

**VOTER GUIDE – NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION**  
**OAKLAND COUNTY TREASURER**

**Tuesday, November 3, 2020**  
**POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.**

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OAKLAND AREA**

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**3 Candidates for TREASURER for ONE 4-year term**

<p><b>CANDIDATES for</b>  <u><b>TREASURER</b></u>   <b>ONE 4-year term</b>  <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p><b>Question 1 (150 Words or less):</b>  <b>Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for County Office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</b></p>	<p><b>Question 2 (150 Words or less):</b>  <b>What are the top 3 Priority Issues that this county office should address and what actions would you, as an elected official, take regarding each of them?</b></p>
<p><i>Democrat</i>  <b>ROBERT WITTENBERG</b>                      13302 Borgman Ave.                      Huntington Woods, MI                      48070</p>	<p>I currently serve as a third term state representative in southern Oakland County. I've also worked as a licensed life &amp; health insurance agent for 15 years helping thousands of individuals &amp; businesses navigate their insurance &amp; employee benefits. In the legislature, I served as the top-ranking Democrat on the Financial Liability Reform Committee &amp; on the House Tax Policy &amp; the Financial Services Committees.</p> <p>I love helping people, that is why I am in public service, &amp; I believe an effective public servant should be both fiscally responsible &amp; socially conscious. My professional &amp; legislative experiences helped me develop the skills needed to serve as Treasurer. I'm a proven, trustworthy leader whose track record of fighting for Oakland County residents' financial wellbeing is strong. My wife &amp; I grew up in Oakland County, &amp; we're raising our family here because we love this community &amp; want to ensure that Oakland County remains a place where everyone can be proud to live.</p>	<p>1) Fighting for the financial security &amp; well-being of all residents - For most people, their home is the largest investment they make. I will ensure that people are able to stay &amp; thrive in our neighborhoods. I'll be a compassionate steward of resources for all residents across the county. I will actively engage with residents facing financial challenges to help address their needs &amp; set them up with plans to prevent foreclosure.</p> <p>2) Recruiting new businesses while supporting existing ones - I will lead on innovative policy solutions to boost our local businesses. I'd leverage the county's relationships in the private sector to implement public-private partnerships creating small business/homeowner relief funds that will address the impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>3) Maintaining our AAA bond rating - We want our county dollars to be invested wisely &amp; we want the best rates on public bonds. Our communities &amp; schools benefit from our rating, directly contributing to our strong quality of life.</p>

## OAKLAND COUNTY TREASURER (Continued)

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<p><i>Republican</i>  <b>JOE KENT</b>                      5195 Hosner Rd.                      Oxford, MI 48370</p>	<p>This is my 25th year as a self-employed tax accountant. I'm licensed by the US Treasury. I hold an MBA from the University of Michigan and a bachelor's degree from the MSU College of Business. I'm the only Oakland County Treasurer candidate to sign the Americans For Tax Reform pledge not to support tax increases. I've knocked on thousands of doors supporting better tax policies for homeowners. I'm an appointed church leader. I serve on the board of directors of Crossroads For Youth which provides foster care and therapy. I'm past president (and a Paul Harris Fellow) of my local Rotary Club, which provides beds to disadvantaged children. Lastly, I'm a past district finance chair for scouting. I'm running because we need a treasurer who will be an advocate for the people of Oakland County, protect L. Brooks Patterson's legacy of financial stewardship and be a strong voice against higher property taxes. My wife, teen children and I feel blessed to call Oakland County home.</p>	<p>First is the public's access to information. In 2019 a curtain was drawn around the county's books by eliminating "fiscal notes" that disclose the impact of changes to the county's budget. I will advocate for the reinstatement of this practice and make additional financial data public. Second is the protection of property rights. Aggressive foreclosure practices recently landed Oakland County in front of the MI Supreme Court when a home was seized and sold because of \$8.41 in unpaid interest. I will conduct a thorough and impartial review of foreclosure policies. Third is securing the future. Oakland County residents will face higher taxes if the county loses its AAA bond rating. This is a risk due to rising discretionary expenditures and the previously mentioned lack of transparency. I seek to return Oakland County to the fiscal conservatism and cautious investment policies that made the L. Brooks Patterson administration the nation's standard for excellence and stability.</p>
<p><i>(Write-In)</i>  <i>No Party Affiliation</i>  <b>NICHOLAS G. LUPPINO</b>                      249 Baldwin Ave.                      Pontiac, MI 48342</p>	<p><b>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</b></p>	

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