



**LOCAL NON-PARTISAN VOTER GUIDE  
GENERAL ELECTION**

**Tuesday, November 5, 2024**

**Saline School District**

**ELECTION DAY POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 am – 8:00 pm**

**EARLY VOTING: October 26 – November 3**

**<https://www.washtenaw.org/3970/Early-Voting>**

***Included in this Local Voter Guide:***  
***(Contested races only)***

State Representative #31, #32, #33  
Washtenaw County Commissioners Districts  
3,4  
Washtenaw County Judges  
Washtenaw County Clerk  
Washtenaw County Treasurer  
Washtenaw County Water Resources Comm  
Washtenaw Com College Board of Trustees  
Washtenaw County Proposals  
Saline City Council  
Saline School Board  
Lodi Township  
York Township

***Information about the following  
races not included in this local  
Voter Guide can be found by  
visiting [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org) or  
[lwwashtenaw.org](http://lwwashtenaw.org)***

US President  
US Vice President  
US Senate  
US Congressional Representative  
Michigan Supreme Court  
Michigan Court of Appeals  
Governing Boards of Michigan Universities

The League of Women Voters of Washtenaw County is a nonpartisan organization established in 1920 in Ann Arbor, MI. The League works to encourage citizen participation in government. It never supports or opposes any political party or candidate.

Publication of these statements and opinions of candidates is solely in the interest of public service and in no way is to be construed as an endorsement by the League of Women Voters. The League takes no responsibility for any views or facts stated by the candidates. Each question is limited to 1000 characters, and there has been no editing on the part of the League for spelling or grammar. All responses are solely in the words of the candidates. The work of the League is financed by the dues of its volunteer members and by contributions from citizens in the community.

Membership in the League of Women Voters of Washtenaw County is open to all citizens 16 years and older. For information about joining or contributing to the League, or information about elections, contact the League of Women Voters of Washtenaw County at: P.O. Box 3832, Ann Arbor, MI, 48106 or website: [lwwashtenaw.org](http://lwwashtenaw.org).

**State Representative – Michigan House District #31**  
(Washtenaw County)

VOTE FOR 1

<b>CANDIDATES</b>  <i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for responses to additional questions)</i>	What should Michigan do to provide an equitable, quality public education for all while addressing the current teacher shortage.	What do you see as the state's role, if any, in mitigating the impact of climate change?	What actions/proposals, if any, do you support to retain residents in our state?
<p><b>Dale Biniecki (Rep)</b></p> <p><b>Campaign Website:</b> votebiniecki.com  <b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b>                      I have lived in the 31st District my entire life. The people of this district are hardworking folks who deserve someone to represent their interests. Their tax dollars are sent to Lansing and spent on many things they would never invest in with their own funds. I want to be able to monitor their hard earned dollars and make sure it is spent well. I also want to reduce the size and scope of state government.</p>	<p>Quality teachers gravitate to schools with good pay and benefits. Previous administrations have addressed the teacher pension shortfall but the current governor seems to disregard the progress made and use the funds for her own projects. I believe emphasis on topics other than the basics of reading, math, science, writing and history have hindered our students. With limited classroom time, students must be proficient in the basics.</p>	<p>The state should have no role in mitigating climate change. If every regulation the state proposed was implemented, it would be a very tiny impact. The outcome does not reflect the amount regulation and money spent. It is just not worth the investment.</p>	<p>I propose lowering state income taxes for working people. Since our population is aging, I propose to freeze property taxes on retired individuals on fixed incomes. Our elderly cannot afford to stay in Michigan when their taxes increase but their incomes don't.</p>
<p><b>Reggie Miller (Dem)</b></p> <p><b>Campaign Website:</b> votereggiemiller.com</p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b>                       I am running for reelection because I believe that government works best when focused on serving residents' needs. While in Lansing, I've continued to preserve, support, and protect our community. I maintain a common-sense approach to serving the hardworking taxpayers of the community by listening to their concerns. While we've made great progress during my first term, plenty of work still needs to be done.</p>	<p>To address the teacher shortage we need to increase educator pay to retain and attract new teachers to the profession, continue to invest in our classrooms, and ensure that our districts receive equitable funding.</p>	<p>With an abundance of natural resources, a strong agriculture sector, and a large percentage of the world's freshwater, Michigan should be a leader in protecting and preserving our environment for future generations. During my first term, we passed legislation that sets renewable energy goals for the state over the coming decades which will put us on the right path in addressing climate change.</p>	<p>To retain residents in Michigan we need to invest in our state to make it a great place to live, go to school, work, and retire. We need to lower the cost of housing by building new affordable housing, attract new high-paying jobs, and investing in our public schools, trade programs, and colleges.</p>

**State Representative – Michigan House District #32**  
(Washtenaw County)

VOTE FOR 1

<b>CANDIDATES</b>  <i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for responses to additional questions)</i>	What should Michigan do to provide an equitable, quality public education for all while addressing the current teacher shortage.	What do you see as the state's role, if any, in mitigating the impact of climate change?	What actions/proposals, if any, do you support to retain residents in our state?
<p><b>Martin A. Church (Rep)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b>                       Education begins in the Home. We need parents to step up and become what</p>	<p>First it is not government's responsibility to improve their economic positions. it's up to them to get the education they need to secure good form of employment. Government does not create jobs, individuals do. Let's cut</p>	<p>First the constitution grants voting Rights. Not the State Legislature. The State Legislature is required to see the executive branch follows and enforces the laws as written. the state legislature should also</p>	<p>First let's enforce our current Laws, Then let's have an honest debate on the issues not one filled with garbage and made up facts. such has the garbage ethanol would be cheaper. It's not. and the only climate Change is caused by the Sin nature of</p>

God called them to be. The educators of their children. You will never have equitable or quality in the public education. you have to get parents involved in their kids education.	taxes and get our churches to provide the economic training to balance budgets.	require the Sec of State to formally review ALL election events and when required remove city and county clerks that fail to adequately follow the law. as for campaign funding, lets make a law that says you can not raise more capital than the job pays during the term in office.	Man, Act's of God are not climate Change.
<b>Jimmie Wilson, Jr. (Dem)</b>  <b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b>	DID NOT RESPOND	DID NOT RESPOND	DID NOT RESPOND
<b>Ryan Sample (Grn)</b>  <b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b>	DID NOT RESPOND	DID NOT RESPOND	DID NOT RESPOND

**State Representative – Michigan House District #33**  
(Washtenaw County)

VOTE FOR 1

<b>CANDIDATES</b>  (Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for responses to additional questions)	What should Michigan do to provide an equitable, quality public education for all while addressing the current teacher shortage.	What do you see as the state's role, if any, in mitigating the impact of climate change?	What actions/proposals, if any, do you support to retain residents in our state?
<b>Jason Rogers (Rep)</b>  <b>Campaign Website:</b>  <b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b>	DID NOT RESPOND	DID NOT RESPOND	DID NOT RESPOND
<b>Morgan Foreman (Dem)</b>  <b>Campaign Website:</b> forwardwithforeman.com  <b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b>  I'm running for state legislature to continue my commitment to service and advocacy. Growing up in Southeast Michigan, inspired by my community, I learned the values of hard work and giving back. As an educator in Ypsilanti Schools and MEA member, I saw the transformative power of education. At the Student Advocacy Center, I	To ensure equitable, quality public education and address teacher shortages in Michigan, the state should increase teacher salaries and benefits, provide incentives for hard-to-staff areas, and expand alternative certification pathways. Long-term strategies include investing in teacher education programs, offering robust mentorship and professional development, improving working conditions, and fostering community and parental engagement.	The state's role in mitigating climate change involves implementing policies to reduce emissions, promote sustainability, and prepare for climate impacts. Key actions include enforcing regulations on emissions, supporting renewable energy development, and investing in public transportation and green infrastructure. The state should incentivize energy-efficient buildings and sustainable urban planning, raise public awareness, and encourage	To attract and retain residents in Michigan, the state can focus on key strategies outlined in the Growing Michigan Together Council's report. These include fostering job creation in tech, manufacturing, and green energy sectors, and offering incentives for business expansion. Enhancing education, healthcare, and public safety will improve quality of life, alongside developing affordable housing. Improving transportation and digital infrastructure supports modern living,

empowered residents through nonpartisan Get Out the Vote efforts. Serving on the Washtenaw County Democratic Party Committee and former Treasurer of its Black Caucus, Working as a legislative staffer I championed critical issues. I aim to fight for healthcare, education, senior care and representing my community's voices	Policy changes should focus on equitable funding distribution, reducing reliance on local property taxes, and advocating for supportive legislation to improve teacher retention and student outcomes.	carbon footprint reduction. Collaborating with local governments and businesses, developing climate action plans, and investing in resilient infrastructure are also crucial. Michigan can lead in this space.	while promoting community engagement creates vibrant neighborhoods. These efforts aim to make Michigan a desirable place to live, work, and thrive.
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**Washtenaw County Clerk/Register of Deeds**  
(Covers all of Washtenaw County)

VOTE FOR 1

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for responses to additional questions)</p>	What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with currently limited resources?	What thoughts do you have about the current voting procedures?	Are there challenges to ensuring a safe and secure voting process, both in-person and through absentee ballots? What are your recommendations to meet these challenges?
<p><b>Samantha Strayer (Rep)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I have a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of California-Irvine and a master's degree in politics from the Hillsdale College Graduate School of Statesmanship. My education reflects a consistent interest in politics—particularly the cultivation of an informed and engaged citizenry. I am a writer and editor by vocation, which require a high level of precision in meaning, effective communication, and accuracy. My writing is also rooted in respect for the reader, gratitude that someone would take time out of his or her busy life to read something that I have written. Taken together, these experiences fit perfectly with the role of County Clerk/Register of Deeds, who must be precise, accurate, an effective communicator, and wish to serve all residents so that they can be informed and engaged and know what resources and information are available to them.</p>	My goals are first to ensure the integrity of our elections, particularly in our county seat of Ann Arbor, and second to ensure accurate record keeping regarding land ownership. I would like to work with CheckMyVote.org to clean up our county's voter rolls. This will be an ongoing initiative and involves any resident who wishes to participate. Also, I plan to connect with the county's clerks to hear from them what works, what doesn't, and ideas they have. Overall, I wish to provide timely, efficient, and accurate service to our residents. The current website has a lot of great information, so that important infrastructure already exists and is a strong foundation to build upon. I would leverage the existing site and add to it additional resources. I would also modify some of the wording, navigation options, and other aspects of the site, so that it's more intuitive and therefore easier to use and find information.	How we vote is one part of the problem and definitely needs improvement, as it is time consuming, expensive, and, in several respects, needlessly complicated. It is also fraught with (intentional) weaknesses that invite abuse. For example, there is no requirement for any voter to prove s/he is a citizen. This must change (e.g., the SAVE Act).  Early voting further complicates what truly should be a relatively simple process: you show up at your local precinct polling place on Election Day (one day!), show your photo ID to verify you are a registered voter in your precinct, and vote. Mail-in voting is a danger to election integrity.	Absolutely. There are challenges with both mail-in and in-person voting, but the challenges are much greater when there is mass mail-in voting, which is highly vulnerable to fraud and banned in most countries. We need strict rules on signature verification as well as full transparency of the process. We also need strict adherence to following the chain of custody. Additionally, the quality of the voter rolls is a major problem. We in Michigan have much to change in the way we conduct our elections, yes, but it starts with the foundation of accurate data. Michigan has nearly 105% voters! In short, we have dirty voter rolls. This is a problem statewide but especially in Washtenaw. Attempts to clean up the voter rolls are sabotaged by our Secretary of State. Magically, voters who have passed away or moved—even years ago—somehow keep reappearing. It's a mess, and it's a mess by design. Last but not least, we must end our membership with ERIC, the Electronic Registration Information Center.
<p><b>Lawrence Kestenbaum (Dem)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p>	* Every person who comes to our office is treated with courtesy and respect. That is my ongoing commitment.	* Successful ballot proposals in 2018-22 expanded voting rights and access. Implementation of these changes is ongoing, including early voting, automatic registration,	* Michigan election law protects the integrity and security of the process. And the right to a secret ballot is now explicitly protected in the state constitution.

<p>* I have been county clerk/register for almost 20 years and accomplished a lot.</p> <p>* I have a B.A. in economics, a law degree, and did graduate work in city/regional planning and historic preservation. I have lectured or taught classes at three universities, and I continue to do presentations for service groups and lecture series.</p> <p>* My past election experience included working as a poll worker and as an attorney for candidates in recounts. I have written and lectured on election issues such as voter authentication, tabulation technology, and security.</p> <p>* And, of course, I've been the county's chief election official since 2005.</p> <p>* I was elected to county boards in two counties, served on university, city, and regional planning commissions, and too many other things to list here.</p> <p>* I was one of the pioneers of the World Wide Web. In 1996, I created the Political Graveyard web site (PoliticalGraveyard.com), which made a tremendous amount of U.S. political history available online.</p>	<p>* My team has greatly expanded access to information online, and we're not done yet.</p> <p>* We were the first county in the state to implement electronic death registration, a big savings in time and energy for everyone involved.</p> <p>* I will also continue advocating for voting rights and human rights.</p> <p>* In 2014, when Michigan's gay marriage prohibition was struck down, I opened the office on a Saturday to process marriage licenses for same-sex couples. Three other county clerks followed my lead.</p> <p>* In 2012, the legislature added unconstitutional roadblocks to stop voters from recalling elected officials. I'm in the forefront of those opposing that power grab.</p> <p>* Many states are seeing partisan attacks on voting rights and the election system. Michigan is a flashpoint of this conflict. A county clerk with deep election experience is the best defense.</p>	<p>pre-registration of 16-year-olds, a permanent absentee list, and routine post-election audits. We still need help from the Legislature to fully realize these things.</p> <p>* In particular, the August primary needs to be earlier, ideally in May, for better voter turnout, and to assure enough time for recounts and post-election random-precinct audits.</p> <p>* Michigan asks a LOT of our voters. Each of us gets to vote on nearly 100 different offices, from president to library board, from Court of Appeals to Probate Judge.</p> <p>* With the decline of media coverage of local government, an increasing proportion of voters prefer to vote at home, with access to resources to look up candidates and issues.</p> <p>* In the long run, I expect Michigan will have a mostly or fully mail-in voting system, like Oregon or Colorado.</p>	<p>* In a voting precinct or absentee counting board, every sensitive task is performed by two poll workers of different partisanship, working together.</p> <p>* The absentee ballot process, in particular, is structured to protect the anonymity of ballots.</p> <p>* Our automatic tabulators are regularly tested and audited (before and after every election) to verify that they report votes accurately. Ballots are also kept for 22 months after every federal election, so that anyone can count and compare them to the reported totals.</p> <p>* Voter intimidation is illegal, and our poll workers, our local clerks, and our police agencies are alert to intervene if it happens.</p> <p>* Prop 2 of 2022, among many other things, mandated secure drop boxes for absentee ballots.</p> <p>* I am confident that our voting process is safe and secure.</p>
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**Washtenaw County Treasurer**  
(Covers all of Washtenaw County)

VOTE FOR 1

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with currently limited resources?</p>	<p>What are your thoughts about the current tax system in Washtenaw County?</p>	<p>What are your thoughts regarding the level of customer service provided?</p>
<p><b>Robert F. Zimmerman (Rep)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>This is a financial position and my career has demonstrated Proven Financial Leadership for 35 +years. My educational background is a Bachelor of Science in Economics and Business from Carnegie-Mellon University and a Masters in Business Administration with majors in Accounting and Finance. I've passed the CPA Exam. My audit experience includes a "Big Four" CPA firm and internal audit roles in</p>	<p>I approach each assignment with a goal of continuous innovation. I'm oriented to "out-collaborate everyone else", to help my employers compete. Creating and tracking benchmarks indicating where additional value is created (as well as identifying where we have work to do) is key. I'd like to enhance current efforts in the following ways: Working with our cities and townships to "get ahead" of potential opportunities and problems by digging into delinquent tax payments. The county perpetually has</p>	<p>The county's tax structure is largely driven by the state with a very limited voice for county treasurers. We no longer have a structure that grows our economy for the working classes. Sales taxes and income taxes are a manageable process and can be compared to competing states. Property Taxes have become convoluted, particularly in Washtenaw as so much property is held by non-profits. Our taxes for similar housing and</p>	<p>Most of the public interface is with our local townships and city treasurers as the first point of contact. Only items such as dog licenses are handled by the county treasurer's office as a "retail" service. The office would engage the public when taxes are not paid to the cities and townships by the deadline. This can be a stressful situation to property owners that may already be very stressed. Accordingly, it's tough to get a good read when the customer can be in an emotional situation.</p>

<p>management responsibilities for two Fortune 200 firms. I'm very knowledgeable of financial statements and what they represent regarding the operating performance of an organization.</p> <p>Moreover, my professional experience in financial operations includes roles and responsibilities as a CFO for 17 years in the steel industry, Director-Finance for an international automotive supplier, Division and Operations Controller for 3 Fortune 200 manufacturers.</p> <p>My CFO tenure included Pension committee membership and determining fund selections for the 401-k plan.</p>	<p>a credit line of over \$20M to cover delinquencies, now far more costly with increased interest rates.</p> <p>The cost to the county to administer foreclosures is \$1M, benefiting no one. I'd like to work with our city &amp; township treasurers to provide incentives to encourage more timely payment, address those taxpayers with cash flow issues, and help get vacant properties filled towards their highest and best purpose. This can help keep our values strong and ensure "Main Street" thrives for all.</p>	<p>commercial properties are rarely competitive with other counties. A county commissioner noted it's difficult for those making \$60k to afford to live in Washtenaw. Many will locate in adjacent counties, spurring growth there rather than here. For those not desiring growth in our county, their property taxes will still increase as the pool of property taxpayers is comparatively low. We are looking at up to 7 county millages on the ballot this year.</p> <p>I'd like to see a cap on property tax rates and assessments that cannot be exceeded or overridden.</p>	<p>The office has undertaken educational opportunities available to those caught in this situation. I'm hearing the program is well received. It does suggest potential enhancements to financial education throughout the county. This could help our residents not only in stressful situations, but to get better financial footing before these events happen. As many mental health &amp; domestic violence situations result from financial issues, perhaps a program to better train our social workers would help.</p>
<p><b>Latitia Lamelle Sharp (Dem)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I am proud to hold degrees from Ypsilanti High School, Washtenaw Community College, and Eastern Michigan University. These educational institutions have provided me with a strong foundation across various fields, enabling me to contribute effectively to Washtenaw County governance for over 35 years. In my extensive career, I have actively participated in county operations, gaining valuable insights into grant management, procurement, financial analysis, accounting, and human resources. My commitment to financial best practices is evident through my membership in the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and the National Grant Management Association (NGMA). My primary qualification lies in my dedication to bringing a fresh perspective to the role of County Treasurer. I aim to build upon the retiring treasurers' work while emphasizing transparency, taxpayer safeguards, and community-centered programs. A vote for me is a vote for a Treasurer who prioritizes the people.</p>	<p>My goals will focus on five key priority pillars that address the essential responsibilities of the position. These pillars form a robust framework, emphasizing community well-being, responsible management of public funds, and financial integrity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Safeguard Public Funds:</b> Ensure the safety of public funds, protect county assets, and adhere to ethical standards.</li> <li><b>2. Property Tax Collection Effectiveness:</b> Optimize tax collection processes to safeguard public funds and support essential services.</li> <li><b>3. Homeownership Preservation Programs:</b> Enhance existing programs to prevent foreclosures and promote homeownership, benefiting the community.</li> <li><b>4. Community Partnerships:</b> Foster collaborations with local organizations, businesses, and neighborhood associations to drive community investment and innovation.</li> <li><b>5. Compliance with State Laws:</b> Uphold state regulations to maintain public trust and ensure sound financial practices.</li> </ol>	<p>Property taxes in Michigan are billed twice a year (in July and December) by the local city or township treasurer. If local treasurers cannot collect property taxes, the county treasurer becomes responsible for collecting all delinquent taxes. The current tax system in Washtenaw County faces several challenges: Delinquency and Collection Issues, Equity and Fairness, Administrative Burdens, Digital Accessibility, and Foreclosure Prevention. I will work diligently and affectively to collect taxes equitably and fairly to prevent delinquency and foreclosure, ensuring accessibility for all residents within the county's administrative resources.</p>	<p>. If elected as the Washtenaw County Treasurer, my commitment to customer service will be a strong primary focus. In my career of public service, I have dedicated myself to courteous customer service, listening and providing whatever is needed, or making the connection with resources that can provide the service. The office should provide courteous and helpful assistance to taxpayers, whether in person, over the phone, or via email. Promptly addressing inquiries related to property taxes and payment options is essential. The office should be transparent about tax assessments, billing, and collection processes. Clear communication regarding due dates, penalties, and exemptions is crucial. Ensuring accuracy in property assessments, tax calculations, and records management is vital. Any discrepancies or errors should be promptly rectified. The office should prioritize accessibility for all residents, including older adults.</p>

**Washtenaw County Water Resources**

**4-year term**

**VOTE FOR 1**

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What steps will you take to mitigate the Gelman plume contamination?</p>	<p>What do you think are the greatest threats to our county's surface and ground water resources?</p>
<p><b>Lisa Gubaci-Root (Rep)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p><b>Gretchen D. Driskell (Dem)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>My education includes an accounting degree, former CPA and MBA. I recently completed my MPA at the Ford School of Public Policy at University of Michigan. Additionally, I have attended Michigan Inland Lakes and Streams conferences and MSU educational sessions regarding our fresh water systems. I have had long term interest in our fresh water and learned over the years about the challenges and opportunities that are present.</p> <p>I have served as a local elected official for over 20 years and also spent 4 years as a state legislator. I have worked in a collaborative manner with other stakeholders to help solve regional issues and represent the needs of our citizens. I am an innovative problem solver and will work to address your concerns in a fiscally responsible manner.</p>	<p>The Water Resources Commission has state mandated responsibilities regarding drainage and stormwater management, which we will continue to maintain and enhance as needed. Additionally I will work collaboratively with our communities and stakeholders to develop innovative solutions to the impacts of climate change on flooding and water quality. Water is our most important natural resource and helping to educate our citizens on how to protect it is also an important ongoing issue.</p>	<p>Now that the Gelman plume has become a Superfund site, I will work with our federal partners to insure that the contamination is cleaned up as soon as possible. Additionally, we need to inform our impacted citizens on the movement of the plume on a continual basis. I will work with the local governing authorities to insure we are doing everything possible to contain and ultimately clean up the plume.</p>	<p>The greatest threat is the lack of understanding our citizens have on the impact they potentially make to our water system. Whether that is fertilizing your lawn, lack of maintenance of our septic systems, or soil runoff from flooding on heavy rainfall. PFAS and other contaminants are also a substantial threat and fortunately the state of Michigan is at the forefront of addressing this issue. The other threat is climate change and the severe weather that is occurring. Heavy rainfalls cause more contamination of our waters. Educating our citizens will help address all these concerns and our elected officials will develop policies to protect our water resources.</p>

**Washtenaw County Commissioner - District 3**

**4-year term**

**VOTE FOR 1**

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What are the most serious problems facing the County and how will you work to solve them?</p>	<p>What are Washtenaw County's greatest assets and how can they be used to help the community thrive?</p>
<p><b>Ryan Baumgart (Rep)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>My educational background extends across multiple disciplines, including: intercultural studies as my undergraduate degree, and a graduate degree, Juris Master: International Legal Studies. Between this educational background, extensive time teaching in a cross-cultural environment, and as</p>	<p>My goals as a commissioner are centered around the elements of my campaign: Security, Heritage, and Community. Security references ensuring that people are safe within their community by emphasizing resources toward emergency services. Heritage is centered around enabling the prospering of lifestyle within the Southwest portion of Washtenaw - allowing for</p>	<p>The most prominent problems facing the county are lack of transparency, misuse of funds, overreach of elected officials, and a lack of accountability in reporting. Each of these can be identified as extensions of a sole-party system within the Washtenaw County government. Paramount to my role as an elected official will be the call for</p>	<p>The greatest assets of Washtenaw County will always be the people. We have the unique advantage of incorporating the university, as well as the nearby auto industry. What this means is that we draw incredible minds from across the world, and have the capacity to provide for them wonderful lifestyles. Many of these people are lifelong residents, who</p>

<p>founder &amp; CEO of a small business - my qualifications are well-rounded. I am able within these skills to act in both micro-systems, such as line items, while also understanding how the larger, macro-scale tasks need to fall in place. An example of this is in my own business which integrates multiple platforms for company objectives. These areas of learning and experience have naturally developed qualifying skills, such as knowledge-based learning, public speaking capability, system processes, and interpersonal relations. Effectively, these will provide the necessary tools to work across a broad spectrum of people, industries, and social spheres.</p>	<p>continued pursuits of their daily routines. This will be accomplished by appropriately allocating funds into these areas. Finally, the concept of community deals with how a geographic area is able to handle their resources. Examples of this include increased allocation of funds to road services, alongside regular interaction &amp; updates with trustees throughout the district. It is important to note that there needs to be a reversal of funds within the county so that outlying areas are properly supported. This can be done by actively engaging community members and allotting time to personalized reviews of the areas in question.</p>	<p>transparency in reports, such as those of government funding and the availability of line items that directly impact the livelihood of constituents. Following this there is a dire need for accountability across the county. Exposure of the misuse of funds for private endeavors, partisan allocation of funds, and a lack of responsibility will all be included in my service. Using my background I intend to put these practices into plain language for presentation to the public. My goal is the enablement of renewed trust in elected officials, and the duty of the same to uphold the high standards of office to which they have been raised.</p>	<p>reinvest into the community via small business development, promotion of commerce, the continuation of the heritage in the area, and the utilization of a diverse population of people &amp; skills. By helping them to build quality lives, we will create longevity within and around Washtenaw. Thriving can only be accomplished when local people believe in the identity of the place they live. This means that an elected official is that: elected. Their responsibility is to serve the assets of the people for the greater good of the community. My goal is to accomplish this through proper use of the vast resources that exist in the county.</p>
<p><b>Shannon Beeman (Dem)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>Throughout my three-term tenure as a County Commissioner, I have faced responding to a global pandemic, filling a \$10 million gap when the State of Michigan refused to pay for mental health services, and securing over \$17 million in grants and ARPA funds to connect every resident to reliable, high-speed internet. These past six years have prepared me for any situation. My previous roles in the non-profit, economic development, and higher education sectors have given me multiple views of county services and how they support or leave behind our neighbors. I will continue to advocate for resources needed in District 3 through the relationships I have built over the years with my fellow commissioners. My MBA and years of management experience allow me to truly understand the budget process for Washtenaw County. I will continue to use my business acumen to ensure our funds are used wisely to support all residents. This beautiful community is where I grew up and where I raise my children.</p>	<p>Bringing additional resources to District 3 remains a major goal. I have worked to secure funding for the Mobile Support Services Initiative (bus) as well as make progress on a Western Washtenaw County Resource Center to bring resources to residents. Another key goal is to obtain USDA funds –as was done in Manchester– to build affordable, multi-generational housing throughout Washtenaw County. As County Commissioner, I understand the importance of secure and affordable housing in Washtenaw. Housing is a fundamental pillar for sustainable and thriving communities. Stable housing provides children with a solid foundation, seniors a safe place to age, and our neighbors the ability to thrive. Access to secure housing also plays a vital role in fostering economic growth within the county. Restaurants, retail shops, factories, and more require staff to continue their operations; however, based on the pay scale it is difficult for potential employees to afford to live near these businesses.</p>	<p>Protecting our water is key to the health of our community. Industrial polluters have left behind forever chemicals that impact our health and must be held accountable. Preserving our farmland and encouraging our youth to explore agriculture is another major issue. Our region thrives because of multigenerational farms that feed and clothe our communities. To ensure we have food security and a thriving economy, I will work to protect our farmland and highlight the options available to our youth in agriculture through programming. Accessing housing and public transportation impacts the vibrancy and vitality of the cities in District 3. I will work to bring together local leaders to address these issues head-on while seeking grant funding to fill transportation and housing gaps in our communities. Supporting seniors and providing services is a rising need as our senior population continues to grow. I'll continue to help senior programs in District 3 secure the funding necessary to thrive.</p>	<p>There are two great assets in Washtenaw County – the people and the natural resources. Both of these are irreplaceable. Washtenaw County is home to some of the greatest institutions of higher education in the world. From the life-saving innovation that comes out of the University of Michigan to the desperately needed trades programs at Washtenaw Community College, we educate the best and the brightest within our community. However, many of these graduates don't stay because they cannot access the items necessary to live and work in the area such as transportation, healthcare, housing, childcare, and more. Washtenaw County must provide access to these resources to retain our top talent. The natural resources are the reason I live and raise my family in District 3. From the rivers to the fields, we live in a place of great beauty that can easily be destroyed. I will work to protect our water, air, and farmland from polluters and ensure it will be enjoyed for generations to come.</p>



<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What are the most serious problems facing the County and how will you work to solve them?</p>	<p>What are Washtenaw County's greatest assets and how can they be used to help the community thrive?</p>
<p><b>Alberta Borneo (Rep)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>My education: Bachelor of degree in Journalism, majoring in Advertising and Master of Occupational Therapy. Worked in advertising for 15 years and as an occupational therapist 20 years part-time.</p> <p>While in advertising, my responsibilities included media planning and buying for clients including Blue Cross Blue Shield of MI and Borders Books. I managed various media budgets from hundreds of thousand dollars to \$1-2 million budgets to achieve client goals. It involved negotiating the most benefit for client dollars.</p> <p>While a contract Occupational Therapist, mainly in schools, I estimated caseload needs to allow for budgeting for student times and goals. I effectively stayed within allocated budgets for Special Education, making the most of supplies to accomplish these goals while justifying the acquisition of higher cost equipment for specific students.</p> <p>My positions have allowed me to communicate effectively to people at multiple levels: students, parents, teachers, administrators.</p>	<p>My goals would be to provide community resources (including education, health, infrastructure) to meet people's needs within the most efficient budgets through effective negotiation. Utilizing current resources/dollars before seeking additional expenditures is important in being fiscally responsible.</p>	<p>Keeping the community safe, healthy and educated with tightened or tightening budgets in a stressful economy.</p>	<p>Greatest assets are a diverse, educated population with two major universities and access to many local social services and faith communities. Problem solving for the community can be addressed quickly through those assets.</p>
<p><b>Caroline Sanders (Dem)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I have Associate, Bachelor, Master, and Education Specialist degrees in Business Administration, Public Law &amp; Government, Technology &amp; Legal Administration and Urban Education. I have also owned several businesses that provided legal support services, mentoring and strategic consulting to individuals and corporate clients.</p>	<p>Should I be re-elected, I intend to continue advocating for my constituents and the most vulnerable residents in our county who struggle with housing affordability, consumer protection, health and human services and overall quality of life.</p>	<p>Housing and Homelessness; Equitable access to education, training and employment; Consumer respect/accountability from corporate and county services; and Streamlining/transparency /efficiency of not for profit providers.</p>	<p>Resident &amp; Environmental diversity; Academic institutions; Corporate entities; County stability and growth; Certain Not for Profit Organizations who are committed to moving the needle. Greater cooperation and layering of their assets can help the community thrive.</p>

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your objectives if you are elected and how will you work to accomplish them?</p>	<p>What are the priority issues facing this court, and how would you address them if elected?</p>	<p>What is your general judicial philosophy?</p>
<p><b>Jinan Hamood (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I have worked in Washtenaw County serving the community in various legal positions - from interning at the Public Defender’s Office, completing a judicial externship at the 15th District Court, to running my own practice. For over a decade I have practiced criminal defense, family law, and civil litigation, all of which are areas of law a circuit judge presides over.</p> <p>Throughout my career, I have centered my work on addressing disparities in the criminal legal system, navigating difficult matters of family law and a variety of civil disputes with compassion for those affected and outcomes that embody fairness and justice. I have served as an advocate, as a guardian ad litem, mediator, parenting coordinator, and court appointed receiver. I have represented criminal defendants and victims of crimes. My work experience in these different roles gives me a unique perspective on how our legal system serves and impacts people on all sides.</p>	<p>If elected, my objectives are to serve our community in a way which helps to heal harms, address root causes of justice involvement, and provide fair and equitable outcomes to parties involved in family court disputes, civil disputes, criminal matters.</p> <p>I will do so by utilizing my knowledge of our local courts and our laws, as well as by bringing the compassion, empathy, and understanding I have developed from my diverse practice. This knowledge and experience shapes my ability to work collaboratively with parties and their attorneys, and to find creative, practical, and realistic resolutions which enable all sides to be heard in difficult situations. I am familiar with our court services, treatment courts, and county programming. I know what is working and have ideas on what we can improve.</p>	<p>In addition to the day-to-day administration of my courtroom, I have three systemic priorities which I will work to accomplish:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Criminal Justice Reform – Our courts should be compassionate and progressive in their values, and I will work with attorneys to best serve justice to those who are harmed and ensure that individuals are not wrongly ensnared in the legal system. I believe in restorative justice models, the use of treatment courts, and intend to work with our current judges to expand the use of both.</li> <li>2. Access to Justice – As one of the largest recipients of public tax dollars in Washtenaw County, our court system should be affordable and accessible for all, regardless of their background.</li> <li>3. Diverse Perspectives – I want to help Washtenaw County stand out in our state as a leader and example of supporting diverse perspectives. I bring with me my lived and professional experiences, both of which give me an understanding of how important diversity is in our justice system.</li> </ol>	<p>I believe that judges should serve with compassion, integrity, and empathy. If elected, my judicial philosophy will be that of applying the law and seeking to remedy past harms with a fair and equitable administration of justice. We must work to make our courts and our community more welcoming and more accessible. As judge, I would act in accordance with these goals, seeking to ensure that when people are in court - often dealing with some of the worst days they will face - they feel they are listened to and are still treated with dignity, understanding, and compassion.</p>
<p><b>Jeffrey Worosz (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I have been a practicing attorney for over 12 years, with a practice focusing primarily on family law, contested probate matters, and general civil litigation. My extensive litigation experience has afforded me significant trial and courtroom experience, allowing me to develop a deep and comprehensive understanding of the types of cases that frequently come before the circuit court. Having handled</p>	<p>I want to apply the law fairly and impartially to everyone, and to improve public confidence in the court system. It starts by treating everyone in the courtroom with respect, courtesy and empathy. Litigants are real people facing significant issues, often with considerable consequences and it’s important to remember and be respectful of that fact. I would show this not only in how I interact with the people appearing before me, but also by being</p>	<p>I think two of the biggest issues facing all courts are 1) access to justice; and, 2) public confidence in the judicial system. Access to justice to me means everyone should have the ability to seek a remedy through the legal system. As a judge, the way to achieve this is by ensuring every litigant has an opportunity to be heard. That can be accomplished through making sure litigants are aware of resources and tools</p>	<p>I don’t adhere to a specific philosophy, but I value several important principles that are essential for making fair and equitable decisions. First and foremost, an open mind is paramount. This means not only having a willingness to listen to all parties, but also to be fully informed before making any decisions, but also setting aside any personal agendas and preconceived notions, ensuring that</p>

<p>sensitive, complex, and high-stakes matters, I understand how crucial it is for individuals to feel heard and respected in the courtroom. I appreciate the importance of approaching each case with empathy and fairness, ensuring that every party receives a fair opportunity to present their case. I have appeared in courts throughout the state of Michigan, in front of dozens of judges, giving me insight into the varied approaches to judicial decision-making. This broad exposure has provided me with a keen sense of what works and what doesn't within our legal system.</p>	<p>prepared for every case that comes before me. Preparation includes understanding and anticipating the legal issues applicable to case beforehand, so that when the facts are presented, I know how they connect to the relevant laws. Proper preparation also has the benefit of ensuring that the courtroom runs efficiently, preventing unnecessary delays and drawn-out proceedings. Lastly, self-reflection on how and why I am making decisions, screening to keep out my personal biases, will help to ensure I am making decisions for the right reasons.</p>	<p>available, or just having the patience to listen. To improve public confidence in the courts, the key is to be consistent and fair in how all litigants are treated and how the law is applied in every case. The public loses confidence in the legal system when judges have personal agendas that influence the manner in which they apply the law. Through self-awareness, an openness to criticism, and a willingness to critically evaluate my own decisions, I can work to ensure that I am accountable and consistent in my treatment of people and application of the law.</p>	<p>every case is evaluated solely on its merits and the applicable law. Litigants deserve a meaningful opportunity to be heard, and that can only happen when a judge approaches each case with an open and impartial mindset. Second, being prepared. Understanding the matter before the court, including the relevant legal issues and potential challenges that may arise during the proceedings. Third, being decisive and accountable. After hearing all of the facts, judges should make decisions that are not only legally sound, but also fair and impartial.</p>
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**15<sup>th</sup> District Judge of District Court (Incumbent)      6-year term      VOTE FOR 1**

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your objectives if you are elected and how will you work to accomplish them?</p>	<p>What are the priority issues facing this court, and how would you address them if elected?</p>	<p>What is your general judicial philosophy?</p>
<p><b>Tamara Garwood (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I graduated from the University of Michigan and Detroit College of Law. I have been an attorney for twenty-five years, handling domestic, probate, landlord-tenant, criminal and civil matters, through all phases of litigation. For eight years, I have been on the bench as the 15th District Court Magistrate, giving me a unique eye to the successes and needs of the Court. I see the impact I have on our community, every day. While I hold the rights of those before me paramount, I never lose sight of my responsibility to the community and the law. On the bench, I uphold the highest standards of accountability and transparency, supporting policies and practices of responsibility that also focus on education and rehabilitation, working to eliminate racial and economic disparities by ensuring fair treatment for all individuals regardless of background. My experience, compassion, judicial temperament and integrity are unparalleled in this race.</p>	<p>I will put an end to cookie-justice. Holding people accountable for their actions, I will champion individualized approaches to justice, addressing the root causes that bring individuals to court. I will focus on creating innovative court options to move away from over-incarceration and towards meaningful solutions. I will uphold justice and equality, acknowledging the historical and ongoing impact of racial inequities. I will work to end racial disparities through fair and compassionate rulings, with dignity and respect for all. Through collaboration with local organizations, I will develop and implement programs that support marginalized communities and ensure equal access to justice. Expanding community outreach and youth engagement, I will work to end the school to prison pipeline, uplifting young people to thrive in our community, graduating with diplomas and degrees, not criminal histories. I am committed to a more inclusive, effective and efficient court for all users.</p>	<p>We must eliminate systemic biases within the legal system to ensure all individuals, regardless of race, gender, socioeconomic status or other characteristics, receive fair and impartial treatment. Recognizing and combatting implicit bias within our system, we must have transparent and fair court procedures and policies from charging to sentencing decisions to avoid the disproportionate impacts often faced by marginalized communities. Working collaboratively with community organizations, advocacy groups and residents, I will continue to find solutions that protect the rights of those in the courtroom while keeping our community safe and protected. I am committed to expanding our exemplary Mental Health Court, Sobriety Court and Veterans Court to support individuals with the necessary resources for treatment and rehabilitation rather than incarceration.</p>	<p>I will continue my work to reform criminal justice by advocating for alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenses, using community service, meaningful probation and treatment programs. I support policies and practices that aim to reduce prison populations by addressing the root causes of crime. I will encourage rehabilitation over punishment through vocational training and education, to reintegrate former offenders into society and reduce recidivism. Advocating for mental health and addiction treatment services through our Specialty Courts, where we treat these issues as public health concerns rather than criminal issues. Finally, we must ensure that young people receive fair and age appropriate treatment protecting the rights of these individuals and providing them with opportunities for positive development and growth.</p>

<p><b>S. Kerene Moore (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I earned my undergrad and law degrees from the University of Michigan, and for two decades, I've worked to increase access to justice, promote restorative justice, and support victim's rights. I represented over 1,000 people who could not afford an attorney, fought discrimination at the MI Department of Civil Rights, and served behind the bench as a judicial attorney and juvenile referee. I currently handle innocence cases and provide expungement support in the Prosecutor's office. I am a leader in social justice advocacy and have extensive experience on the ground in the community. I've served as an Ann Arbor District Library Trustee, a Human Rights Commissioner, and on the boards of Neutral Zone, Equality Michigan, and Jim Toy Community Center. I've trained attorneys regionally and nationally, have 10 legal publications, and founded a pro bono project that is going into its 10th year. As Judge, I would work hard to ensure fair access to justice for people from all walks of life.</p>	<p>Our justice system continues to fail the community in a number of areas. Michigan ranks dead last in provision of crime victim services. Despite representing only 12% of the county's population, 49.9% of charges are disproportionately pursued against black community members. Finally, many perceive two justice systems - one for those who can and another for those who cannot afford an attorney. 15th District primarily handles evictions, suits for less than 25K, and minor offenses. It also has three treatment courts where judges can offer meaningful early intervention. Through diverse community partnerships, improved and expanded treatment courts, grant funding, data transparency, and ethically-permissible policy reform work, I will work to improve victim support, decrease bias, and increase access to justice for all litigants, not just those who can afford an attorney.</p>	<p>Restorative justice, lack of victim support, and bias are priority issues. Those appearing in criminal court either receive resources needed to move forward, or go deeper into the criminal system. Victims are at higher risk of returning to the court as offenders if support isn't received, and offenders often have underlying issues that need treatment. Through changes to court rules and community partnerships, I will work to improve victim access to services. Using my background working with under-resourced community members, I will work hard to connect with treatment court participants and offer individualized, culturally competent treatment plans. With grant funding, I will re-establish the domestic violence treatment court, and create a housing specialty court to improve oversight over probationary agreements. To decrease systemic bias, I will support data transparency efforts, prioritize alternatives to incarceration, and work toward elimination of cash bail.</p>	<p>It is critical that local judges are learned, compassionate, experienced, and diverse. My philosophy centers around fair and just administration of our courtrooms, ensuring that no matter your race, color, or creed, or income, you will find equal justice in the 15th District Court. I've earned over 150 endorsements because I don't pretend the system is fair and operates optimally. Instead, I've committed my career to ensuring that marginalized community members have fair access to the courts. I believe judges are ethically obligated to improve court services. I will inform policy, improve functionality of court rules, and lead restorative justice efforts. Courts must be partners in both ensuring safety and addressing underlying needs of offenders. With a renewed focus on restorative justice, courts can become trusted partners in rebuilding communities. If elected, I am committed to not just enforcing the law, but to promoting the fair administration of our justice system.</p>
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**Washtenaw Community College Board of Trustees**      **6-year term**      **VOTE FOR 2**

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>How well do you think Washtenaw Community College is meeting the needs of its community?</p>
<p><b>Alex Milshteyn (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>As a current Trustee of Washtenaw Community College and a proud graduate of both WCC and Eastern Michigan University, I bring a deep, personal connection to this role. My educational journey has given me firsthand experience with the value of affordable, accessible education, driving my commitment to making WCC a gateway of opportunity for all students. Throughout my tenure, I've worked</p>	<p>If elected, my primary goals are to keep tuition affordable, enhance student support services, and strengthen community partnerships at WCC. I am committed to ensuring that every dollar in our budget is used effectively to provide the best possible education for our students. By keeping a close eye on WCC's finances, I will prioritize spending on programs and resources that directly impact student success, such as academic advising, career services, and innovative educational initiatives.</p> <p>With limited resources, I will work to identify cost-saving measures and explore additional funding opportunities, such as grants and partnerships, to support our goals. My experience in both finance and community</p>	<p>WCC is highly effective in meeting the needs of its community by aligning its programs with current and future job market demands. Utilizing the Lightcast Analyst tool, WCC regularly monitors employment trends and earnings regionally and statewide, ensuring that its offerings lead to high-wage jobs or provide seamless transfer opportunities. The College is committed to delivering programs that result in livable wages or smooth transfers to four-year institutions. More than two-thirds of the associate degrees earned in 2022-23 were in transfer programs, allowing students to continue their education at universities like the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University. With nearly one</p>

<p>tirelessly to keep education affordable and to support student success through initiatives that enhance academic advising, career services, and community engagement. My hands-on experience with the local community, combined with my dedication to WCC's mission, ensures that I am well-prepared to continue advocating for policies that benefit both students and the broader Washtenaw County community.</p>	<p>engagement will allow me to make informed decisions that balance fiscal responsibility with the need to invest in our students' futures. By carefully managing our budget and focusing on strategic investments, I am confident we can continue to offer high-quality, accessible education at WCC.</p>	<p>hundred transfer agreements with major universities, WCC remains the leading transfer institution to both U-M and EMU, demonstrating its dedication to student success and community service.</p>
<p><b>Diana McKnight Morton (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I have an Associate's from Washtenaw Community College; a Bachelor's in Special Education from University of Michigan; a Master's in Guidance and Counseling from Eastern Michigan University. I taught elementary and adult education. I have been a WCC Board Trustee for 30 years. I am also a 25-yr member of the Michigan Community College Association (MCCA) Legislation Board; a 10-yr member of SEMCOG (South Eastern Michigan Counties of Government) as Vice-Chair of the Education Bloc; and, a 25-yr member of the Association of Community Colleges Trustees (ACCT).</p> <p>Based on my knowledge, skills, and abilities, I believe I am fully qualified to perform the functions required to be a Washtenaw Community College Board Trustee.</p>	<p>My main goal for the past 30 years has been for WCC to become the number one community college in the country. And WCC achieved this goal by earning the Center of Excellence Award for Nursing in 2018 and 2023 which WCC is the only community college to be recognized in the U.S., among other noteworthy awards and distinctions. However, my continued mission as a trustee is to help the President make informed decisions on important matters that can affect the college internally and externally based on funding from the State and Federal agencies.</p>	<p>WCC continually assesses and reevaluates its mission and strategic goals to deliver quality programs that are in alignment with today's job market and trends. It is vital to the College to maintain long established relationships with open dialogue between the college President and industry leaders in Washtenaw County - and beyond. WCC remains determined to create quality academic programs centered on each student's success after graduation and to remain successful in today's job market that is ever evolving.</p> <p>WCC is also dedicated to being a driving force in strengthening the economic growth in Washtenaw County by reinvesting in its residents through the partnership of business-lead organizations and industry leaders who have firsthand knowledge of markets shifts and the creation of jobs for the future.</p>
<p><b>Eileen Peck (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I am a graduate of both the University of Michigan and Washtenaw Community College. I worked in the non-profit technology sector for 20 years before starting my own business. I also have volunteer development and governance experience. For nearly five years, I have maintained the WCC Watch blog and believe I have a deep understanding of the challenges that face WCC and Washtenaw County. As a resident of Ypsilanti Township, I will bring a broader Washtenaw County perspective that has been historically lacking on the WCC Board. For WCC to succeed, it needs to understand and address the challenges that all parts of the county face right now, including income and housing inequities, transportation and housing costs, and a lack of new economic</p>	<p>My goal is to increase the number of degree programs that prepare students for high-wage, high demand jobs. WCC issues more non-degree certificates than associate degrees. This strategy opposes the state's goal of increasing the number of people with 60 college credits. It may also limit WCC's federal financial aid options for some certificate programs under the new "gainful employment" rules. I will advocate to eliminate preferential tuition treatment that WCC gives to out-of-district and out-of-state online enrollees. WCC should not use Washtenaw County's tax dollars to subsidize the attendance costs of students who don't live or work here, and will never come here. I intend to seek an industry-standard facilities maintenance budget. This will help prevent a repeat of WCC's 10,000-gallon sewage spill into the Huron River watershed. I will also advocate for an effective asset protection policy, and an enforced limit on the number of vice presidents - currently 13 - on the payroll.</p>	<p>In any service environment there is always room for improvement. WCC must focus on creating high-wage, high-demand programs like clean energy, power production, and power management, infrastructure building and modernization, climate change mitigation, water management, semiconductor manufacturing, agriculture - including urban agriculture, and facilities maintenance</p> <p>These programs will not only provide economic development by attracting new employers and industries now, but also prepare Washtenaw County for a future that must address the impacts of climate change. These programs will also offer our young adult workers the opportunity to work AND live in Washtenaw County. Right now, a WCC student makes an average of less than \$40,000 ten years after first enrollment. The median household income here is nearly \$85,000. Most WCC students can't afford to live here, so we are training our prime age workers to live and work elsewhere. This</p>

development and the jobs that go along with that.		must stop, and WCC must be part of the solution.
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**Saline City Council** **2-year term** **VOTE FOR 3**

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What challenges do you see facing the City of Saline, for example the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP), and how do you propose to address them?</p>
<p><b>Dean Benjamin Girbach (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>My relevant experience involves twenty seven years of commitment to Saline's government, including 20 years as a council member. I have and continue to serve on numerous commissions and task forces. The most recent focusing on community wellness and charter review, while continuing with planning, risk management, water quality, and wastewater management. My work career prior to retirement included thirty five years in administration and finance while at the University of Michigan. I have valuable institutional knowledge, a consistent and beneficial approach to problem solving, insistence on accountability, and demand for equitable consideration in approach to policy. During my tenure, the Council has always approved a balanced budget, maintained a consistent operating millage rate, and strived to provide quality services. Our city continues to accomplish significant infrastructure improvements, expand our tax base, diversify its business and improving city performance.</p>	<p>Immediate goals must focus on infrastructure renewal. Taxation gains the city has earned from a healthy real estate market and continued growth in our tax base need to be leveraged now to address deferred maintenance. Technology advancements, behavioral changes and realistic cost savings are priorities to actually achieve not only effective change, but improve efficiency and cost containment. Council must resolve the Recreation Center deficit and evaluate impact of future fire services.</p> <p>The largest infrastructure improvement ever undertaken is well under way with the remodeling of the wastewater treatment plant. City staff continues to be successful in attaining many sources of funding including use of state revolving loan funds, numerous grants and better cash management. These actions provide immediate resources for special projects such as evaluating the dam, investing in community space, adding to our trails and even evaluating the city's planning for the next 25- 50 years.</p>	<p>Addressing development surrounding our city and its impact on services, infrastructure and quality of life will continue to be the most material challenges. Developments adjacent to our city limits, but not contributing to the property tax base, continue to place demand upon the city core, its parks, recreation facilities and other public services. Expectations and basic needs not met by the townships bring even more pressure based on certain misconceptions. Coordinated expansion (annexation/425 agreements) with townships can potentially better distribute costs, avoid duplication of services and work towards addressing the high expectations of our citizens.</p> <p>Saline must accept change as part of its culture. As a 21st century community, our city must champion causes dedicated to avoiding past shortcomings or contentions to address disparities and misunderstandings. Outreach and inclusion of the many voices within our community must occur in all aspects of local governing.</p>
<p><b>Janet Dillon (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>Throughout my 10 years of service I have remained an engaged, hardworking and trusted member of City Council. I take pride in being prepared, asking questions and seeing issues from other perspectives. Through my education and work experience I am able to provide an aspect of attention to detail especially in the drafting and reviewing of documents. I have obtained more than 500+ hours of municipal government training and learning opportunities. I am an active board member to several organizations. I prioritize connecting with residents and business owners, participating in the community and recognize the impact of</p>	<p>Implementation of 2024 Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Prioritization by City Council has lead to the development of a comprehensive strategic plan which incorporates a shared vision which will guide current and future decision making. Implementation requires careful planning, commitment of finances, collaboration with other entities, flexibility and most importantly accountability.</p> <p>Improvement of Overall Community Communications.</p> <p>Informing and engaging Saline community members and stakeholders is paramount for safety, understanding and participation. Creating a comprehensive approach utilizing current media and other outlets, expanding accessibility, and leveraging technology will promote an</p>	<p>Emphasis on Infrastructure. Stable and well maintained infrastructure is non-negotiable. We have learned deferred maintenance is postponing the inevitable. The City has a duty to be effective, responsible and proactive with its infrastructure needs. The WWTP project has been thoroughly planned, financed and remains ongoing with an initial completion date of 2026. Saline now needs to prioritize its roadways and sidewalks. Having a safe means on which to travel our community is vital.</p> <p>Financial Stability and Sustainability of the Recreation Center. Identifying a sustainable funding source to operate the Rec Center is of utmost importance. The current contribution from the City's general fund is diverting resources from other City initiatives.</p>

issues on the entire community. I understand the roles of a council member, both the governance as well as the "soft skills" of collaboration, compromise and communication.	avenue of 2-way communications to foster civic involvement ensuring all are informed, engaged, and connected.	Evaluation of Public Safety. As our City and surrounding communities evolve, we must continue to assess the requirements to provide the most effective level of public safety response. Staffing and essential equipment are of prime concern.
<b>Nicole Rice (NP)</b>  <b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b>	DID NOT RESPOND	DID NOT RESPOND
<b>Brian Cassise (NP)</b>  <b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b>  I'm a Mechanical Engineer by degree and a highly trained problem solver.  Voters should chose me based on my problem solving mindset and the ability to maintain a budget. I'm fiscally conservative and want to ensure our tax dollars are used wisely.  Our current council is out of touch with constituents and have become complacent. It's time for someone younger with problem solving abilities, strong mathematical skills and logical decision making to be on Council.	My goals are simple. Plan for the future, align our budget with our needs and prioritize problems based on cost and impact to residents. Focus on utilities- water and sewer!	I believe the biggest challenge for Saline's City Council is the growth of our city and the need for a larger and improved waste water treatment facility (WWTF). My approach to solving this problem is to: 1. Understand the needs of the system. Now and in 50 years. 2. The associated costs 3. Land and equipment requirements. 4. Timing 5. Impact to the environment 6. And bench mark other cities facilities to better understand what works and what doesn't. Currently, our WWTF isn't living up to the expectations of all residents.

**Saline Area Schools - Board Member** **4-year term** **VOTE FOR 4**

<b>CANDIDATES</b>  <i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for Responses to additional questions)</i>	What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them?	What are the greatest challenges that will face the school board in the coming year?
<b>Jennifer Steben (NP)</b>  <b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b>  In my career, I manage Executive Education at the Michigan Ross School of Business. I work with diverse, complex teams to create an assurance of learning for corporate leadership programs. I have been a trustee for 6 years, 2 as President, and I'm in my 2nd year as VP. I have taken years of classes from the Michigan Association of School Boards to understand how to be successful in the role. I have led the Board, and partnered with the staff, in some very significant times- pandemic, Superintendent hiring, two resignations and appointments, national publicity, passing a bond, and a nearby shooting in Oxford.	LEARNING- this is our main 'product' if you will, and everything we do should be rooted in how to work with each individual learner where they are at. We should examine data and use that, with a human touch, to plot the course forward. Graduate kind, intelligent, critical thinkers. LOVE- we all live together in a small community and love these students. We need to work together, not be divided. A trustee should model respect, integrity, intelligence and civility. Together, we can place all student needs first. LEADERSHIP- use my experience in budget, policy, consensus building and really understanding what the role is and what it is not. Partner with the superintendent to have a positive culture, accountability, and proper role definition (Board-strategic, Supt- operational). Listen to all stakeholders more than talk.	This is a good question. These are the top 5 that come to mind, in no particular order -all important. 1. Modeling our Bridges to Civility and coming together. This is in the community, but also as a Board. And also students with each other and with staff. 2. Succession planning and leadership at the top- Board and buildings. 3. Academic achievement as tied to ranking and metrics. 4. Always budget. 5. Mentorship of newer staff and employee retention.

<p>I've taught Junior Achievement in Saline for almost a decade, sit on the Board for Girls on the Run, and support ChadTough and the Foundation (donating all of my Board salary). I am a mom of two Saline high schoolers (!) and love all of these students. I am a calm, experienced, empathetic leader in a time when we need connecting and not division.</p>		
<p><b>Darcy Berwick (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I am a mom of two Saline alum ('21 and '24). I have my BA from U of M and my JD from Wayne State Law School, but what sets me apart is the breadth and depth of my work within our schools.</p> <p>For 16 years I've been in our classrooms and buildings in a wide variety of supporting roles: classroom volunteer, program volunteer (Reading Plus, JA), PTA/PTO Boards (elementary to high school), and now as a substitute teacher. In 2021 I was a part of the school's Strategic Framework Committee. I continue to work for student enrichment organizations like Science Olympiad and am a Board Director for the nonprofit Saline STEM Boosters.</p> <p>As a substitute, I've taught at Pleasant Ridge as well as both the middle &amp; high schools. I also work as a substitute teacher and para-pro for the WISD, which has reignited my passion for special education.</p> <p>I remain dedicated to our Saline Area Schools families, and I will continue to support their academic, athletic, personal, and professional successes.</p>	<p>Saline, by any number of measures, is one of the top school districts in the state of Michigan. My overarching priority is to maintain, and improve upon, our successes – and, expectedly, there are areas for improvement.</p> <p>Fundamentally, I believe that we need to prioritize what inspires and empowers our students to learn and our teachers to educate. As such, I believe that we must improve communications with students and families in order to create a collaborative community focused on: 1) providing students, teachers, and staff with the best educational environments, 2) improving student and teacher retention, and 3) strengthening and expanding opportunities for students pre-K through the Young Adult Program.</p> <p>This starts when we respect our teachers as the professionals they are, when we meet the students at their increasing educational and developmental levels, and when we partner with, and uplift, our families, businesses, and community organizations.</p>	<p>If we do not take more time to listen to each other with grace and compassion, and try to find common ground in our desire to provide our students with the best public education possible, then we will have failed them.</p> <p>Public education should strive to be a safe and inclusive space where we guide students through their various stages of learning and growth so that they might attain a level of success and happiness that's meaningful to them.</p> <p>In a world that's increasingly complex and challenging, educators work diligently to foster the right conditions for our students to develop critical thinking skills, to encourage constructive discourse, and to have practical life experiences doing so. I believe that we devalue the quality of an American public education when we censor their educational content, their learning environments, and their learning opportunities. I believe that we, including myself, should work harder to reach common ground for the sake of all our students.</p>
<p><b>Brad Gerbe (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>For the past four years, I have had the privilege of representing students and Saline families as Saline School Board Trustee where I have also served as Treasurer and Finance Chair.</p> <p>In addition to doing the job, I live the job! For the past 20 years, I have been a dedicated and loyal teacher for the Manchester Community Schools teaching Biology, Chemistry, Anatomy, and Forensic Science.</p> <p>I have two children in the Saline Schools- Graham, a junior at the high and Bryce, an 8th grader at SMS.</p>	<p>I want to continue to be a voice for students! My biggest goal is a genuine desire for all students and staff to feel supported and safe in the school and that everyone in our schools gets to be their authentic, real selves.</p> <p>In addition, I want to continue to be part of a board team that strives for connection and works to establish relationships. I will care about students and families and I will listen to our collective experiences.</p> <p>We have established a number of goals for the district and I want to contribute towards the attainment of those goals. These include maintaining academic rigor, promoting a culture of equity, maximizing civility and unity, and working towards the future. The future is bright for our schools and I would be excited to continue to be</p>	<p>I think the great challenge of our time is polarization.</p> <p>I'm a bit of an idealist when I write- I don't think most people want to be polar. I really don't think they do when it comes to our kids. Wanting a great life for our kids- unites us. Now, we might have differing belief systems and priorities, but I think we need to learn to care about those who don't worship the way I do, love the way I do, have the same life experiences and needs from the school system that I do. We have to work for one another.</p> <p>I believe that I am steady force on the Board. I am NOT perfect. And I certainly have a set of core beliefs and values and I will vote that way. That said, I will listen and think about how I can meet the needs of all of our students. We may not agree, but I will try to understand.</p>



<p>I understand the school experience from a number of angles. From that of a parent of students, from that of Trustee who works collaboratively as part of our school board team, and as a school employee. I think these experiences make me a strong voice for Saline families.</p> <p>In addition, I'm proud of the work we've done. As finance chair and Treasurer, we have established the strongest fund balance in many, many years. This puts our district on strong financial footing going forward.</p>	<p>good stewards of finance and to work towards the improvements our recent bond passage (thank you voters!) is going to support.</p>	<p>Very quickly we do have work to do. Curriculum, facility improvements, structural stability... while these are not insurmountable challenges, they are important and need to remain a focus.</p>
<p><b>Kelly Van Singel (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I was born and raised in Ann Arbor. I graduated from Ann Arbor Huron High School, Bowling Green State University, and Calvin University. My educational experience has supported me in bringing instructional technology and literacy to my own family and many others living with disabilities and differences through volunteer work. I have a passion for educational advocacy and assistive technology for communication and learning. Cultivating inclusion and belonging is important to me, not only for those living with disabilities and differences but also for those who may be marginalized and underrepresented in their local educational community.</p>	<p>My goals for serving as a non-partisan Board of Education trustee include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Bringing awareness to our state's literacy development needs: From the 2023 State of Michigan Education Report we know that Michigan 4th graders rank a concerning 43rd nationally in reading scores.</li> <li>2) Cultivating a learning community that emphasizes inclusion and belonging: We can work together to create an environment within our schools that helps to not only include students with disabilities and differences, but also to make all staff and learners feel like they truly belong within the learning community.</li> <li>3) Creating multi-sensory and accessible learning opportunities: With the utilization of accessible instructional design concepts like UDL and STEAM we can create learning opportunities that honor individual learning styles and empower students to succeed.</li> </ol>	<p>One of the biggest challenges that continues to be in the forefront of concern in Saline Area Schools is a decline trend in overall enrollment. Yet despite this we are working on reducing the trend overtime with innovative instructional supports and experiences to help empower students on their learning journey. The 2023-2024 Community Report for Saline Area Schools provides an excellent overview of both our existing programming such as athletics, performing arts and peer to peer programming along with new bond improvements to come that make our district an exciting place to be for a learner's educational experience.</p>
<p><b>Shari Barnett (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I have been a professional at the University of Michigan Medical Center for 34-years. I have served in both clinical and leadership roles including Respiratory Care Clinical Specialist in the Trauma Burn ICU, Manager of a Clinical Research Project Management and Quality Data Monitoring Unit, and Assistant Managing Director of a Clinical and Translational Research Education, Mentoring and Career Development Unit. Currently, I am serving in the role as Program Manager for the Clinical Research Program in the UM Section of Thoracic Surgery. I moved into this role 11 years ago to work with faculty to build a section based clinical research program and today it boasts a robust portfolio of basic science, clinical, and outcomes-based research, multiple staff members and numerous internship opportunities. I am a Licensed Respiratory Therapist, certified PMP (PMi) and certified Clinical Research Professional (SoCRA).</p>	<p>My main goals, if elected, would be to: (1) Conduct a needs assessment to explore and identify what is leading to continued student loss. I perform needs assessments in my work frequently. It involves designing questionnaires, compiling results and identifying common themes. (2) Work with university professors to learn about ways they are integrating the use of AI technology into course lessons and assignments and work with teachers and administrators to identify ways K-12 could begin integrating AI into teaching and learning. I would begin with connections I already have in universities. (3) Investigate the potential to allow students to obtain high school elective credit for internship experiences. I worked on a team to create a MS in Clinical Research in UM-SPH. I would begin conversations about the process of creating internship practicums and models pertaining to credit translation. (4) partner with families to restore trust in public education. This is done by listening.</p>	<p>The greatest challenge is the budget and student safety. The State of Michigan drastically cut the per-pupil mental health and school safety grants and the cyber security assessments of school technology infrastructure, but per pupil funding basically remained the same. These decreases come at time when parents are most concerned about child mental health and school safety, and cyber security violations are occurring on a more frequent basis. The challenge will be to make sure the school is staying abreast of these issues and supporting them according to the level of risk and importance in our society. The board needs to also take the issue of student loss in the public school system as a very real concern. A declining birth rate is the reason that most districts are indicating as the reason for student loss but yet home schooling and the area private and charter schools are becoming more popular and growing. This issue needs a much more thorough investigation.</p>

<p><b>Jason Tizedes (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>When I started college, I was focused on becoming a teacher. But like many people I shifted my focus to business and been in the business world every since. In my career I have held positions from entry level to executive. I have held titles that range from Director to Chief Executive Office, but of course the most important titles are husband and dad.</p> <p>There are three key competencies I have that make me the best qualified for the Board of Education.</p> <p>School Safety: I am vice president of one of the largest private criminal justice companies in the U.S. And as such, I know what it takes to keeps communities safe.</p> <p>Smart Spending: In my role I have negotiated contracts worth millions of dollars of tax payers' money. I have always done so from the position of private industry. I know how government entities should budget and how they should spend.</p> <p>Supporting Staff: I know what it takes to attract the best staff, but even more importantly, how to retain that staff once hired.</p>	<p>My first goal would be to make our school community the safest in the area. That can be achieved a number of ways, but no matter the path, our focus must be on how we help our staff stay safe and in control. We need to support our teachers when they need us, and our support staff need to have resources available to them.</p> <p>Additionally, The Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA) outlines important strategies that the district can employ while also working with parents to know the dangers. Our kids need to be safe inside and outside the classroom, and we need to make sure that external threats and concerns remain external.</p>	<p>I truly believe that the "X-factors" are going to be what drive the majority of the challenges to the school board in the coming year. Hot button topics are always discussed, and often in a "spirited" manner, but I believe those challenges will be remedial to those we are unsure are coming.</p> <p>With the current state of our economy, less young families will be able to afford to move to our district. That could mean not growing the student population in the younger grades, or it could mean having to turn to increasing school of choice acceptance without the local tax base supporting it.</p> <p>The loss of key administrative staff could hit our district. Replacing leaders is never an easy or quick resolution, and often there is a great deal conflict when new administrators need to be brought in. I am currently performing an executive recruiting search myself, and I know from firsthand experience, that new leadership may carry with it a new set of concerns.</p>
<p><b>Susan Estep (NP)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I was elected to the Saline Board of Education in 2018, and I am seeking re-election.</p> <p>I've long been a fierce advocate for public education. In my prior positions as a student affairs professional in higher education, I worked directly with students by supporting them in their higher education journey. As a school board member, I've taken the opportunity to engage in professional development, serve on committees, lead as chair and secretary, and present on the importance of student voice in policy making. This is important to me as a life-long learner and allows me to not only serve our students, staff and community on a local level, but to also advocate for education in the State of Michigan and the Nation.</p> <p>I will continue to advocate for a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment where all students and staff can thrive. I have three children in the district. With</p>	<p>If elected, I will continue to focus on the equity gaps in the District, address the ongoing bullying, harassment and hate speech, support student and staff mental health, and the retention and recruitment of quality educators. As a Board Trustee, I intend to elevate the voice of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee to ensure that their recommendations are taken into consideration at the board table. With regards to bullying, harassment, and hate speech, I believe the District can do a better job at recording and reporting data and taking actions to address the problem in the District.</p> <p>The loss of quality staff is an essential problem that has not received much attention to date. In my next term, I would like to push the district to assess why staff are leaving and ensure inclusive hiring practices are utilized when finding replacements. The staff are the backbone of our district, and it is imperative that we hire and retain the best educators.</p>	<p>When we talk about student achievement, it is important to acknowledge that the MSTEP data shows that Saline students are performing above many other districts in Washtenaw County and are improving to the point of reaching pre-COVID levels. We also need to be mindful that standardized tests are an insufficient measure for the whole child. I applaud the state of Michigan for reducing the emphasis on test scores and allowing teachers to focus on the whole child.</p> <p>Lastly, it is important to recognize that marginalized students (e.g., racial and ethnic minorities, students with disabilities) tend to be at a disadvantage with standardized test methods, and systemic changes are needed to address inequities.</p>

my youngest in Kindergarten, I'll be committed to Saline Area Schools and our community for many years to come.		
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**Lodi Township Supervisor** **4-year term** **VOTE FOR 1**

<b>CANDIDATES</b>  <i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for Responses to additional questions)</i>	What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?	What are the most serious problems facing the township and how will you work to solve them?
<p><b>Janann Godek (Rep)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I believe my years of experience working with and for the residents of Lodi Township qualify me as the best candidate to continue to serve as the Supervisor of Lodi Township. I was elected first as a Trustee and served for eleven years. In that span I also was appointed the Township Board representative to the Planning Commission. After the sudden passing of our long-time Supervisor, I was appointed Supervisor by the Board of Trustees to finish out his term and have continued to serve the residents of Lodi Township in this capacity for over 20 years. I have forged a trusted relationship with various Washtenaw County governing agencies including the Road Commission, Health Department, Sheriff's office, building department and the drain commissioner's office. I have attained a Master Citizen Planner status and have completed the MSU Zoning Enforcement Program and continue educational opportunities on a very regular basis.</p>	<p>Lodi Township embraces the vision of maintaining a very special community nestled between the large urban areas which surround our six square miles on three sides. Looking toward the future I know residents appreciate and desire to retain our unique character as the community moves forward. Our agricultural community is held in high regard and we value preserving as many farms as possible. As an example, Annie G's Dairy, the first of its kind in the United States will open soon, producing their A2A2 milk which is variant of the milk protein cows produce which makes it easier for people with dairy intolerance to digest. My goal is to continue supporting the Lodi Township Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance; the documents that the township board, planning commission and residents have created that govern our township and allow us to maintain the unique character where we all call our home.</p>	<p>Rural townships surrounded by more urban areas with population densities far greater than our own are all experiencing intense pressure by developers who would rather see houses instead of farms or open space. The challenge for all townships is how to maintain individual township visions established through approved Master Plans and Zoning Ordinances, yet allow for growth that the infrastructure of communities can handle. I have been involved with the development and revision of several Lodi Township Master Plans and Zoning Ordinances. I believe our township is such a desirable area because of these documents and the commitment to administer them. I will continue to implement these guiding principles. Lodi Township has always been a friendly place to live with neighbors who respect each other and respect different views, opinions, and lifestyles. I will continue to build on community engagement, foster peace and nurture respect among neighbors.</p>
<p><b>Barry Wauldron (Dem)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I earned an MS in urban planning and historic preservation, and will bring an informed, progressive approach to planning and zoning. I am also a state-certified Level III assessor and will bring that experience to the complex property tax assessing process. I have three years' experience as a code enforcement officer which also helps me understand the zoning and ordinance process. Finally, I was a certified teacher and have many years of teaching experience at the community college and university level. I am able to use this skill to explain complex issues to residents and am always looking for ways to inform people and</p>	<p>I want to bring a progressive approach to planning and zoning that manages growth with a focus on sustainability and preserving the rural character of Lodi Township. This includes reducing "sprawl", protecting farmland for the future and enhancing the natural areas for wildlife to thrive. I will work to leverage the assistance of our university community to develop new policies that will forward these goals.</p>	<p>I think Lodi Township can do a better job communicating clearly and consistently with our residents and stakeholders. I want to overhaul the township website and forge new ways to inform and engage people about township issues and events.</p>

<p>make information readily accessible. I think this is an essential role of local government.</p>		
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**Lodi Township Clerk**

**4-year term**

**VOTE FOR 1**

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b> <i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What thoughts do you have about the current voting procedures?</p>
<p><b>Christina Schaible Smith (Rep)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I have worked in the clerk's office, first as deputy starting in 2013, then I was appointed as Clerk in May of 2014, taking over for Clerk Masters. During my time as deputy I was trained by Clerk Masters, and learned hands on the daily ins and outs of the Clerk's Office and the Election Process. I have attended Clerking 101 through Michigan Townships Association, along with numerous State of Michigan Training and seminars, keeping up to date on all trainings through the state and Washtenaw County. I have successfully conducted 22 elections for Lodi Township, including those through a pandemic. I have lived in Lodi Township my entire life (all 48 years!), my parents still operate our family farm in Lodi. I have raised my kids in this Township. Not many people can say that they have graduated from the same high school as their parents and children. This Township IS home and always will be home to me. Being Clerk is not just a title to me, it is being part of the history.</p>	<p>All of my duties are mandated by Michigan Compiled Law, Michigan Election Law, Michigan Township Law. My job exists to provide these mandated services. In performing my duties I do nothing political or partisan. The following are my job responsibilities: Maintain all Township record, work along with all boards, work with Assessor, Planner, Attorney, Engineer, legal notifications and updates as required by law, receive and process all applications for all Boards, receive all incoming correspondences via mail, maintain cemetery records, process and write the warrants for bills, maintain contracts, maintain the supplies and maintenance of the Township Hall &amp; historical Township Hall, attend all Board of Trustee Meetings and other meetings as necessary, maintain Township website, work with Washtenaw County Sheriff for substation space, knowledge of Township history, people and businesses, and Election Implementation. My goal is to continue in this position and serve the Township.</p>	<p>All voting procedures are mandated by law. I follow all voting procedures as mandated by the State of Michigan. I am open to conversation for anyone who would like to discuss this. Having a qualified team of Election Workers makes my job very easy (but long) on Election Day. With all the changes in Election Law there has been an increase in voting, being able to register in person and vote on Election Day is a simple process that clears up many issues a voter may have. Election Procedures have changed in the 10 years that I have been in this position, I have learned many things through this process, and the changes although challenging at times have been good changes that have adapted with the times.</p>
<p><b>Eric John Roberts (Dem)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I hold a Graduate Certificate in Election Administration from the University of Minnesota and a B.A. in Public Administration from Grand Valley State University. In addition, I am the only Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) in this race, a professional designation given to around 60 Michiganders ever, which amounts to 2000+ hours of professional development on managing a clerk's office, election administration, budgetary oversight, human resources, and document retention. I have been a</p>	<p>The Township Clerk is tasked with election administration, budgetary oversight, managing public records, and providing information to the public. I will rework the Township's website to provide important notices front and center to the public, to explain all relevant voting procedures, and publish all responses to FOIA requests. The Township website is often incorrect and has many outdated links and information. I will work hard to provide reliable and consistent communication to residents, including by creating a quarterly newsletter that tells residents what their Township Board has been doing and asks residents for feedback. I will provide more transparency to Lodi Township by recording Board meetings and ensuring that the Open Meetings Act is actually followed in every meeting.</p>	<p>Michigan elections are safe, secure, and more accessible than ever. I was proud to support expanding voting protections in 2018 and 2022, which now allows Michiganders to vote by mail for any or no reason, to vote early in-person for 9 days, and to register to vote (or update your voting address) all the way through Election Day. To view all voting information for Lodi Township voters, visit <a href="http://www.progress4lodi.org/how-to-vote/">www.progress4lodi.org/how-to-vote/</a></p>

<p>poll worker since I was 16, and in 2022 I was the elections coordinator for Kalamazoo Township where I trained over 100 bipartisan poll workers on election day laws and procedures. I will work hard to keep all poll workers up to date on Michigan's election laws and will record more parts of election preparation to show Michiganders just how safe, secure, and accessible our elections are. I am now a law student at the University of Toledo and have trained others on the Open Meetings Act and the FOIA.</p>		
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**Lodi Township Trustee**

**4-year term**

**VOTE FOR 4**

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b> <i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What are the most serious problems facing the township and how will you work to solve them?</p>
<p><b>Samantha Mamarow (Rep)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I believe my lifelong experience in agriculture and involvement in the community qualify me as the best candidate to serve on as a Trustee on the Lodi Township Board. I am passionate about agriculture and the future of Lodi. I am the fourth generation on my family farm and farm with my parents. I have been involved in Washtenaw County 4-H, currently serve on the Saline Community Fair Board of Directors and the Washtenaw County Farm Bureau Board of Directors. I graduated with a bachelor's degree in animal science from Michigan State University in 2015.</p>	<p>My goal is to preserve Lodi Townships Agricultural roots.</p>	<p>The most serious problems facing the township is urban sprawl and development pressure.</p>
<p><b>David A. Naebeck (Rep)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p><b>Donald A. Rentschler (Rep)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I am a graduate of Saline Community Schools and lifelong resident and worker</p>	<p>I will work to maintain low Township taxes and quality road conditions.</p>	<p>Urban sprawl and maintaining the rural character of the Township are current problems for our community.</p>

<p>in Lodi Township. I have served for 18 years as a Lodi Township trustee.</p>		
<p><b>Jacob O. Schaible (Rep)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p><b>Leslie Blackburn (Dem)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I'm a passionate advocate for community empowerment, bringing a unique fusion of technical expertise and nature-inspired wisdom to my campaign for public office. I have a robust background and over fifty years of life experience including a BS and MS in Mechanical Engineering, 15 years in corporate engineering and management, and another 15 as an entrepreneur in empowerment, healing and body sovereignty work. I've honed problem-solving skills, community facilitation, and strategic planning abilities, offering efficient solutions to intricate challenges. I am now answering my calling to serve both the land and the broader human community, which led me into the realm of politics.</p> <p>As a mom, my vision emphasizes care and connection, aiming to create governance that is fair, transparent, inclusive, and prioritizes the needs of all residents. My approach is characterized by a blend of joy, wisdom, and a commitment to care—for our bodies, each other, and for the planet we call home.</p>	<p>The three pillars of my campaign:</p> <p>Protect the Land - Advocate for better land use decisions that balance nature, tree preservation, our rural agricultural heritage and community needs.</p> <p>Share the Process - Push for government transparency and ensure public rights are respected. Improve our communication with residents including: posting meeting packets publicly, recording our public meetings, posting those recordings on the website, sharing public notices in a way that is easily subscribable.</p> <p>Empower the People - Facilitate accessibility and inclusivity in township meetings, create a safe space for all voices to be heard. Create a working list of priorities that is available on the website, and a suggestions/feedback mechanism so people can send input and trust that it's being seen by all involved.</p> <p>These basics are a simple start with huge benefits. Ways to do them are freely available with today's technology, requiring little to no additional cost to the township.</p>	<p>Development pressures that are not in balance with the land and the neighbors. Difficult to access public information, lack of transparency in governance, repeated errors on the website. Lack of support to navigate confusing legislation. Public noticing is ineffective and often broken, meetings that don't support ease of public access.</p> <p>I have years of community building, facilitation and conflict resolution experience. Yet I can't do this alone. It takes a community. What's crucial is to start by listening. I've been talking with residents on the campaign trail, and making a list of their concerns which include: well depletion and water quality, road sealing and maintenance, encroaching noise and light pollution.</p> <p>We need to build trust together. I will work with my fellow board members, community experts, regional partnerships, and collaborate with the public with fairness and transparency to come up with the right solutions for our area.</p>
<p><b>Steve Marsh (Dem)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>I have worked and lived in Lodi Township for over three decades. Lodi Township is the place where my wife and I decided to start our family businesses and a 501(c)(3) non-profit. As the owner of several small businesses, I have experience in accounting, human resources, and management. All of these skills would help foster a professional and organized environment at the Board of Trustees. As the founder and head-curator for The Creature Conservancy, a non-profit focused on promoting conservation through education, I have always been</p>	<p>As your Trustee, I would like to create more transparency so that community members can access what's going on in the Township. It would be simple to update the Township website to make sure that residents can stay up to date on their concerns as well as get notified of upcoming meetings. I will prioritize the organization of documents and notes to keep a clear record of issues before the township. We deserve a Board of Trustees who makes it possible for residents to stay involved in decision-making. Additionally, I know that my parent's generation was able to work reasonable hours, raise a family, and buy a home comfortably. I worry that my children and neighbors aren't afforded such economic mobility. As a business owner, I prioritize fair pay, good working conditions, and benefits to make sure that all workers can lead a life they are proud of. I want to see</p>	<p>One of the most serious problems facing the township is the lack of support for small businesses that puts strain on our neighbors wallets. I understand that small businesses are dynamic and need to be able to respond to changing conditions. As many of you know, when you go to the township hoping to better your business, you are often faced with excessive fees, a lack of clarity, and misinformation. We need leadership who will work with businesses, not against them. I will push for a regulatory review to ensure that our ordinances support small businesses. So many of our neighbors depend on family-owned businesses for their livelihoods, we cannot allow our local government to continue to ignore our concerns. We should value the businesses that help Lodi thrive. I hope to foster an environment</p>

<p>passionate about bettering my community. I have spent the past twenty years waking up before sunrise every day to make sure that every animal has the highest standard of care. I have partnered with nearly every school in the area to make sure that kids have access to wildlife education. I have made my little corner of Lodi a space where people can become passionate about animals, people, and our planet.</p>	<p>our township working with union businesses and ensuring that all people can access affordable housing and well-paying jobs.</p>	<p>where we can collaborate with business owners to make a positive impact.</p>
<p><b>Alex Matielski (Dem)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>My background uniquely equips me for this position. Growing up on a farm in a rural area instilled in me a strong work ethic and an understanding of the challenges faced by our community. Through my participation in the Rotary youth exchange program, I gained valuable global perspectives and developed my communication and problem-solving skills.</p> <p>Since settling in Lodi Township, I have dedicated myself to understanding the community's needs and the role of township officials. I have spent countless hours studying the local ordinances and attending township meetings. My personal experiences navigating township regulations have given me firsthand knowledge of the challenges residents face and the importance of accessible, responsive government.</p> <p>While I may not have initially envisioned myself in this role, I am confident that my understanding of local ordinances and my commitment to serving the community make me an ideal candidate for this position.</p>	<p>My top priorities if elected are empowering residents, fostering a transparent and responsive township board, and representing all of Lodi Township. I believe in accessible government, so I will work diligently to educate residents about township processes and encourage their participation. A transparent board is crucial, and I will advocate for clear communication, open discussions, and proactive outreach to ensure residents are informed. I am committed to ensuring every voice in Lodi Township is heard and considered, and will strive to represent the diverse interests of our community. To achieve these goals with limited resources, I will prioritize collaboration with local organizations, leverage existing community resources, and advocate for efficient use of taxpayer funds. I will also prioritize community engagement through public meetings, online platforms, and direct outreach to ensure that residents are informed and can actively participate in the decision-making process.</p>	<p>Lodi Township faces a critical issue: a disconnect between the local government and the community it serves. The current board's issues - lack of transparency, selective enforcement, and unwillingness to collaborate - have created a climate of distrust and frustration. To address this, I propose increasing transparency with open meetings, comprehensive minutes, and online platforms for communication. I will prioritize collaboration, hosting regular community forums to gather input and build trust. My commitment is to fair and consistent enforcement, ensuring equitable treatment for all residents and businesses. Finally, I will champion resident empowerment by actively seeking out their participation in decision-making, making local government more accessible and responsive to the entire community.</p>
<p><b>Finn Roberts (Dem)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>As someone who grew up in a working class family, I will always spend your tax dollars wisely and look for ways to keep costs low so we can invest in the maintenance of more roads. As a young person, I understand the severity of the climate crisis and will partner with other local governments to hold polluters accountable and preserve our environment. As your next Trustee, I will build a culture of mutual respect that values all residents and offers support to each other to build a more welcoming community.</p>	<p>Vote Roberts for Clean Water and Clean Government! If elected, I would focus on making water testing more readily available and fight for more support for residents trying to purify their drinking water. As a local government, we should partner with others to push back against polluters and avoid more catastrophic disasters, like Scio Township faced with the Gelman Sciences Dioxane Contamination. To make government more transparent, I support recording and streaming all public meetings and making a newsletter that informs our residents and asks for their input about the Lodi Township Board's priorities. I would also push for a new zoning plan written in understandable terms that don't allow for unequal enforcement by Township officials.</p>	<p>On the campaign trail, we have heard about unequal enforcement of zoning rules, or zoning rules that are hard to read and Township officials that don't help residents understand and meet the requirements. As a Trustee of the Lodi Township Board, I would push to make zoning rules more readable and the requirements more within reach. This is only possible with more community feedback, another area for improvement. Lodi Township has some bad roads and no plan for the public, made with their input, about priorities for fixing specific roads. I would push for a robust 5-year plan that uses community comments and road data to determine which roads are top priority for upgrades and then make this list widely known to residents.</p>

<p><b>William Long (NP)</b></p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
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**York Township Board of Trustees** **4-year term** **VOTE FOR 4**

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for Responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p>What are your goals should you be elected and how will you work to accomplish them with limited resources?</p>	<p>What are the most serious problems facing the township and how will you work to solve them?</p>
<p><b>Thomas Gary (Rep)</b></p> <p>I am a graduate of the University of Akron with a BS degree in Technical Education. I am retired from Norfolk Southern Corp after a 38 year career as Director of Automotive Operations and Prevention. In addition, I have experience as a volunteer in leading a large Federal Credit union as Board President and most recently as Board President of a non profit foundation dedicated to motorcycle safety and training. Currenty I serve as Secretary of the York Township Planning Commission. I beleive my past experience and current position on York Township Planning commision makes me fully qualified as a Township Trustee.</p>	<p>I belive first and formost it is both a fiduciary and statutory responsibility of a Trustee to manage the affairs of the Township for the best interest of the public. Further it is my goal to insure all public fund expenditures are justified and supported in the interest of the public.</p>	<p>Our citizen survey 's have indicated that maintaining our rural life style is extreamly important. As a Planning Commissioner, responsible for helping execute our Township Master Plan I understand the importance of controlled growth and at the same time maintaining our natural features and agricultural setting. I will work to insure growth will not be at the expense of our rural character</p>
<p><b>John Hargrove (Rep)</b></p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p><b>Jason D. McGovern (Rep)</b></p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND</p>
<p><b>Helen Neill (Rep)</b></p> <p>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</p> <p>My 30 years working in the Township Hall began as Office Receptionist, which piqued</p>	<p>I worked as part of the team who built York Township's close relationship with the Washtenaw County Road Commission. This partnership has led to great improvements of both paved and gravel roads by sharing costs and seeking the best use of Federal, State and local funds. Partnerships with subdivisions can be established to improve their roads. We</p>	<p>The demand for more residential development threatens our rural character, if left unchecked could upset this charming atmosphere we've come to know and love. Increased cyber security is needed to protect our digital records.</p>



<p>my interest in serving our residents. As Township Clerk from 1998 through 2020, I gained knowledge in Township Governance, ran Elections, attended workshops provided by the Michigan Townships Association and the Washtenaw County Clerks Association. I thoroughly enjoyed employing this knowledge to assist residents with their needs. My full understanding of Township finances, from balancing the general ledger each month, prepares me for the prime statutory duty of Trustees - fiduciary oversight. We must maintain the budget and carefully monitor the spending of taxpayers' dollars. As Clerk, I helped keep the Township on firm financial footing and will continue this conservative fiscal management.</p>	<p>must build cooperation with adjacent townships and cities to share recreational resources and provide connectivity to the county non-motorized trail network.</p>	
<p><b>Crystal Thrall (Dem)</b></p> <p><b>Education/Qualifications / Experience:</b></p> <p>While earning my PhD in Nuclear Engineering and a Public Policy Certificate from the University of Michigan, I honed my critical thinking, organization, and communication skills. As a stay-at-home mom of three school-aged children, I am deeply invested in the success of our local public schools and understand the challenges faced by families in our community. My passion for environmental sustainability led me to serve on the York Township Environmental Committee, where I have actively worked on initiatives to improve our environment. This blend of academic expertise, practical experience, and community involvement uniquely positions me to effectively represent and serve our community.</p>	<p>I want to encourage more active community engagement and make myself available to listen to residents' concerns. While simultaneously serving on the York Township Environmental Committee, I will work to protect and preserve our natural resources through park cleanup events, invasive species mitigation, and native plant restoration.</p>	<p>The most obvious problem I notice in my daily life is the personal safety and financial risk presented by the disrepair of our roads. The township and surrounding area are growing, further straining the township infrastructure. The board is currently working to repair the roads, and I hope to continue that work in a reasonable, yet fiscally responsible timeline. The board has also been working toward building a non-motorized pathway that connects the township to the city of Saline, and I will support that effort.</p>

**Unopposed (Uncontested) Races.** Responses from those who are unopposed and answered the League's questionnaire can be found by visiting the online version of the Voter Guide at [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org).

## **Washtenaw Intermediate School District Proposal (1)**

### **Special Education Millage Renewal Proposal**

This proposal will permit the intermediate school district to continue to levy special education millage previously approved by the electors. Shall the currently authorized millage rate limitation of 2.3826 mills (\$2.3826 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in Washtenaw Intermediate School District, Michigan, to provide funds for the education of students with a disability, be renewed for a period of 12 years, 2026 to 2037, inclusive; the estimate of the revenue the intermediate school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2026 is approximately \$56,900,000 from local property taxes authorized herein (this is a renewal of millage that will expire with the 2025 tax levy)?

## **City of Saline Proposals (2)**

### **City of Saline Proposal A**

#### **Proposed amendment to Saline City Charter Section 3.3 regarding elected terms of office of the Mayor and City Council**

Currently, the Saline City Charter sets the elected terms of the Mayor and Councilpersons at two years, and uses gender specific pronouns. It is proposed that the Charter be amended to provide terms of office of the Mayor and Council persons to four years terms beginning in 2026, after elections to three years terms in 2025, to create staggered terms of offices; and to make all references therein gender-neutral.

Shall the amendment as proposed be adopted?

### **City of Saline Proposal B**

#### **Proposed amendment to Saline City Charter Section 3.3 regarding compensation of the Mayor and City Council**

Currently, the Saline City Charter establishes the compensation of the Mayor and Councilpersons. It is proposed that the Charter be amended to provide that compensation of the Mayor and Councilpersons be established by a Local Officers Compensation Commission in a manner consistent with State law.

Shall the amendment as proposed be adopted?

## **Lodi Township Proposals (2)**

### **Road Improvement and Maintenance Millage Proposal A**

Shall the previous voted increase expiring in 2024 in the tax limitations imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution in Lodi Township, of 1.00 mills (\$1.00 per \$1,000 of taxable value), and unchanged by the required millage rollbacks, be renewed at up to 1.00 mills (\$1.00 per \$1,000 of taxable value) and levied for 5 years, 2025 through 2029 inclusive, for Improvement and/or Maintenance of Roads within Lodi Township, raising an estimated \$567,183 in the first year the millage is levied of which a portion will be disbursed to such other or fewer local units of government as the Township Board determines appropriate.

### **Lodi Township Proposal B**

Shall Lodi Township amend Ordinance No. 2019-004 pursuant to the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, 2018 IL 1, MCL 333.27951 et seq to provide for five adult use grower and two processor, but no other, establishments to be allowed to operate in the township limits. Shall the Proposal be Adopted?

## **Washtenaw County Ballot Proposals (4)**

### **Renewal and restoration of the Enhanced Emergency Communications System Millage**

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed each year for all purposes taxable property in Washtenaw County, Michigan be increased by 0.200 mill (\$0.20 per thousand dollars of taxable value) for a period of ten (10) years, 2026 to 2035, inclusive, as a renewal of the 0.0960 mills previously authorized by the electors which expires with the 2025 tax levy as reduced by the operation of the Headlee amendment, plus new additional millage as a restoration of 0.009 mills, for the sole purpose of providing funds to the County for the acquisition, renovation, maintenance, upgrade and operation of the County's Enhanced Emergency Communications System, including the potential construction of additional towers, upgrading the existing infrastructure, purchasing equipment, and paying for maintenance and user fees? If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated \$4,493,654 when first levied in 2026.

### **Renewal and restoration of the Veteran's Relief Millage**

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed on taxable property in the County of Washtenaw, Michigan, be increased by 0.100 mill (\$0.10 per thousand dollars of taxable value) of the taxable value for a period of eight (8) years, 2024 to 2031, inclusive, as a renewal of that portion of the 0.100 mill authorization previously authorized by the electors in 2016 as reduced by the operation of the Headlee amendment, which was 0.0960 mill in 2023, plus new additional millage representing a restoration of the amount equal to the amount reduced by operation of the Headlee amendment, which was 0.004 mill in 2023, to provide funds to Washtenaw County for the purpose of funding the Washtenaw County Department of Veterans Affairs' provision of financial relief and services for Washtenaw County veterans, including the payment of eligible indigent veteran claims, and to fund the administration of the department? If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated \$2,197,389 when first levied in 2024.

### **Establishing an Older Persons Services Millage**

Shall the limitation on the total amount of taxes which may be levied against taxable property within Washtenaw County, Michigan, be increased by up to 0.5000 mill (\$0.50 per thousand dollars of taxable value) for a period of eight (8) years, 2024 to 2031, inclusive, as a new additional millage for the purpose of providing funding for activities and services for older persons (age 60 or older) in Washtenaw County? If approved and levied in full this millage will raise an estimated \$11,584,031 in the first year.

### **Renewal and restoration of the Washtenaw County Community Mental Health and Public Safety Preservation Millage**

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed on taxable property in the County of Washtenaw, Michigan, be increased by 1.000 mill (\$1.00 per thousand dollars of taxable value) of the taxable value for a period of eight (8) years, 2026 to 2033, inclusive, as a renewal of that portion of the 1.000 mill authorization previously authorized by the electors in 2017 as reduced by the operation of the Headlee amendment, which was 0.9693 mill in 2023, plus new additional millage representing a restoration of the amount equal to the amount reduced by operation of the Headlee amendment, which was 0.0307 mill in 2023, to provide funds to the Washtenaw County Community Mental Health Department, Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office, local governments which have their own police force for the purposes of improving the treatment of people with mental health needs; providing increased financial support for mental health crisis, stabilization and prevention; and for continued law enforcement services to be distributed as follows: 38% shall be allocated to Washtenaw County's Community Mental Health Department; 38% shall be allocated to the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office; and 24% shall be allocated to jurisdictions in the County which maintain their own police force (currently Ann Arbor, Chelsea, Milan, Saline, Ypsilanti, Pittsfield Township and Northfield Township) in proportion to their respective 2023 population values. If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated \$22,409,411 when first levied in 2026.