. Disciplinary policies should never be decided due to a student's race, gender, background, or their educational or economic status.

COVID-19: I want to continue to support our students, where they are. The way we do that is we go into their homes,

we go into their families, and we support the community as a whole. Before Covid-19 this was done in person, now we need to step-up and do it virtually. I would like to host town-hall meetings, Q&A's with parents, and office hours to support students and families where they are now.

Bryan Nya

Background: A vision for Manor schools inspired by his life-long attendance at Manor ISD before graduating from Manor High School. Bryan represents the best Manor ISD has to offer.

Education: Bryan represents the best Manor ISD has to offer as an outstanding student at Houston-Tillotson University. Holding an AA in Health Science from Austin Community College (ACC)

Campaign Website: <http://bryannya.com/>

Budget: I envision utilizing an agenda that is pragmatic and rooted in strategies, proven effective. Focusing on efforts to expand education opportunities, advocate for teachers, and employ strategies that advance the equitable treatment of students. MISD will demonstrate that positive and progressive change in education.

Police Reform: -Better care for all our great Teachers -Supporting the whole child on all levels -Preparing all students for life after high school, be it College, Military, or the Workforce

Discipline: Redirecting funding currently spent on corrections, to the public education system, that will improve the educational experiences of students of color but could also positively impact their families, communities, and potentially life outcomes—ending, or at least disrupting, the vicious “school-to-prison pipeline.”

COVID-19: Provide additional specialized instructional support personnel (SISP), ie: school counselors, school social workers, and school psychologists—to ensure that all students have access to academic, career, mental health and social-emotional support.

PLACE 7



Felix Paiz

Background: Manor Schoolhouse Foundation, Executive Board of the Manor Chamber of Commerce, USA Track and Field, Texas Association of Sports Officials, and President of Manor Men & Women.

Education: Manor High School Graduate class of 2000

Campaign Website: <http://Felixpaiz.com>

Budget: It is vital to ensure the board operates with transparency and accountability. Enlist community members to develop a committee that oversees bonds and increases buy-in and trust within our community. Involving stake-holders will directly impact our level of transparency and accountability when managing funds in a timely and responsible manner.

Police Reform: As our district moves towards its own police department, I would like to ensure police officers build relationships with our students and parents to foster a sense of community and not just implement a system of correction.

Discipline: Disciplinary policies should be consistent across the school campuses. A district-wide matrix would aide in identifying strategies to utilize based on the level of offense. In addition, the focus should be on maintaining a positive relationship and teaching students how to be accountable for their actions.

COVID-19: Continue to offer students access to district technology and/ or educational materials. Develop a plan to utilize other teaching professionals, such as Aides and Interventionists to assist families in need of additional academic support. In addition, identify students who are in need of additional social services and partner with community organizations for assistance.



Janie Serna

Background: Volunteered on the Campus Advisory Council, District Advisory Council, School Health Advisory Council, District Bond Committee 2014, PTA, PTO, Band Booster and High steppers.

Education: Associates Degree in Corrections Associates Degree in Criminal Justice

Budget: Continuing to review and monitor monthly reports.

Police Reform: This is the first year our District will have our own District Police Department. It is very important that we monitor the success and failure of the program.

Discipline: Monitor data, and receive information from the District Police Department.

COVID-19: Assure that all our students have technology devices and access to internet and that the district continue to serve meals.

SAVE TIME—USE OUR INTERACTIVE VOTERS GUIDE!

More information about the candidates can be reviewed by visiting VOTE411.org, a one-stop online resource for upcoming elections made possible by the League of Women Voters Education Fund. Simply enter your address to find your polling place, build your ballot with our online *Voters Guide*, and compare candidates side by side. Answers from candidates who didn't respond by the print deadline may be available online.

LOCAL PFLUGERVILLE ISD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Budget: What strategies would you use to manage your school district's funding to maintain or improve educational quality?

Police Reform: What reforms to your district's school policing system do you support, if any?

Discipline: How would you ensure that schools implement fair and unbiased disciplinary policies district-wide?

COVID-19: Given the effects of COVID-19, how will you promote equitable learning opportunities and equal access to resources for all students?



PLACE 6



Larry D. Bradley

Background: Biology teacher-athletic trainer at Richland High, Abilene High, AP Azle High, 28 Years Principal Pflugerville High, Director Student Affairs 2 years, PFISD Trustee 6 years

Education: 1972—B.S., Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX 1974—M.Ed., Southwest Texas University, San Marcos, TX

Budget: As a board member, we do not have day to day responsibility on the funding process, but through the Board's Finance Committee and the board input in building and review of the budget, ultimately the final responsibility to approve a budget and within State restrictions set the Tax Rate. Therefore, there is input to funding of programs and set teacher salaries which all impact quality for students.

Police Reform: Our PFISD Police department is an integral part of our schools and a significant teaching platform for our students. The training is probably the greatest challenge for all policing entities. We continue to review our processes and procedures through regular reports to the Board so we as board members can understand the responsibilities and their commitment to the safety of our students and staff.

Discipline: As a board we must make sure policies are fair and non discriminatory! We need to be vigilant in our review of the data and be willing to have frank discussions about the data and how it fits our goals of preparing students to be successful citizens upon graduation.

COVID-19: This is probably the greatest challenge facing us. The digital divide exacerbates the already existing difficulty in closing the educational divide. We have to work with governmental agencies and provide the impetus to add quality internet as a needed infrastructure like clean running water and electricity for all our citizens!



Jean Wade Mayer

Background: 2.5 year PFISD Resident Transplant, originally from the East Coast. A Baltimore, MD native for most my life. CEO 12+ years Advocate (Neurodiversity, Inclusion + Anti-Racism)

Education: Graduated from The Restaurant School/Walnut Hill College w/AA in Restaurant + Hospitality Mnmgt (focus on culinary, marketing, nutrition, leadership, business ownership)

Campaign Website: http://www.facebook.com/jean_mayer2020-110783587205921

Budget: We need to redevelop + further develop the guiding principles that garner decision making by leaders. That inclusivity is the main feature in creating focus groups, committees, etc. when proclaiming anything is a stakeholder decision. Groups brought together to solve problems, make plans and/or ideas must include representation from all members that make up the PFISD community.

Police Reform: Police on our school campuses to mitigate behavior of any kind has never been appropriate. Reform around this requires a multifaceted approach. On an administrative infrastructure level, reassessing the efficacy of the "behavioral" protocols + credentials of the administrators applying them. Creating a new task force administratively will drive out this "need" for police on school campuses.

Discipline: To ensure what is fair, one must be anchored in what can no longer happen when devising + implementing these plans. Policies with implicit biases must be targeted + extinct immediately. They can't be devised w/ partial representation, must be implemented with the proper theory of inclusion, no longer exclusion. Lastly, no longer supporting or initiating advocacy that is both incomplete or bias.

COVID-19: We need to make sure we are operating inside of all measures of FAPE + considerations of all variables are to be addressed when assessing what is in fact equitable. This can't be a one size fits all approach + current contingency plans aren't a reflection of that. There needs to be a paradigm shift in problem solving techniques + therefore the solutions presented.

PLACE 7



Cynthia Gee

Background: Gee has forty years of experience in a variety of school systems. She has worked as an educational consultant in school improvement and as a parochial school principal.

Education: BA, St. Mary, M.Ed., UTSA; certifications in Administration and Supervision.

Budget: Long-range strategic planning that includes a com-

prehensive needs assessment; and established priorities that address the mission and vision should focus on funding from our State, Federal, and Local Governments in the most critical areas. Strategic planning should include a cross-section of stakeholders to ensure dedication and commitment to the plan. Gee will use her experience in strategic plan

Police Reform: PFISD controls hiring, training, and implementing policing policies. PFISD must be purposeful in establishing protocols that reflect the mission of treating all with dignity. Safe and secure environments must be the standard, and policing efforts must be proactive in creating a safe and secure environment. Visibility of the police force is a must, and officers should strive to build rapport with s

Discipline: Policies, procedures, and guidelines already exist. The problem lies in the implementation, interpretation, and the complexity of human nature. This can be handled through training and support from all administration levels and by being preventive and clear with expectations at the classroom and school level.

COVID-19: A strong needs assessment will determine the resources needed to equalize the opportunities for students. This will mean that some students will require greater effort on the part of educators. Traditional schooling in a brick and mortar building may not be possible due to COVID 19. In this case, the learning must be taken to the student by providing appropriate technology or providing a visiting//



Charlie Torres

Background: I have been volunteering in education over 30 years. I have served on PTO's, PTA's and District committees. At Gregory-Portland I.S.D. I served on the school board 12 years.

Education: I am a graduate of Rockport-Fulton H.S. I attended Texas A&I in Kingsville for two and one half years. I was enrolled in the Pre-Dental curriculum.

Campaign Website: <https://www.facebook.com/TorresforTrustee/>

Budget: One of the main strategies would be to plan ahead and thoroughly study the needs of the District that would be required to secure a high level of education for all students. I would make sure that we invest in our teachers to make sure we can attract them and keep them in our District avoiding turnover. Engage in collaborative dialogue with city and business leaders for the work force needs.

Police Reform: The Pflugerville I.S.D. Police Department has been very supportive in keeping our students, parents, employees, and visitors safe while on school and district grounds including all campus events. School district police provide safety, security, law enforcement and a tremendous amount of educational support for all students. Our district police officers are very active and visible at all times.

LOCAL PFLUGERVILLE ISD

PLACE 7

Charlie Torres (continued)

Discipline: Our discipline policies that are in place need to be implemented fairly and equally to all students. All students are protected from unlawful discrimination on the ba-

sis of race, religion, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age and disability. One way to ensure unbiased disciplinary actions is to have very knowledgeable and professional police officers.

COVID-19: Proper training for all our teachers and collaborative communications so that everyone is on the same

page. We must ensure that all students have the proper tools needed to communicate with their teachers on their daily class lessons. Virtual learning from home requires all students to have the modern technology to fulfill their class obligations, even if the district needs to pay for the service.

LOCAL ROUND ROCK ISD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Budget: What strategies would you use to manage your school district's funding to maintain or improve educational quality?

Police Reform: What reforms to your district's school policing system do you support, if any?

Discipline: How would you ensure that schools implement fair and unbiased disciplinary policies district-wide?

COVID-19: Given the effects of COVID-19, how will you promote equitable learning opportunities and equal access to resources for all students?

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PLACE 1



Kim Boen

Background: I moved to the Forest North area in 1976 and attended Grisham MS then graduated from RRHS in 1981. Returned to RRISD in 1985 to raise my three children and teach for 33 years.

Education: Received a B.S. in Education from Southwest Texas State University in 1985 (currently Texas State University)

Campaign Website: <http://kimboen4rrisd.com>

Budget: I will work to ensure that financial decisions reflect the needs of the district and enhance learning experiences and opportunities for all students by asking the hard questions. Students of RRISD deserve a first-class education and taxpayers deserve responsible stewardship.

Police Reform: An advantage of forming our own department will keep students at the center of all decisions. Our new department should focus on the Restorative Justice model and require qualifications that focus on child development and an understanding of equity. In order for all students to have their needs met, the SRO and mental health departments must work together.

Discipline: All students are to follow the Code of Conduct and administrators must be fair and unbiased in all areas of

the district. Our main goal is to nurture the behavioral and emotional well-being of the whole-child in addition to academics. Our Equity Task Force will provide great opportunities for students and staff of RRISD; guidance, awareness, and accountability.

COVID-19: I will make sure all students have access to a device and internet service. It is necessary to provide our teachers with appropriate tools to ensure each student has the best opportunity to show mastery of the TEKS while also providing enrichment opportunities that are engaging and challenging. We must close the learning gap by furnishing individualized instruction and interventions.



Jun Xiao

Background: Biotech company founder&CEO; nonprofit founder& president; Leadership RRISD; CVMS & Westwood SBDM committee & PTA board; Computer Science teacher for girls & under-privileged

Education: Ph.D. in Computer Science, Georgia Institute of Technology

Campaign Website: <http://www.xiao4rrisd.com>

Budget: 88% of RRISD's budget is people. Central administration should be lean to preserve teaching staff and academic programs. Audit, evaluate and eliminate programs that are expensive and ineffective. Provide more resources for CTE curriculum that prepare students for career alternatives and support teachers' training and development. Expand supervised online learning that is efficient and effective.

Police Reform: If we are committed to develop new training programs, policies, and procedures for the school policing system, we shall never forget the human factor. We shall listen to the community. From the beginning, every family needs to be involved, and every voice from teachers and parents needs to be heard. Set aims that are time-specific. Pilot policy changes and evaluate with quantitative measures.

Discipline: I support the following policies: 1) community input on disciplinary policies, 2) uniform policies district-

wide rather than making policies at a lower administrative level, 3) district-wide review board with parent representatives, 4) publishing an annual report that anonymously lists incidents and disciplinary outcomes, 5) ensuring diversity on the review board, and 6) implicit bias training.

COVID-19: Laptops, hotspots, and headphones are necessities. Our schools shall work with local communities and NGOs, such as the non-profit I founded that provides 1-1 volunteer tutoring, to prevent under-privileged children who do not have adult assistance at home from falling further behind because of COVID-19. We need to take extra care of our SPED students and be flexible with school re-opening plans.

PLACE 2



Mary Bone

Background: A mother of two, Engineer, Professor, DoD Researcher & NASA consultant. Volunteer in RRISD PTA, bond committee, leadership course, schools events, and mentor program.

Education: PhD, Systems Engineering Stevens Institute of Technology; MEng Systems Engineering Iowa State University; BS Aerospace Engineering Missouri University of Science & Technology

Campaign Website: <http://www.drbone4rrisd.com>

Budget: I would encourage innovative, creative, and efficient solutions for solving complex issues that face our district including working with the state regarding school funding. Implement accountability and ensure that closing the achievement gap is of highest importance to our district. I would ensure that the teachers and staff get the support and resources needed for their schools.

Police Reform: I will ensure that the policies developed provide oversight and transparency. Separation of power between the superintendent and police chief through petitioning the state to allow districts with police departments this option rather than the chief reporting to the superintendent. I will continue to support our SRO's plus a strong relationship with local law enforcement.

LOCAL ROUND ROCK ISD

PLACE 2

Mary Bone (continued)

Discipline: Continuously monitor discipline statistics to ensure equitable discipline. Bring the right voices to the table when an issue is identified to ensure appropriate resolution. Strengthen community partnership like established mentoring program & provide students in crisis help. Build bridges between the teachers & board to foster constructive conversations and allow concerns to be addressed quickly.

COVID-19: The district needs to meet each child where they are in the current situation and provide the resources needed for the world class education expected at RRISD. This includes both virtual and in-person options. Having a child with dyslexia and TAG I understand that not all children learn the same and that each child deserves to be provided the tools, at all times, needed for them to be successful.



Lacey Mase

Background: I am a former teacher in RRISD, a lawyer, and on the executive leadership team for a large state agency for which I oversee the operations, policies, and \$1.4 billion budget.

Education: I received my Bachelor of Science in Applied Learning and Development from The University of Texas at Austin, and my law degree from Baylor University School of Law.

Campaign Website: <http://www.laceymase4rrisd.com>

Budget: The Board must adopt a budget that prioritizes student success by (1) funding all necessary support and resources for teachers and staff at every campus, (2) providing quality learning environments in safe and appropriately-sized facilities, (3) investing in resources to address student socio-emotional health, and (4) investing in a well-rounded school safety program.

Police Reform: I support the creation of a police department entirely purposed for school-based law enforcement with staff trained specifically to respond to the needs of students, teachers, and staff consistent with the mission and vision of the district.

Discipline: The district must eliminate the use of biased disciplinary practices, and implement programs, resources, and policies that focus on the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of all students.

COVID-19: Regardless of circumstances like COVID-19, the Board has a duty to ensure all students—regardless of background, ability, or financial status—have access to a quality, whole-child-focused education that meets their needs. A one-size-fits-all approach to delivery and access will always lead to missing large groups of kids, and ensuring all kids are reached must remain the #1 focus.



Cornell Woolridge

Background: I have worked for students' equal access to quality education at all levels, especially those from marginalized communities, since 1994.

Education: B.A.—English M.S.—Ethics & Public Policy Post Graduate Certification—Transformative Leadership & Social Change

Campaign Website: <http://www.woolridge4thepeople.com>

Budget: I will work to ensure the district completes projects & initiatives approved in 2018 Bond and be accountable to citizens whenever adjustments might be required. Overcrowding becoming an emerging issue, I want to see a district facilities audit and investigate any possible ways that we can make better use of our space, so that any considerations for new schools can be supported with due diligence.

Police Reform: Newly approved social workers must be a part of a district conflict resolution-based policing policy that focuses on supporting students and not punitive measures. Round Rock ISD police need to have policing standards that clearly have use of force as a last resort and are supported by consistent and intentional relationships with students, families, staff and administration.

Discipline: Get a quarterly report for Board, highlighting trends, initiatives, significant events, and statistics related to disciplinary action district-wide. Work with newly hired Chief Equity Officer to identify schools at each school level struggling with disciplinary equity and pilot a Board approved program to address inequities as a way to consider a future district-wide disciplinary equity program.

COVID-19: A district-wide assessment (aided by social workers) of the most pressing & consistent issues should be done. Once these issues are identified, we should honestly identify issues the district is in a position to effectively address and which issues require city, county and/or state support. I would work with the district and other officials to address these issues as effectively as possible.

PLACE 6



Russell Winston Collins

Background: I am a native Texan, with antecedents back into Republic of Texas days. Born in Houston in the Heights, I came of age in Garland, later working in south and central Texas.

Education: After graduating North Garland H.S., I matriculated at Texas A&M University. After a B.S. in Chemistry, I later studied briefly at U.T.S.A. towards an M.B.A., but unfinished.

Budget: Primarily fiscal budget-tightening. Cut non-essential spending and refocus on core competencies. We can-

not ignore the fact that we are still graduating seniors with below-grade level skills. We must also reward outstanding teachers and incentivize excellent performance. The education of our kids depends on a tripod of teachers, parents, and students; and I think educators aren't the problem.

Police Reform: RRISD recently deployed a district police force. I feel that we should run an analysis of what we got for our investment. We can and should set measurable goals for what we expected to achieve there, and be prepared to return to the previous system, or something like it, if we're not getting the right bang for the buck. We cannot know what success looks like unless we set quantifiable goals.

Discipline: My opinion is that one may prove anything with the proper manipulation of statistics. Enforce the rules evenly, but without exception. Allow some procedure for appeal of perceived unfairness. However, the mere fact that some racial or ethnic groups are "over-represented" in disciplinary situations does not mean that the system is unfair or biased. The rules are the rules; enforce them.

COVID-19: This is a very difficult question. I would suggest that in some instances—special education, for example—online learning simply can't be made to work. The lack of Internet in some rural locales or connectivity in poorer homes can render equity almost unachievable there. I firmly believe that we must get our students back to physical attendance a.s.a.p. while protecting vulnerable teachers.



Christina Gándara

Background: Mom of 6, oldest was diagnosed with Autism @ 3; I have two with ADHD. Vol w PTA&Choir/Band/Football boosters. Co-chair Women's Diversity Coun. 15yrs exp. w/Contracts/

Compliance

Education: B.A in Business Management/Leadership from Strayer University

Campaign Website: <http://www.electgandara.com>

Budget: I would take an in depth look at what programs/services are successful & proving to be beneficial through data. Every program, service or task force that is given funding should also keep in depth data reports that can be distributed when requested. I would also provide much needed funding for teacher trainings and certifications for our Special Needs, At-Risk children and advanced students.

Police Reform: Fully support RRISD Police Department. I would ensure policies, procedures and ongoing training is provided to police force. Officers should be trained in alternative force, mental health, and how to appropriately handle special needs children. I would require data on incidents/outcomes/trends. Data should be transparent to the board and community. Update from Chief of Police to board monthly.

LOCAL ROUND ROCK ISD

PLACE 6

Christina Gándara (continued)

Discipline: Accountability through reporting. I would want the administration & board to work with the police department, mental health professionals, SPED administrators and the Chief Equity Officer (once hired) to collectively create policies and procedures to ensure All students are fairly treated. I would require data and BIPs to understand the trends occurring and ensure goals & progress is being met.

COVID-19: Decisions of our district must reflect our shared commitment to supporting our students and families with a variety of different needs. I will provide funding and training for teachers to incorporate technology on campus that both in person and virtual students can use. In person students should have a live-in person teaching experience. As a board member I will advocate for All students.



Tiffanie Nichole Harrison

Background: Proud RRISD graduate, two-time RRHS teacher of the year, campus and district equity leader, diversity, equity and inclusion consultant, entrepreneur, designer, and investor.

Education: Tiffanie holds two degrees from Baylor University; an MBA with concentrations in Finance and Marketing and a BSEd in Human Health, Performance and Recreation

Campaign Website: <http://www.tiffanie4rrisd.com>

Budget: Budgets are moral documents and statements of priorities. RRISD made recent progress by funding behavioral health and equity. I will allocate funding for higher needs campuses to provide flexible funding for supports like additional PUs. Prioritize instruction by attracting, training and retaining skilled educators. Seize economic opportunity by adoption of large-scale sustainability initiatives.

Police Reform: Served on Safety & Security Task Force and champion police-free schools. Research shows students benefit from positive school climates and strong relationships over hardened schools. In the presence of a district police department we must provide racial and educational equity training for all personnel, prioritize mental and behavioral health and provide accountability through community oversight.

Discipline: RRISD has a long history of disparate discipline. I will support a district-wide equity audit to identify the root causes of disproportionalities and address biased policies. Provide support and training to all who interact with students to address both shadow and exclusionary discipline. Set goals around disproportionate discipline and tie to the superintendent's evaluation for accountability.

COVID-19: COVID-19 has magnified existing inequities. I will prioritize the needs of our most vulnerable populations; SPED students, English Learners, racial/ethnic marginalized groups and children of essential workers. Include

teacher and student driven input in decision making. Employ two-way communication between RRISD and families. Focus on language barriers and internet access as points of interest.



David G. Schmidt

Background: Educator: School Employee 1978-2010 Multiple Public School Districts and Colleges, Teacher and Management Military: Active Duty US Army 1970-1978 and USAF Reserve 1979-1993

Education: AA—Liberal Arts, Mt. San Antonio College BA—Vocational Education 1998 CSUSB MA—Education 2002 CSUSB Military Training Leadership and other Courses

Campaign Website: <http://dgs4rrisd.org>

Budget: As an elected trustee I would like to see an external audit of the district finances. The Round Rock ISD has an annual budget of nearly a half a billion dollars. More than 90% of the districts Maintenance and Operations budget is spent on salaries and benefits. Each year programs should be evaluated to determine their needs, this could be accomplished by adopting baseline budgeting.

Police Reform: The Round Rock Independent School District is in the process of forming their own police department. As a Trustee I will insist that policy be written that our new school police officers deal only with law enforcement issues (The Law) and leave disciplinary matters to school administration. I will also insist that the jurisdiction of the officers is restricted to district owned property.

Discipline: Statistical evidence shows a disparity in discipline in Round Rock Schools. Procedures and policies must be developed to insure that it is fair and unbiased. The School Board is responsible for policy. A task force should be formed to review practices, history, and make recommendations to the school board. The district administration needs to implement those procedures and report to the board.

COVID-19: The Round Rock ISD has already made great strides to promote equitable learning for the majority of its students thru the purchase of Chromebooks and WiFi hot spots. It is now imperative for the district to direct adequate resources for the special needs and other disadvantaged students, as a trustee I would require reporting by the administration and direct funding where it is needed.

PLACE 7



Jenn Griffith

Background: Mom of 4 with 14 years & counting serving on exec board with the PTA, Council of PTAs, Booster Clubs also with Partners in Education Foundation, current RRMC Board of Trustee

Campaign Website: <http://www.jenn4rrisd.com>

Budget: A main responsibility of the BOT is to ensure that the district is spending taxpayer money in a smart and efficient way. We need to be vigilant in ensuring that we continue to stay on budget and keep all construction and capital projects on target. It is my commitment to continue to meet the needs of our students while living within our means as a District and be responsible with taxpayer dollars

Police Reform: I support the newly approved RRISD Police Department, we cannot leave the safety—both physical and emotional safety—up to other places. Currently we have 5 entities that provide us with SRO officers. My commitment is to work with our administration to help create and oversee the training and policies for our new officers to follow, and help them be someone our students can bond with and not fear.

Discipline: There are many trainings that each officer will get above and beyond what normal SRO officers have, including equity, de-escalation, emotional support and more. I would help ensure officers get all training and help create policies to ensure that all of our students are treated equally. I would also encourage officers to get more involved with the students to help prevent issues before they occur.

COVID-19: I feel that in person learning in a classroom is best with access to all of the materials needed to properly teach. I do understand that many have special concerns for health, wearing a mask and standing at the front of a room is easily done in the upper levels. Asking parents to be responsible for teaching their kids at home is extremely inequitable especially those with economic disadvantaged.



Danielle Marie Weston

Background: Experienced Leader US Air Force Vet & HR Business Leader. Blue Star Mom of 5. Extensive RRISD Volunteer Record: Student Mentor, Multiple Boosters TAG Advisory Group PTA + more

Education: Master's in Human Resources & Leadership, Webster Univ. Bachelor of Arts in English, Univ of Kansas. Squadron Officers School (Top Flight) Air University, Maxwell AFB Alabama.

Campaign Website: <http://www.electdanielweston.com/>

Budget: Effective communication with the TX legislature and a demonstrated commitment to fiscal responsibility to our taxpayers ensures that both of these critical groups are fully committed to funding student success in RRISD. There are lots of opportunities to recommit to both of these and when we do, our current + future students are going to benefit tremendously.

Police Reform: Safety is paramount. I worked in a security forces unit & I have 5 kids. I advocated for years to preserve RRISD's partnership with local law enforcement agencies that the majority of parents support. I attended the 3 safety town halls and virtually every Safety mtg. Despite the feed-

LOCAL ROUND ROCK ISD

PLACE 7

Danielle Marie Weston (continued)

back, RRISD created a police force. I support strong oversight and transparency over this newly created enterprise.

Discipline: Like many ISD's, we see that black, hispanic and students with special needs are disciplined at a higher rate in

RRISD. We can and must work to improve. RRISD is now focusing on student interaction and diversity training. I will continue listening closely to stakeholders who bring insight and experience on this and am optimistic we will continue to do better.

COVID-19: RRISD has provided needed technology resources. Elementary age, economically disadvantaged &

special needs students are suffering the most from virtual education. While some students must stay home for health reasons, many students need to return to our schools before long term harm results. For many students, equitable learning can only come from our world class facilities & teaching in person.

LOCAL TAYLOR ISD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Budget: What strategies would you use to manage your school district's funding to maintain or improve educational quality?

Police Reform: What reforms to your district's school policing system do you support, if any?

Discipline: How would you ensure that schools implement fair and unbiased disciplinary policies district-wide?

COVID-19: Given the effects of COVID-19, how will you promote equitable learning opportunities and equal access to resources for all students?

ing that we are prepared, through procedures, training and drills, to respond to all situations and threats.

Discipline: To ensure a safe or orderly environment for learning, disciplinary polices must be in place. Periodic reviews of all polices must be completed to ensure they are compliant to State requirements and are being implemented fairly and consistently. Once policy is place, administration must be trained and clear expectations established. Lastly, the policy and practices must be audited periodically.

COVID-19: I support a hybrid model that encompasses both on-line and in-person teaching. Since each student's home

learning environment differs as does their ability to access resources, I think its imperative that some form of face to face classroom exchange take place. This would allow for student and teacher interaction where progress could be assessed and adjustments made.

Janet Lynn Curtis

No response received

Daniel Philhower

No response received

PRECINCT 1

Shorty Mitchell

Unopposed

AT-LARGE



Jim Buzan

Background: I was born and raised in Taylor and after 30 years in the Energy Industry moved back to Taylor in 2019. I'm married with 3 children, the youngest a Jr. at Taylor High School.

Education: I am a 1985 graduate of Taylor High School and 1990 graduate of UT Austin—Cockrell School of Engineering in Civil Engineering.

Budget: Attracting and retaining talented teachers and resources is one of the best ways to maintain and improve the quality of education. Compensation is one component of retention, but not the only one. In light of the current pandemic, we must also actively manage our resources to maintain flexibility and offer "fit for purpose" solutions to our ever changing conditions.

Police Reform: Providing a safe environment on our campuses including the personal health and safety of the students, teachers and staff are my highest priorities. Ensuring

HOW TO VOTE BY MAIL

Any registered voter may vote by mail for the November 3, 2020 election if they:

- are 65 years of age or older (eligible for mail-in ballots for an entire calendar year).
- are sick or disabled (eligible for mail-in ballots for an entire calendar year).
- will be absent from the county during the entire early voting period and Election Day, AND provide an out-of-county address where the ballot can be mailed, AND include dates they can receive mail at the out-of-county address (eligible only for one election at a time). Voters who are absent from the county because they are active duty military or because they reside overseas should complete a Federal Post Card Application. Information and forms are available from county and state offices.
- are confined in jail, but otherwise eligible to vote (eligible only for one election at a time).

The procedure:

1. Request the application, which is available for download, from the county elections or secretary of state websites, or by calling or emailing the appropriate office. The application is known as an ABBM (application for a ballot by mail). <https://bit.ly/2YL0Gi3>
2. **IMPORTANT**—The application **MUST** be completed and **received** by the early voting clerk in the Travis or Williamson County Elections Division office **by October 23, 2020**. **NOTE:** If you submit an ABBM by fax or email, it must also be submitted by mail and received in the appropriate office within four business days of your electronic submission.
3. Once received, the mail-in ballot **MUST** be completed and **received** by the appropriate early voting clerk **no later than Election Day, November 3, 2020, or postmarked on November 3 and received by November 4, or by November 9 if mailed outside the U.S.**

Please visit our website for more detailed information: LWVAustin.org/vbm/

VOTER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE/CARD

The Voter Registration Certificate/ Card provides the district numbers for each race, or you may go to VOTE411.org, VoteTravis.com, or Wilco.org/elections to receive the list of all candidates you will consider. All citizens wishing to vote must be on the official list of registered voters in their county of residence and provide ID.

VOTER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE
(Certificado de Registro Electoral)
TRAVIS COUNTY (Condado de Travis)

VOID (VUID)	Gender (Sexo)	Valid from (Válido desde)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	1/1/2020
Year of Birth (Año de Nacimiento)	Prec. No. (Núm. Pcto.)	thru (hasta)
[REDACTED]	447	12/31/2021

Name and Permanent Residence Address (Nombre y dirección residencial permanente)
[REDACTED]

X
VOTER MUST PERSONALLY SIGN HIS/HER NAME IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT, IF ABLE
(El votante debe firmar esta tarjeta personalmente al recibirla, si puede.)

U.S. REP	ST. SEN	ST. REP	COMM.	J.P./CN.
35	21	48	4	3
ISD	ISD SMD	SBOE	CITY	CITY SMD
AISD	6	5	AUSFP	2

Name and Mailing Address (Nombre y dirección de correo)
[REDACTED]

Party Affiliation (Afiliación del Partido)



CENSUS AND REDISTRICTING

THE 2020 CENSUS IMPACTS REDISTRICTING IN TEXAS!

What Is the Census, and How Does It Impact You?

- **The Census is a count of all persons living in the U.S.** It is conducted every 10 years by the federal government, and it is mandated by the Constitution.
- **Resources for the Community:** We track changes in our population in order to know where to send resources and federal services. Census data is used to distribute over \$800 billion in federal funds annually. States use this money to pay for services and programs that are absolutely vital to the community, such as healthcare, highway funding, and education. Each person counted in your community means additional federal dollars in your community.
- **Basis for Representation:** These population changes also have an effect on our democracy. The Census count is used to determine how many seats each state gets in Congress and how district lines are drawn at every level of government.
- **Community Development:** Census data impacts planning and development in your community. It guides decisions on where to build businesses, subdivisions, schools, and roads. It is used by healthcare officials to plan resources and appropriate care for the surrounding population.

When Will the Census Be Conducted?

Starts: March 2020

Ends: November 2020

How Can People Complete the Census Questionnaire?

- Online
- Over the phone
- The paper form
- Or, by responding to a Census worker at your home

Go to my2020census.gov for more information or to take the census online.

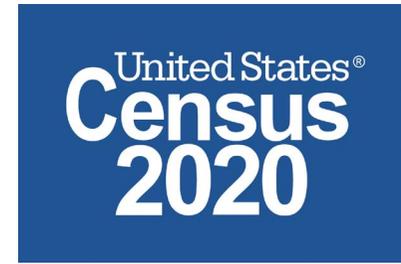
Are Census Responses Confidential? Yes.

- All Census data are protected by federal law to be kept confidential for 72 years.
- The Census Bureau cannot share data with any other federal agency.
- All Census Bureau employees swear to a lifetime oath to protect respondent information and will be fined \$250,000 and/or face up to 5 years imprisonment for wrongful disclosure.

“It is your right to be counted! Filling out the form is fast, easy, and secure.”

—GRACE CHIMENE, PRESIDENT, LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

For more information about the 2020 Census: <https://2020census.gov/en/help.html>



REDISTRICTING—NEW DISTRICT MAPS TO BE DRAWN AFTER 2020 CENSUS

Once we know how many people live in Texas, the state legislature will start the redistricting process and redraw the boundaries of the state legislative and congressional districts so that they are equal in population. These election maps will be used for the next decade.

Because of partisan gerrymandering, the way the district boundaries are drawn determines the power of your vote. The boundaries determine how you are represented, which other communities are included in your district, and ultimately, who will be elected to represent you. Those elected officials then go on to make important decisions that impact you and your family on a daily basis, such as the quality of the air you breathe, the quality of your child's school, and how much you pay in taxes.

What Can You Do to Influence the New District Maps?

The Legislature has already begun the process for the 2021 redrawing of state and federal legislative districts. In the fall of 2019, the Texas House Redistricting Committee started holding **Public Input Hearings** for the 2021 redistricting. The Texas Senate Redistricting Committee will hold hearings in 2020. (Schedules have changed due to COVID-19; check websites below for updated information.)

Public comments at the committee hearings will be used to assist the Legislature when it draws district boundaries.

Public Input Hearings Schedule

You are invited to attend a local public hearing to let your state legislators know your concerns, where your community is located and encourage them to conduct a transparent process. You can find guidance for how to testify on the League webpage, see below.

If you are unable to attend a hearing and would still like to provide testimony, you may email or call legislators on the Redistricting Committee. A list of committee member information can be found here: <http://bit.ly/2KrYk0N>

The League of Women Voters of Texas, working with Fair Maps Texas, is providing training in advance of many of the hearings.

More Information:

The League of Women Voters of Texas: <https://my.lwv.org/texas/advocacy-issues/redistrictingcensus>

Fair Maps Texas: <https://www.fairmapstexas.org/>

The Texas Legislative Council: <https://redistricting.capitol.texas.gov>

Texas Legislature's website: <https://capitol.texas.gov>



Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

Founded in 1919, the League of Women Voters® Austin Area is a nonpartisan, all-volunteer political organization striving to **Make Democracy Work®**.

Join Us

Membership is open to **everyone at least 16 years or older**. Annual dues are \$60 per person, \$90 for two people in the same household, and only \$5 for high school and college students.

Become a Sustaining Household for \$150 or Sustaining Individual for \$100 annually, and ALL of the extra dues amount stays with our local league.

For more information, please visit LWVAustin.org/join-us/

Volunteer

Our exciting group is on the front lines of voter engagement. LWV-AA **Volunteer Deputy Registrars (VDRs)** and others promote voter registration and work on getting people to the polls. We conduct **Candidate Forums** and we develop voter education campaigns and materials. Most importantly, we produce the **Voters Guide** for Travis and Williamson counties.

Donate to the League

Because we are an all-volunteer organization, your support goes a long way in helping us to

- **Register** eligible voters
- **Produce a nonpartisan Voters Guide** every election season
- **Host informative Candidate Forums** and promote voter education
- **Fund programs like First Vote!** offering high school students voter registration and civic education
- **Advocate** at the local level to Empower Voters and Defend Democracy

LWV-AA is a 501(c)3 organization. All donations to LWV-AA are tax-deductable to the extent permitted by law.

For more information, please visit LWVAustin.org/donate/

YOUR VOTE MATTERS