



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®

ROWLETT  
2023

NON PARTISAN

# VOTERS GUIDE

EARLY VOTING • APRIL 24, 2023 – MAY 2, 2023

ELECTION DAY • MAY 6, 2023 • POLLS OPEN 7 AM TO 7 PM

## BE A TEXAS VOTER

### About This *Voters Guide*

This printed *Voters Guide* lists items that will be on the ballot for the May 6 election, which includes Rowlett city council races, propositions and Garland ISD races and propositions. Candidate responses are presented as submitted without editing. This *Voters Guide* is funded and published by the League of Women Voters of Dallas which does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

### Vote411.org & LWVDallas.org

You may also see all items on your ballot on-line at [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org).

The LWV Dallas website at [www.lwvdallas.org](http://www.lwvdallas.org) has a wealth of practical information for voters.

### Eligibility for Voting

You must be a citizen of the United State, registered to vote in the county of your residence 30 days prior to election day, and must be at least 18 years old on election day. You cannot vote if you have been declared by a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote or are a convicted felon who has not completed your sentence, probation and/or parole.

### Polling Place Times & Dates

Monday April 24 – Friday April 28	8AM to 5PM
Saturday April 29	8AM to 5PM
Sunday April 30	12PM to 6PM
Monday May 1 & Tuesday May 2	7AM to 7PM
Saturday May 6 (ELECTION DAY)	7AM to 7PM

### Polling Place Locations

Voters registered in Dallas County may vote in person at any of the Dallas County polling locations during early voting and on election day (“Dallas County Votes Anywhere”). For addresses of locations open during early voting and those open on election day, see [www.DallasCountyVotes.org](http://www.DallasCountyVotes.org) or call 469.627.8683.

### Early Vote by Mail (Absentee)

Because of changes enacted by the state legislature in 2021, it is important that voters applying for mail ballots not use application forms issued before 2022. The new forms and also mail ballot envelopes ask voters to provide additional identification. We recommend voters provide BOTH a Texas Driver’s License or Texas Personal Identification Number AND the last four digits of their social security number on the new application form and ballot envelopes.

You are eligible to vote early by mail if you are registered and:

- 65 years of age or older on Election Day
- Out of the county during the entire election including early voting
- Sick or Disabled
- Confined in jail but eligible to vote.

People voting by mail due to disability or age may use a single application to request ballots by mail for all elections in a calendar year. To do so, simply mark “Annual Application” on your application for a ballot by mail. **This option must be renewed every year.**

Once you have received and marked your ballot it can be returned.

- If hand delivered or if delivered by a common or contract carrier without a delivery receipt, it must be **RECEIVED** by the early voting clerk by **7 p.m. on election day**.
- If mailed and postmarked by 7 p.m. on election day or delivered by common or contract carrier and accompanied by a delivery receipt showing the voter submitted the ballot for delivery by 7 p.m. on election day, it must **ARRIVE** by **5 p.m. on the next business day after election day**.

Track your mail ballot at [www.DallasCountyVotes.org](http://www.DallasCountyVotes.org).

### Other Information

For more information on any of these topics or on provisional voting, limited ballots, photo ID, military or overseas voting, health protocols or any other voting topic see [www.lwvdallas.org](http://www.lwvdallas.org) or [www.DallasCountyVotes.org](http://www.DallasCountyVotes.org) or call 469.627.8683.

A runoff election, if any is needed, will be held **Saturday June 10**.

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## Helpful Information

## Websites

Dallas County Elections Department  
Texas Secretary of State  
League of Women Voters of Dallas  
League of Women Voters of Texas

DallasCountyVotes.org  
VoteTexas.gov  
LWVDallas.org  
LWVTexas.org

## Telephone Numbers

Dallas County Elections Department  
Texas Secretary of State - Elections Division  
League of Women Voters of Dallas  
League of Women Voters of Texas

(469)627-8683  
(800)252-8683  
(214) 688-4125  
(512)472-1100



## ROWLETT CITY COUNCIL

The City of Rowlett is a Home Rule City and operates under a Council - Manager form of government. The City Council appoints a City Manager to administer City operations, while the Council is responsible for City policy-making. The Manager makes budget and other recommendations to the City Council and advises the Council of the City's current conditions and future needs.

The Mayor and 6 councilmembers are elected at-large and serve for a 3-year staggered term. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, a runoff election will be held. The Mayor Pro Tem and Deputy Mayor Pro Tem are selected by the Councilmembers.

The City Council meets the first and third Tuesdays of every month in the City Hall Municipal Building.

## ROWLETT PL 1

### BRIAN GALUARDI



Education: MA Economics, University of Maryland, 1981  
 Website: [Brian4Rowlett.com](http://Brian4Rowlett.com)  
 Campaign Email: [Brian4Rowlett@gmail.com](mailto:Brian4Rowlett@gmail.com)  
 Occupation: Retired

**NO RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS**

### DEBORAH "DEBBY" BOBBITT



Education: Bachelors Business Administration & Master in Organizational Management Dallas Baptist University  
 Campaign Phone: 2142821914  
 Campaign Email: [DebbyBobbittCampaign@protonmail.com](mailto:DebbyBobbittCampaign@protonmail.com)  
 Occupation: Chaplain & Substitute Teacher

**Q: WHY RUNNING: What qualifies you to be an effective City Council member?**

**A:** I'm a long time resident of Rowlett & have been involved serving on most city committees & civic organizations. I had the honor to serve on City Council several years ago for two 3 year terms. 1 term serving as Deputy Mayor Pro Tem. I do know how to read & understand our city budget process & am quite familiar w/the responsibilities of each department. I understand the delineation between council & staff when it comes to responsibilities. I'm very transparent & dedicated to of our city. I listen to the citizens & respond. If do not have an answer, I will get one. I have a Bachelors in Business Admin & Masters in Organizational Management.

**Q: HOUSING: Do you believe there is a need for increased safe, quality, affordable housing in your community? Are there other housing issues? What do you recommend?**

**A:** Safe, quality & affordable housing in Rowlett is needed. Yes we have a housing issue in Rowlett. The moniker of "Affordable Housing" seems to have a negative connotation to many. It is assumed it is "Section 8 Housing". This is not Affordable Housing. These are homes that are constructed with safety in mind as well as homes of quality built for teachers, Police Officers, Veterans ,seniors who want to down size, but still be independent & 1st time home owners, Veterans, to name a few. Affordable homes come in many styles addressing the needs of folks from "cradle to grave". We want our citizens to live, work, have families & retire in Rowlett.

**Q: LICENSING AND PERMITTING PROCESS: How do you rate your city's licensing and permitting process? Do you recommend changes?**

**A:** I do like our new Licensing and Permitting Processing, however I would like to see it tweaked in some ways. I would like to see time limits for for each process to be handled quicker, and if time deadline has expired a good plausible reason as to why the permit or license has not been given or delayed (no matter as to who or what is holding the license or permit up and why). So -Yes, I do see some needs for recommendations.

**Q: PUBLIC SAFETY STAFFING: What changes, if any, would you support to attract and retain public safety personnel?**

**A:** Public Safety Staffing - We love our Public Safety Staff! As far as supporting changes to help attract and retain our personnel YES I would support that! Higher wages of course is always a challenge but I think the new yearly budget, which the current city council as well as staff has been working on will be addressed. I would be happy to look at any other suggestions be it through team building exercises, family picnics anything to improve trust and morale in the public safety departments.

**Q: TIMING OF ELECTIONS: Would you support moving the city's election from May to November of odd numbered years? Why or why not?**

**A:** The timing of elections are critical. I believe we need to keep our city elections in May. By having our city elections in May this allows our citizens to keep the cities priorities on their minds and be able to vote specifically on the local needs. There will be times when the November election will be so lengthy , by adding on your city issues, bonds, elections or what have you - citizens will be overwhelmed and may not either finish a ballot and or not study the ballots and just check off their selections without knowing the issues or candidates they are voting for.

**Q: CHALLENGE/OPPORTUNITY: What is the city's greatest challenge and opportunity over the next several years?**

**A:** Rowlett biggest challenge will be Economic Development. If we do not bring in long lasting, sustainable Economic Development projects that provide livable wages we will not be able to bring in valuable tax income from commercial to help offset taxes our residential taxes. We have such little property left to for a great corporation/employer to come to Rowlett we must be handle this decision strategically as well as choosing one with a long term vision for staying in Rowlett for the next 15 years plus!

## ROWLETT PL 3

### CHRIS KIZZIAR: NO RESPONSE

### ELISE BOWERS



Occupation: Retired  
 Facebook: facebook.com/EliseBowersforRowlettCityCouncil  
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 Website: elisebowers.com  
 Campaign Phone: 4697837322  
 Education: B.S. in Management from Alaska Pacific University, Anchorage Alaska

#### **Q: WHY RUNNING: What qualifies you to be an effective City Council member?**

**A:** I am qualified to be a City Council member because I have worked in government for over 15 years. I spent 3 of those 15 years in the City of Rowlett educating, inspiring and collaborating with residents to help improve the quality of life for all generations. In addition, I have a Bachelor of Science Degree in Management from Alaska Pacific University; I currently serve as a Rowlett Parks Board member and chaired the recent Charter Review Commission.

#### **Q: HOUSING: Do you believe there is a need for increased safe, quality, affordable housing in your community? Are there other housing issues? What do you recommend?**

**A:** Affordable housing is a vital component of any city that wants to thrive. It is an economic engine that allows local businesses to prosper and attracts new businesses. The City of Rowlett is lucky to have the Rowlett Housing Finance Corporation (HFC), created in 2017 to help prospective homebuyers with education, down payment assistance, and reduced-rate mortgages. The Rowlett HFC was also instrumental in developing the Lakeview Senior Housing Apartments on Lakeview Parkway. It is essential that every generation has access to affordable housing.

#### **Q: LICENSING AND PERMITTING PROCESS: How do you rate your city's licensing and permitting process? Do you recommend changes?**

**A:** The Community Development Department processes need improvement. The department's professional staff understand the need for improvement and are already taking steps to improve their systems. They have instituted "Recode Rowlett" to help streamline timelines, modernize regulations, and update design standards to comply with state law. We must use all available avenues to make interactions with local government as hassle-free as possible. The current hours of operation and the capability of our software are two additional areas of review that could ensure we are using the full capabilities of both our people and our technology.

#### **Q: PUBLIC SAFETY STAFFING: What changes, if any, would you support to attract and retain public safety personnel?**

**A:** Last fall, the City hired our new Police Chief, Michal Denning. Chief Denning has already made an impact on the Police Department. He has instituted new training programs, improved technology and has already proven his commitment to his team and our city residents. Currently, there is a 2% vacancy rate for our sworn officers. As a council member, it would be my job to support the professional staff in their leadership by ensuring they have adequate funding and community support.

**Q: TIMING OF ELECTIONS: Would you support moving the city's election from May to November of odd numbered years? Why or why not?**

**A:** No, I would not support moving the City's elections from May to November because the terms of office in Rowlett are three years. Year one elects the mayor and the even-numbered council positions, year two elects the odd-numbered council positions, and year three for bond elections. This cycle allows our residents to know their local candidates and learn more about the projects up for bond funding.

**Q: CHALLENGE/OPPORTUNITY: What is the city's greatest challenge and opportunity over the next several years?**

**A:** Many of the challenges that Rowlett faces are nationwide challenges. We must invest heavily in our infrastructure, including roads, water utilities, and facilities. In addition, the City must begin a more aggressive approach to maintaining our assets. I would like to see a long-range plan for our assets' maintenance and eventual rehabilitation. Opportunities abound. We have come a long way from a two-lane highway surrounded by cotton fields and pastureland. But it is up to us to ensure that Rowlett is where families succeed. Together, we can continue to grow wisely and be proud of our "hometown," which is friendly, strong, and resilient.

## ROWLETT PL 5

### MICHAEL SCHUPP



Occupation: Environmental Consultant  
 Campaign YouTube URL: <https://youtu.be/dqx27JtfGvo>  
 Facebook: [facebook.com/michaelschupp.4citycouncil](https://facebook.com/michaelschupp.4citycouncil)  
 Campaign Email: [schuppm1110@yahoo.com](mailto:schuppm1110@yahoo.com)  
 Website: [www.MikeRightNow.com](http://www.MikeRightNow.com)  
 Campaign Phone: 214-212-3655  
 Education: Ohio State University B.S. Agronomy

**Q: WHY RUNNING: What qualifies you to be an effective City Council member?**

**A:** My experience, both in private industry and as a city volunteer has given me a broad skill set to be an effective city councilman. From my business background I have learned how to handle multi-million dollar budgets and set goals and forecasts. As a volunteer I am currently Vice Chair of the Parks Advisory Board. I have been involved in the CIP Task Force which polled residents to rank what capital projects are most important to them. As a member of the Charter Review commission, I helped clean up language and update some processes in the current city charter. I will retire at the end of the year so I have time to devote to City Council,

**Q: HOUSING: Do you believe there is a need for increased safe, quality, affordable housing in your community? Are there other housing issues? What do you recommend?**

**A:** I believe we currently have enough multi-family developments as well as affordable single family units to provide quality housing to our residents. I do not support currently adding any new projects to our inventory of multi-family residences. I do believe there are opportunities to build affordable housing to take care of our military veteran community.

**Q: LICENSING AND PERMITTING PROCESS: How do you rate your city's licensing and permitting process? Do you recommend changes?**

**A:** As a percentage of revenue into the General Fund, licensing and fees represent approximately 25% of revenue. I believe we should be diligent in making sure that we are collecting all appropriate fees. In some cases, such as with short-term-rentals, fees can be used as mechanism to make sure that owners are being registered and in compliance with city code. If we are talking about permitting as meaning zoning, Rowlett is currently in the process of updating its zoning ordinances to make them more unified. As a member of council, I would like to have input in these discussions.

**Q: PUBLIC SAFETY STAFFING: What changes, if any, would you support to attract and retain public safety personnel?**

**A:** I believe the city must continue to look for ways to attract and retain public service employees. Compensation increases were recently put in place to help us compete with other cities in recruiting quality people for both our Police and Fire Departments. The current Police/Courts building is woefully overcrowded and out of date. I personally support the May 6th bond item to build a new Justice Center. I believe this will help us to improve our 911 and police call center, it will allow us to take advantage of new technologies in policing and it will improve recruitment and retention of police officers.

**Q: TIMING OF ELECTIONS: Would you support moving the city's election from May to November of odd numbered years? Why or why not?**

**A:** I personally prefer having local elections in May. Our current term for City Council is 3 years. No matter how you do it, you will eventually have local elections that will coincide with these national elections. When local elections are at the same time as national election, much of the chatter and noise of the bigger elections drown out the important local issues put before voters. Voters become overwhelmed with information and may not be as informed as to what is happening in their town.

**Q: CHALLENGE/OPPORTUNITY: What is the city's greatest challenge and opportunity over the next several years?**

**A:** These are big issues. For my interview where I address these in detail, go to: <https://youtu.be/dqx27JtfGvo> I think we currently have 3 major challenges to address:

- 1) Becoming a member city of the NTMWD.
- 2) Address aging and failing infrastructure, especially roads, alleys and sidewalks
- 3) Create quality development to reduce the tax burden on residential property owners and fund the improvements to infrastructure and quality of life projects like new parks and trails that impact all citizens of Rowlett.

## BROWNIE SHERRILL



Occupation: Retired Senior Systems Analyst  
 Campaign Email: brownie243@verizon.net  
 Campaign Phone: 9724120623  
 Education: Garland High plus numerous IT related classes

**Q: WHY RUNNING: What qualifies you to be an effective City Council member?**

**A:** I have previously served two terms on the Rowlett City Council and termed out in 2022. I have been and still am an active citizen in the city. I attend all city events and most Chamber of Commerce events. I have served on four boards and commissions. I am a volunteer with the Community Emergency Response Team and the Volunteers in Police Service. I recently received the 2022 Distinguished Service and Leadership Award from the Chamber of Commerce.

**Q: HOUSING: Do you believe there is a need for increased safe, quality, affordable housing in your community? Are there other housing issues? What do you recommend?**

**A:** With inflation, construction and labor cost rising, "affordable" is becoming more difficult to find. In my previous time on council, we focused on a housing diversity. Organizations like the Housing Finance Corporation has helped to work with developers to establish housing for various income levels.

**Q: LICENSING AND PERMITTING PROCESS: How do you rate your city's licensing and permitting process? Do you recommend changes?**

**A:** I view my city's licensing and permitting process as thorough. That department of our city enforces the established policies set forth by previous councils.

**Q: PUBLIC SAFETY STAFFING: What changes, if any, would you support to attract and retain public safety personnel?**

**A:** It is a known fact that main retention factor is salary. As a council, it is up to us to see that the city budget has room for salary increases to maintain our position in the area. Another attraction for our public safety personnel is the support they get from the City Council and the citizen's of Rowlett. It makes their day a little easier.

**Q: TIMING OF ELECTIONS: Would you support moving the city's election from May to November of odd numbered years? Why or why not?**

**A:** First, we have three-year terms so the odd numbered years would not work. We discussed this a couple of years ago and decided that November is too busy with all the other elections. Our City Council elections would be lost among all the state and national elections, so we felt it is better left in May.

**Q: CHALLENGE/OPPORTUNITY: What is the city's greatest challenge and opportunity over the next several years?**

**A:** The biggest challenge is keeping up with the aging infrastructure and streets and alleys. It takes a lot of money and a lot of people. Our Public Works personnel do a fantastic job every day. Our greatest opportunity is twofold. One is Sapphire Bay and the money it will bring into Rowlett. The other is the North Shore area with its commercial possibilities

## **ROWLETT BOND ELECTION**

### **Proposition A**

**THE ISSUANCE OF \$63,928,980 OF BONDS BY THE CITY OF ROWLETT, TEXAS FOR DESIGNING, CONSTRUCTING IMPROVING AND EQUIPPING PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES, INCLUDING FIRE, POLICE AND MUNICIPAL COURT FACILITIES AND RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE, AND LEVYING A TAX SUFFICIENT TO MAKE THE PAYMENTS OF PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST THEREON.**

**Vote "For" or "Against"**

### **Proposition B**

**THE ISSUANCE OF \$8,400,000 BONDS BY THE CITY OF ROWLETT, TEXAS, FOR DESIGNING, CONSTRUCTING, IMPROVING AND EQUIPPING A MUNICIPAL ANIMAL SHELTER AND RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE, AND LEVYING A TAX SUFFICIENT TO MAKE THE PAYMENTS OF PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST THEREON.**

**Vote "For" or "Against"**

### **Proposition C**

**THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,000,000 BONDS BY THE CITY OF ROWLETT, TEXAS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESIGNING, CONSTRUCTING, IMPROVING AND EQUIPPING HERFURTH PARK, AND LEVYING A TAX SUFFICIENT TO MAKE THE PAYMENTS OF PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST THEREON.**

**Vote "For" or "Against"**

## **DESCRIPTION**

The city of Rowlett serves a population of 64,000. It seeks authorization to issue \$76,328,680 in bonds to fund improvements in three areas. The bond package was compiled by an 11 member Community Investment Program Task Force appointed by the City Council. The Committee met monthly, consulted with architectural firm, sought public input, and surveyed citizens on their priorities including impact on the tax rate. The recommended plan would provide funding for:

- Replacement of the public safety facility to include space for the Police Department, Fire Administration and Municipal Court for \$63,928,980. The city indicates it is difficult to keep public safety staffing levels on pace with the city's rapid population growth because there is no more workspace for staff. The city anticipates continued population growth and needs to provide space for future growth as well as for current personnel.

- Replacement of the animal shelter for \$8,400,000. The current shelter is chronically over capacity. It has been in “code red” status since March 2022, meaning it is overcrowded. More dogs are currently housed in foster homes than at the facility, and dogs are shipped to rescue organizations out of state because of lack of space at the shelter.
- Completion of phases 2 and 3 of Herfurth Park, a 24 acre park in downtown Rowlett featuring an outdoor sports complex, picnic facilities concessions and restrooms. Improvements would provide funds for renovation, an area for events, a bandstand with a food truck area, playground and other amenities.

Up to 20 year bonds would be issued over approximately the next three years as needed and as previously issued bonds are retired. The city estimates the interest rate on bonds would not exceed 5% and that, if approved by voters, there would be a 7 cent increase in the tax rate.

Property tax rates in Rowlett and nearby cities are:

Dallas	.745800
Garland	.716692
<b>Rowlett</b>	<b>.681000</b>
Mesquite	.658140
Sachse	.650416.
Richardson	.560950

Rowlett’s bond rating from Moody’s is AA2.

Voters in Rowlett last considered a bond package in 2021. Two of the propositions in that election passed and one did not.

This package was approved unanimously by the City Council in February.

## Reasons to vote “For” and “Against”

REASONS TO VOTE FOR	REASONS TO VOTE AGAINST
Due to the city’s rapid growth, facilities are at or over capacity. Rowlett needs capacity especially in the public safety area to provide work space for necessary personnel like detectives. Public safety is the city’s most important function and citizens want it to be properly staffed.	Before authorizing a public safety facility replacement, the city should revisit less expensive alternatives such as sharing space with a private sector entity, building a smaller building or building on less expensive land.
Rowlett needs capacity at the animal shelter to provide humane care for homeless domesticated animal. As the population grows, so does the need for shelter for homeless animals, and the current facility is far over capacity.	A new animal shelter will still not meet all the needs. Rowlett should more aggressively pursue programs to mitigate the need such as Trap-Neuter-Release.
Herfurth Park is a unique and attractive feature that unifies the community and draws residents and business. Funds from this election would enable the city to complete the vision in the Master Plan developed in 2020, making the park even more attractive to current and future residents and business.	Herfurth Park does not need improvement. It serves the community very well as is.
The city’s property tax is currently in the middle of nearby city tax rates suggesting that the forecasted tax increase would not be a barrier to people or businesses seeking to locate to Rowlett.	If other cities’ tax rates stay constant, Rowlett’s rate would be higher than most in the area. If we experience a severe recession in the future, debt from this authorization could stress the city financially.
The city’s high bond rating from Moody’s indicates the confidence bond experts have in the city’s financial health and management.	Third parties such as bond rating agencies are not as familiar with our city as residents. Residents should decide for themselves if the city is well managed.

## ROWLETT CHARTER AMENDMENT ELECTION

The city of Rowlett proposes six amendments to its home rule charter, the document that sets forth the city's structure and describes its powers and duties. Texas cities review their charters periodically, usually at five to ten year intervals. Rowlett's charter specifies that it be reviewed at least every five years.

As a home-rule city, Rowlett may pass the laws and regulations it deems necessary unless prohibited by state law. By contrast, a smaller general-law city may only do what is authorized by the state legislature.

Members of the city council proposed a charter review at a work session in July 2022. In August, a 7-member Charter Review Commission was appointed by the city council. The council specified the areas of the charter to be reviewed. The commission met periodically over the next three months, made comparisons with neighboring cities, held a public input session in November, and proposed amendments. In January 2023 the city council voted to present six amendments on the May 2023 ballot.

Rowlett last proposed charter amendments in 2021. Two of six proposed amendments were subsequently approved by voters.

## BALLOT LANGUAGE AND IMPACT

The following lays out the six proposed amendments (propositions) and their impact. Vote "for" or "against" each proposition separately.

### PROPOSITION A

#### Ballot Language:

*Shall Subsection (2) of Section 3.09 ("City Council Vacancies and Attendance") of the Rowlett City Charter be amended to include absences from special as well as regular meetings, as opposed to regular meetings exclusively, in determining whether a member of the Council has forfeited the office?*

#### Impact:

*This amendment adds special meetings to regular meetings in the count of allowable absences for a Council Member. Currently the charter only specifies regular meetings be counted. 3 consecutive absences would allow a majority vote of Council to declare the office vacated; 6 consecutive absences would result in forfeiture. An allowance for excused absences remains in place.*

#### Reasons to Vote "For":

*Important matters are considered at Special Council Meetings as well as at Regular Meetings and Council Members should be responsible for attendance.*

#### Reasons to Vote "Against:

*Elected officials should not be removed from office except in extraordinary circumstances, beyond simply missing a limited series of meetings.*

## PROPOSITION B

### **Ballot Language:**

*Shall Subsection (2) of Section 3.14 ("Meetings of City Council") of the Rowlett City Charter be amended to provide that special meetings of the Council may be called at the request of the City Manager, three members of the City Council, or the Mayor, as opposed to the Mayor or a majority of the members of the City Council?*

### **Impact:**

*Currently a majority of the Council which consists of six councilmembers plus the Mayor must agree to call a Special Meeting, which introduces a potential conflict with the quorum provision of the Texas Open Meetings Act. This amendment would allow a Special Meeting to be called by 3 councilmembers instead of 4.*

### **Reasons to Vote "For":**

*This amendment would protect Rowlett from inadvertently violating the Texas Open Meetings Act.*

### **Reasons to Vote "Against":**

*To date Rowlett has not violated the Texas Open Meetings Act.*

## PROPOSITION C

### **Ballot Language:**

*Shall Subsection (7) of Section 2.03 ("Municipal Court") of the Rowlett City Charter be amended so that the Clerk of the Municipal Court shall be appointed by the City Manager with input from the Chief Judge, and that Deputy Clerks shall be appointed by the City Manager as appropriate?*

### **Impact:**

*This change would amend the Charter to have the court clerk and deputy clerks be appointed by the City Manager rather than the Chief Judge, reversing part of a Charter amendment made in 2021. The Chief Judge would have input into the appointment of the court clerk.*

### **Reasons to Vote "For":**

*Since Municipal Judges serve for only two year terms, this amendment would provide stability for the clerks.*

### **Reasons to Vote "Against":**

*The clerks work at the direction of the Judges so the Judges should have the authority to hire or fire them so that their court runs smoothly.*

## PROPOSITION D

### **Ballot Language:**

*Shall Subsection (4) of Section 5.04 ("Municipal Judge") of the Rowlett City Charter be amended so that the removal of the Judges of the Municipal Court may be accomplished, according to State law, with or without cause, after a hearing and by a 2/3 majority vote of the full City Council?*

### **Impact:**

*This amendment would allow municipal judges to be removed with or without cause by 5 out of 7 affirmative votes of the City Council. An alternative rather arduous removal process is provided for in State law. Termination with cause means that a reason for termination is specified such as misconduct, fraud or disclosure of confidential information. Termination without clause means the employer is not required to disclose a reason.*

### **Reasons to Vote "For":**

*Currently the City Council appoints municipal judges in Rowlett. Therefore, the Council should have the authority to remove them. For the sake of transparency, a public hearing should be held. State Law allows the process to remove a judge to be defined in a City Charter. The alternative process provided for in the State Law is lengthy and potentially expensive.*

### **Reasons to Vote "Against":**

*State law allows that Municipal Judges be appointed for two or four years. The Rowlett Charter specifies that they be appointed for two. Rowlett's option to effectively remove a judge is to decline to reappoint and therefore it does not need the additional process. Alternatively, State Law provides a process for a Municipal Judge's removal.*

## PROPOSITION E

### **Ballot Language:**

*Shall Subsection (2) of Section 12.03 ("Charter Review Commission") of the Rowlett City Charter be amended so that, in appointing a Charter Review Commission, the City Council shall determine the minimum scope of the Commission's review of the Charter?*

### **Impact:**

*This amendment would allow the Charter Review Commission to expand the scope of a Charter review beyond the minimum direction provided by the City Council.*

### **Reasons to Vote "For":**

*Citizens on the Charter Review Committee are limited to reviewing issues identified by the City Council. They should be able to review issues beyond those identified by the City Council in their role as a diverse and focused group of citizens.*

### **Reasons to Vote "Against":**

*The elected City Council is most familiar with the provisions of the Charter and how it impacts city business and should know the most important issues needing review.*

## PROPOSITION F

### **Ballot Language:**

*Shall Subsection (3) of Section 12.03 ("Charter Review Commission") of the Rowlett City Charter be amended so that the appointment of a Charter Review Commission shall be no longer than 12 months?*

### **Impact:**

*This amendment extends the 12 month term of appointment to a Charter Review Commission from the current 6 months.*

### **Reasons to Vote "For":**

*The current 6-month limitation to the term of office for Charter Review members is too short. Twelve months would ensure that issues of importance to the voters are adequately understood and addressed.*

### **Reasons to Vote "Against":**

*The Charter Review Commission should be able to complete its review in 6 months. This is a routine matter.*

## GARLAND ISD

The 7 board members are elected at-large to 3-year terms. They serve on a volunteer basis, devoting many hours to overseeing the management of the district. School trustees make all final decisions regarding school district priorities, policies, personnel, textbooks, expenditures, and growth management. Trustees adopt a budget which is necessary to maintain and operate the schools, levy taxes to support the budget, and submit bond issues to the citizens of the District to finance construction projects.

Whichever candidate gets the most votes wins. There are no runoff elections.

## GARLAND ISD PL 4

### DAAPHNE STANLEY



Occupation: Manager, Store Planning  
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 Facebook: [www.facebook.com/daphne4gisdplace4](https://www.facebook.com/daphne4gisdplace4)  
 Campaign YouTube URL: <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?pli=1#inbox?projector=1>

**Q: EXPERIENCE: What qualifications and experience prepare you to be an effective member of the School Board?**

**A:** 20+ yrs as a Business Analyst managing millions of dollars. Navigating through the Public School systems in California, Idaho and here in Texas. Battling the red tape brought upon schools by legislators and many times the Administrators who have lost touch with the day to day struggles within our schools. My greatest asset is the role I have played in being a mother and grandmother. There is no harder task then raising a family, working outside the home and still maintaining a presence in your children's lives. I have shown that I listen, research and engage with our community in making decisions that affect our district.

**Q: SCHOOL CHOICE: Is the desire for more school choice pressing in your community, or are current programs meeting its needs? Would you support more options for students and, if so, what would you support?**

**A:** GISD has a very robust school choice system currently. We can always improve any system. The current Board requested an in-depth audit of all our school programs last year. This will be a tool in determining what is and is not working. I will support any and all programs that are showing that our students are engaged and growing in their knowledge and self-worth.

**Q: DECISIONS ABOUT CURRICULUM: Describe how ideally you would have parents involved in curriculum decisions vs school administrators, the school board and State Board of Education?**

**A:** Curriculum decisions need to be brought back to local control. SBOE needs to be returned to the public. The original intent was for these representatives to be a voice for parents. They have been stripped of most oversight of school curriculum by our State Legislators and turned their oversight over to the TEA that answer to no voting public. Parents should be appointed by their Board Members to sit on review committee to see firsthand what vendors, tools that Administrators will push down to teachers for use in teaching our kids.

**Q: SCHOOL FINANCE: Discuss your approach to the competing needs of attracting and maintaining quality teachers and staff and moderating the tax burden**

**A:** We must get the State to increase the basic allotment. This will allow districts to increase teacher salaries. This will help to attract teachers back into teaching and attract young people to seek a career in teaching. We must return control of classrooms back to our teachers. Teachers need to be allowed to teach to comprehension and not to a check list created by State and Federal Agencies. The way that our State has structured school finance, it dictates that schools must come to the taxpayers via bonds to renovate, replace, and build new facilities. This method means that additional tax burdens will always be present.

**Q: STUDENT SUPPORT: What should your district do to support students struggling with traumatic loss (ex. COVID), mental health issues or other complications that occur outside the classroom but profoundly affect school success?**

**A:** We must provide quality instruction in the classrooms. While on the board I voted to approved 50 additional positions strictly for assisting teachers with more prep and instructional planning time. I would like us to look at bringing on Behavior Specialists for all campuses. Our teachers cannot provide quality instruction and work to solve specific behavior issues. Counselors needs to be allowed to spend their time in providing parents with current community resources to assist in mental health in not only our students but in the family unit.

**Q: OTHER ISSUES: What other issues of importance do you intend to address during your term?**

**A:** Long range strategic plan to rebuild insufficient schools, right size our district and overall improvement of our infrastructure. Should the 2023 bond pass, I am qualified to provide guidance in managing the bond. Keeping projects on track to complete in an efficient timely manner and within budget. I have firsthand experience in supply chain issues, budget management as well as resource management during the last 3 years in the public sector. Where many retailers have closed their doors due to these issues, I have been on a team that has not only survived but come out stronger and more agile than ever before.

**JED N REED**

Occupation: Retired Educator

Education: South Garland H.S.; BEd Texas Tech University; Masters in Public Administration Texas A&M Commerce

Campaign Email: [jed4gisd@gmail.com](mailto:jed4gisd@gmail.com)

**Q: EXPERIENCE: What qualifications and experience prepare you to be an effective member of the School Board?**

**A:** Previous experience as an elected GISD board member (2016-2020) during which the board oversaw the implementation of the 2016 Bond Issue/hired a new Superintendent and improved the performance of students and the State ranking given to the District. 40+years of public-school experience as a teacher; campus leader; and central office administrator.

**Q: SCHOOL CHOICE: Is the desire for more school choice pressing in your community, or are current programs meeting its needs? Would you support more options for students and, if so, what would you support?**

**A:** The GISD has had school choice within the district for several decades. This choice system allows parents to select campus location and specialized programmatic campus that best meets the need for their child. Some of the selections are based upon interest and others are based upon admission standards that are part of the acceptance process. The District is constantly reviewing the offering and guidelines to enhance the choice and meet the development of new concepts within the district.

**Q: DECISIONS ABOUT CURRICULUM: Describe how ideally you would have parents involved in curriculum decisions vs school administrators, the school board and State Board of Education?**

**A:** Parental engagement and review of curriculum content is not new within the operation of the district. Once example that can be used as a model would be the District's School Health Advisory Council (SHAC). This committee is made up of staff; community leaders and parents and makes recommendations to the Board on various health issues and reviews curriculum concerning a wide area of health/mental health/human sexuality curriculum that the district uses. Other advisory committees could be established to address curriculum as allowed by State Law and directives from the Texas Education Agency.

**Q: SCHOOL FINANCE: Discuss your approach to the competing needs of attracting and maintaining quality teachers and staff and moderating the tax burden**

**A:** Personnel costs are approximately 85% of the budget. When dealing with funding shortfalls, unfunded mandates from the state and federal government and the growing needs of a student population that exceed 70% low socio-economic status the process is difficult. Add this to the shortage of potential teacher candidates the district is at a critical point. Create recruitment proceeds to bring new employees forward for consideration need to be used. Staffing and program reviews need to be an annual process to make sure that the budget support efforts that are producing positive student gains. Much relief could come from the state action.

**Q: STUDENT SUPPORT: What should your district do to support students struggling with traumatic loss (ex. COVID), mental health issues or other complications that occur outside the classroom but profoundly affect school success?**

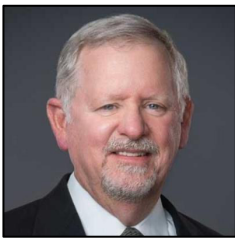
**A:** The support of student mental health issues and the resulting impact upon performance and behavior must be addressed. It must be done with the full and transparent engagement of the parents with appropriate and timely notification of concerns and actions. Additional state funding for school base counselor support is needed to provide that outreach to students.

**Q: OTHER ISSUES: What other issues of importance do you intend to address during your term?**

- A:**
- Should the 2023 School Bond pass the board will need to be very engaged in the oversight of the implementation of the projects approved by the voters.
  - On-level reading skills by 3rd grade.
  - Increase of student performance while closing the gap between student groups.
  - Stronger support for students in the transitional years of 5th to 6th and 8th to 9th to increase student success moving into High School.
  - Implementation of new state mandates to the College/Career/Military Readiness (CCMR) process for the benefit of student success after graduation
  - Update the Board Goal's to post COVID expectations.

## GARLAND ISD PL 5

### JAMIE MILLER



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 Campaign YouTube URL: none  
 Campaign Email: [jnmillertx@gmail.com](mailto:jnmillertx@gmail.com)  
 Campaign Phone: 214-536-9817  
 Education: Bachelors Degree from Texas Tech University in Business  
 Occupation: Banker

**Q: EXPERIENCE: What qualifications and experience prepare you to be an effective member of the School Board?**

**A:** I am a servant leader who loves to meet with people to get things done. I work to build a consensus and will take the time to explore and understand various viewpoints and as a former Board President these qualities brought our Trustee team together during an unexpected pandemic. My belief in empowering others is also evident from my long history in banking and providing leadership for many charities, churches, and community organizations that I have served on in my career. Entities that I have served include Baylor Hospital of Garland, New Beginning Center of Garland, Chair of Garland Eco. Dev, and Garland Education Foundation.

**Q: SCHOOL CHOICE: Is the desire for more school choice pressing in your community, or are current programs meeting its needs? Would you support more options for students and, if so, what would you support?**

**A:** GISD is a Freedom of Choice district and it has allowed us to provide a wide variety of programs benefitting all of our students. I favor programs that help kids thrive and GISD offers a wealth of diverse options. From IB, Magnate, MST Gifted and Talented, Bi-Lingual, Dyslexia, Fine Arts, Athletics to College Dual Credit GISD is very well rounded. We have recently opened 6 new magnate schools. Our recently opened Career Technology Center has opened a world of career paths for students and opened doors of opportunity. The Metroplex has many options for students, but I believe that none can match GISD in its program offerings.

**Q: DECISIONS ABOUT CURRICULUM: Describe how ideally you would have parents involved in curriculum decisions vs school administrators, the school board and State Board of Education?**

**A:** The State determines the curriculum for public education. At GISD we welcome parental involvement. If a parent wants to review the materials used in a particular class we welcome their interest. As an example: in our Social and Emotional Learning we involved parents and community leaders to review our materials for the classroom. At the district level we applaud parental involvement.

**Q: SCHOOL FINANCE: Discuss your approach to the competing needs of attracting and maintaining quality teachers and staff and moderating the tax burden**

**A:** Attracting, retaining and properly compensating Teachers is a topic that is certainly a main issue facing the district. GISD has not been able to fully staff since COVID and that trend continues today. GISD has spent \$55MM since COVID on stipends, supplemental pay and technology devices. Last year GISD was the first to raise salaries to \$60M for starting teachers and give 5% across the board raises. But more needs to be done. Kids need quality instruction in the classroom. We need a State funding formula that allows room for raises from year to year.

**Q: STUDENT SUPPORT: What should your district do to support students struggling with traumatic loss (ex. COVID), mental health issues or other complications that occur outside the classroom but profoundly affect school success**

**A:** In addition to having counselors at our campuses, at GISD we encourage kids to be involved in the many after school activities that we offer. We strive to have the students belong to one of the many groups such as athletics, clubs, fine arts, step teams etc. These are all groups that exist to help kids thrive. I believe in keeping kids connected to healthy activities both inside and outside of the classroom.

**Q: OTHER ISSUES: What other issues of importance do you intend to address during your term?**

**A:** Capital Improvements: May 2023 has a critical bond program that will invest heavily in school safety, rebuilding inefficient schools, career readiness, and infrastructure improvements. This passage is imperative to GISD's success. Furthermore, upon passage having the experience and wisdom on how to manage a bond program is of utmost importance. Keeping everything timely and within budget during our record breaking rising cost of living is within my skill set as a Bank President. Academic Recovery and School Safety will remain a priority as it has for the last 6 years while I have served.

## KRISTINA STERLING



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Website: [www.electkristinasterling.com/](http://www.electkristinasterling.com/)

Campaign Phone: 8178747213

Education: Doctorate in Education

Occupation: Educator Success Manager

**Q: EXPERIENCE: What qualifications and experience prepare you to be an effective member of the School Board?**

**A:** I have worked in education starting as an interventionist, moved to a middle school teacher and department head, and then transitioned into teacher preparation through alternative certification and higher ed partnership. I also give professional developments to school districts as a personal business. In other words, I have worked with all facets of education from the people side to the business side. I have my Masters and Doctorate in education so I have studied education in many ways and I believe that my 360 degree understanding of education makes my voice unique and important to the school board.

**Q: SCHOOL CHOICE: Is the desire for more school choice pressing in your community, or are current programs meeting its needs? Would you support more options for students and, if so, what would you support?**

**A:** I believe that school choice is something great that Garland offers. I think that it is important that students and families feel that they have found a community when it comes to where the student is going to school. I also think that sometimes with special programs it is important for families to be able to have a say in where their child is going to be serviced.

**Q: DECISIONS ABOUT CURRICULUM:** Describe how ideally you would have parents involved in curriculum decisions vs school administrators, the school board and State Board of Education

**A:** I think that parents should understand the curriculum that is being taught. I think that it is important to hear the community and understand if they have any questions but as a parent I want to help build a district where I trust the decisions that are being made and I know that my child is getting a well rounded education that makes them productive citizens.

**Q: SCHOOL FINANCE:** Discuss your approach to the competing needs of attracting and maintaining quality teachers and staff and moderating the tax burden

**A:** This is such a complicated and complex issue but one that needs to be addressed because our teachers need to feel appreciated and we do that through the structure of compensation. My approach would be to see what my colleagues and peers have done because I know that they have put in hard work to create a budget and then be able to use my fresh eyes and perspective to be able to see if there are areas I could offer some suggestions to help us figure this out.

**Q: STUDENT SUPPORT:** What should your district do to support students struggling with traumatic loss (ex. COVID), mental health issues or other complications that occur outside the classroom but profoundly affect school success?

**A:** We have to provide teachers with the appropriate training. We need to provide targeted training that models how to support children both socially, emotionally, and cognitively. We have to train teachers on how to create communities of safety and respect in their classrooms.

**Q: OTHER ISSUES:** What other issues of importance do you intend to address during your term?

**A:** Mental health of student and teachers, retention and recruitment of teachers, and community partnerships that target the needs of our marginalized populations.

## **GARLAND ISD BOND ELECTION**

### **Proposition A**

**THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,103,130,000 OF BONDS BY THE GARLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR SCHOOL FACILITIES, THE PURCHASE OF NECESSARY SITES FOR SCHOOL FACILITIES, BUSES AND VEHICLES AND THE IMPOSITION OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS AND THE COST OF ANY CREDIT AGREEMENTS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.**

**Vote "For" or "Against"**

### **Proposition B**

**THE ISSUANCE OF \$135,910,000 OF BONDS BY THE GARLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR A MULTI-PROGRAM ACTIVITY CENTER AT EACH HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS, AND THE IMPOSITION OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS AND THE COST OF ANY CREDIT AGREEMENTS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.**

**Vote "For" or "Against"**

### **Proposition C**

**THE ISSUANCE OF \$40,605,000 OF BONDS BY THE GARLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT AND THE IMPOSITION OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS AND THE COST OF ANY CREDIT AGREEMENTS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.**

**Vote "For" or "Against"**

## Description

The Garland ISD (GISD) serves 53,000 students on 72 campuses in three cities – Garland, Rowlett and Sachse. The district seeks authorization to issue \$1,279,645,000 in bonds to fund improvements in three areas.:

**PROPOSITION A (86%)** the largest part of the plan, addresses facilities. Every campus is improved. A list of improvements by campus can be found at <https://garlandisd.net/about/bond-2023> . Plans include:

- Safety and security measures like fencing, removal of all portables from elementary campuses, classroom barrier improvements and other.
- Facility improvements. Four elementary campuses would be replaced with energy efficient new construction. All elementary campuses would get 2 new ADA-accessible playgrounds with canopies. Plans include locker room renovations, new fieldhouses for all high schools, turf fields with bleacher canopies for all high school softball and baseball fields, and other.
- Infrastructure improvements. Infrastructure refers to the basic buildings and systems that support district operations. These improvements include plans for a new transportation center, a new network operations center, expansion of the Gilbreath-Reed Career and Technology Center, and other.

**PROPOSITION B (11%)** would provide Multi-Purpose Activity Centers at all seven high schools. Multipurpose activity centers are versatile indoor spaces for athletics and student activities including various academic, fine arts and athletic programs.

**PROPOSITION C (3%)** would provide updated technology devices for students and staff.

The bond package was compiled by a diverse committee of more than 80 people (Citizen Bond Steering Committee) selected by district staff and the Board of Trustees. The Committee met over three months, toured facilities from the long-range facilities plan, and studied finances. An improvement plan was approved unanimously by the Board of Trustees in January which then called for the May election on February 14.

If approved by the voters, the 2023 bonds will be issued over the next few years as needed for improvements and as previously issued bonds are retired. The district expects the impact on the tax rate would be an increase of approximately \$.0661 over the current tax rate. Property tax rates for Garland ISD and nearby districts are:

Richardson ISD	1.3146
Grand Prairie ISD	1.3070
Plano ISD	1.2598
Coppell ISD	1.2173
Dallas ISD	1.1849
<b>Garland ISD</b>	<b>1.1725</b>
Irving ISD	1.1474
CFBISD	1.1429

The district's debt is rated Aaa by Moody's and AA+ by Fitch. The TEA accountability rating for the district is B (87 out of 100).

Voters last authorized bonds for GISD in the amount of \$455,500,000 in 2014. All of that authorization has been issued.

Detail about the plan and proposed improvements can be found at <https://garlandisd.net>

## Reasons to vote “For” and “Against” the propositions:

REASONS TO VOTE FOR	REASONS TO VOTE AGAINST
Currently GISD’s facilities are aging and due for upgrade. An independent assessment of facilities identified over \$3 billion in necessary repairs and upgrades. The average age of buildings is 44 years. GPISD needs to do better for students.	Cosmetic enhancements may be all that’s needed to bring GISD up to standard. Just because facilities are old does not mean they need replacement or major overhaul.
Quality education is among the highest of priorities for parents and businesses in a community. Safe, modern facilities make a tremendous difference for students and teachers, enabling them to reach their potential.	Construction and reconstruction projects may be disruptive to students in classrooms. Modest improvements over a longer period would be more conducive to the learning process.
GISD’s property tax is among the lowest of nearby and comparable districts and would only be in the middle after the expected rate increase, suggesting that it would not be a barrier to people or businesses seeking to locate to the area.	If we experience a severe recession in the future, debt from this authorization could stress the district financially. The economy is too volatile right now to risk such a large bond authorization.
GISD’s very high bond ratings from Moody’s and Fitch indicate confidence of experts in the district’s financial health and management.	Third parties such as bond rating agencies are not as familiar with our district as residents. Residents should decide for themselves if the district is well managed.

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### What Is the League of Women Voters' Mission?

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

### What Does the League Do Now?

The League of Women Voters is a peoples' organization that has fought since 1920 to improve our government and engage all Americans in the decisions that impact their lives. We operate at national, state and local levels through more than 800 state and local Leagues, in all 50 states as well in DC, the Virgin Islands and Hong Kong. We never endorse or oppose political parties or candidates, but we are political.

Formed from the movement that secured the right to vote for women, the centerpiece of the League’s efforts remain to expand participation and give a voice to all Americans. We do this at all three levels of government, engaging in both broad educational efforts as well as advocacy. Our issues are grounded in our respected history of making democracy work for all Americans.

### Why Should I Support the League of Women Voters?

The League is different from many organizations in that what it accomplishes comes directly from the involvement of its members. It is a **grassroots organization** providing every member with opportunities to learn and educate others about government, and take action on public policy. We walk our talk: we believe that we need everyone to participate in order for our community to be strong, safe and vibrant. Whether you contribute your time, your money, or both you can feel confident that your investment in democracy goes further in the League.



## Local Elections Matter. Get Ready To Vote.

 **Local<sup>\*</sup> elections are Saturday, May 6!**

- **EARLY VOTING: MONDAY, APRIL 24-TUESDAY, MAY 2**
- **LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE: THURSDAY, APRIL 6**

*\*Local elections are nonpartisan. This is your opportunity to vote for your mayor, city council member, and school district trustee.*

**Have a voice in *your* government!** 

CHECK IF YOU  
ARE REGISTERED  
TO VOTE



[votetexas.gov](http://votetexas.gov)

SEE SAMPLE  
BALLOT, WHERE &  
WHEN TO VOTE



[↑dallascountyvotes.org](http://dallascountyvotes.org)  
or [ballotpedia.org](http://ballotpedia.org)

RESEARCH  
CANDIDATES ON  
YOUR BALLOT



[Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org)

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GOVERNMENT  
IS STRUCTURED



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QUESTIONS  
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or [lwvdallas.org](http://lwvdallas.org)  
214-688-4125

**Got questions? We have answers! [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org)**

**GOT VOTING ISSUES? ELECTION PROTECTION HAS ANSWERS! CALL 866.OURVOTE**

LWVD is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, civic organization. We do not endorse or oppose parties or candidates