



Voter Guide: May 2021 Election for Kerrville City Council Place 1

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan civic organization and does not support or oppose any candidate or candidates or political party or parties. This voter guide presents candidate and election information for an election that has at least two candidates on the ballot for an office. All responses to questions come directly from the candidates and are not edited by LWV-Hill Country Texas.

Kerrville City Council Election for Place 1: term of office is 2 years.

Kerrville is a home-rule city with a charter and a city council/manager form of government.

Duties: appoints the city manager; oversees the city manager and the direction of the city; approves the city budget and the tax rate; sets salaries and benefits of city employees; passes ordinances and resolutions; appoints members to advisory boards.

Roman Garcia	Mary Ellen Summerlin
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1. What in your background qualifies you to serve on the Kerrville City Council Place 1?

Roman Garcia: Being involved in various community and government organizations have enhanced my qualifications to serve on Council. Serving on the Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council as the chair and on a Kerrville 2050 subcommittee provided me with great insight into our local government. I have volunteered extensively throughout my community through local youth and sports organizations, food pantries, and charitable organizations. As a result of this, I was recognized on a national level as a recipient of the Billy Michal Student Leadership Award. My years of experience and active involvement in Kerrville and our government shows my commitment to improving our community.

Mary Ellen Summerlin: My background includes election to several public offices as well as a degree in public administration. I began with the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Griffing Park, TX (pop 1000) in 1980. Since then I have been elected Port Arthur, Texas City Councilmember, Mayor of Port Arthur twice, Headwaters Groundwater Conservation District Boardmember twice, and served as appointed member of the Kerrville City Council 2016-18. During my term we hired our current city manager, developed the Kerrville 2050 Plan, implemented the water re-use project, expanded the River Trail, and cut the tax rate.

2. What is the most pressing issue facing the Kerrville City Council and what do you hope/plan to do about it?

Roman Garcia: The most pressing issue currently facing the City Council is the effects of the COVID-19 virus on our local economy. I plan to be fiscally responsible when preparing our budget to ensure we can withstand shortfalls to operate effectively. I will be mindful of spending taxpayer money to ensure that incurred expenses benefit the community and are applied towards enhancing our vital infrastructures, including streets, water, sewer, energy, and telecommunications. I plan to foster the reinvigoration of local businesses by collaborating with community and government entities to create innovative solutions for our shifting way of life after COVID-19.

Mary Ellen Summerlin: The most pressing issue before the City Council will likely continue to be managing growth. We are a thriving city and want to continue to support job growth through economic development. That will mean increasing needs for city services such as water, streets, police, and fire protection and innovative use of all our resources to keep our town’s competitive advantages keen. But we must also give careful attention to our policies and regulations so that we maintain the small town feel and beautiful natural surroundings that our comprehensive planning process showed we all value so much.



League of Women Voters - Hill Country Texas

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3. What are the citizens of Kerrville telling you about city problems?

Roman Garcia: The citizens have conveyed that the Council must prioritize citizens' needs over those of tourists by bringing in activities and facilities for local families and youth. Our city needs equal and consistent enforcement of laws and ordinances, proper street maintenance, and an atmosphere where local businesses have an opportunity to grow and thrive. The Council should further educate its citizens in all aspects of public matters and give ample opportunities for involvement before it takes action. Kerrville can benefit from a diverse Council that takes a fiscally conservative approach to budgeting taxpayer money and thoroughly deliberates all action items.

Mary Ellen Summerlin: Most of the citizens I have talked to agree that our city is on a good path. They are proud of the way city leadership has supported new and existing businesses, continued improvements in the appearance of our downtown and neighborhoods, and quality of life enhancements like the River Trail, parks, and ball and soccer fields. They feel confidence in the city council's harmonious process and forward-thinking policies to ensure our water supply, invest in street maintenance, and plan for drainage improvements, all on a conservative fiscal basis. I stand for continuing this balanced, practical, and inclusive progress in Kerrville.

Voting Information for Kerrville City Council Place 1

Sample ballots and other information from the Kerr County Election Department: posted online: <https://www.co.kerr.tx.us/elections>

Take a photo ID with you to the voting location. Curbside voting is available.

EARLY VOTING - ONE LOCATION: Cailloux Theater 910 Main Street Kerrville

Note: Extended hours on Monday, April 19 and Tuesday, April 20

Sunday April 18	Monday April 19	Tuesday April 20	Wednesday April 21	Thursday April 22	Friday April 23	Saturday April 24
	7:00am to 7:00pm	7:00am to 7:00pm	8:00am to 5:00pm	8:00am to 5:00pm	8:00am to 5:00pm	

Sunday April 25	Monday April 26	Tuesday April 27	Wednesday April 28	Thursday April 29	Friday April 30	Saturday May 1
	8:00am to 5:00pm	8:00am to 5:00pm				Election Day

ELECTION DAY: Saturday - May 1 from 7:00am to 7:00pm

Location: Cailloux Theater 910 Main Street Kerrville

Dates to Remember for the May 2021 Election

Last day to register to vote:	Thursday, April 1
Last day to update voter registration:	Thursday, April 1
First day of Early Voting (in-person):	Monday, April 19
Last day to apply to vote by mail:	Tuesday, April 20
Last Day of Early Voting:	Tuesday, April 27
Last day to return mail-in ballot:	Saturday, May 1
Election Day:	Saturday, May 1

Compare candidates online: www.VOTE411.org

Website sponsored by the League of Women Voters - Hill Country Texas: nonpartisan and nonprofit.