



VOTERS GUIDE

Nonpartisan

MAY 1, 2021, LOCAL ELECTION

PARKER CITY COUNCIL

Early voting: April 19-27

Election Day Polls: May 1 – 7 am to 7 pm

ABOUT THIS VOTERS GUIDE

This Voters Guide is published by the League of Women Voters of Collin County to help citizens prepare to cast an informed vote. The League of Women Voters encourages informed and active participation in government. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

This guide is available online at www.LWVCollin.org, along with guides for other offices that include all or part of Collin County. Candidate responses for all races are also available at www.VOTE411.org, where you can enter an address and view a personalized ballot with races specific to that address.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates for each office, whether or not the race is contested. Candidate replies were subject to a character limit and are printed without editing or verification. If a candidate did not respond by the deadline, "No response received" is printed. Candidates were asked to avoid references to their opponents. Photos are included for candidates who provided them.

This Voters Guide is organized by office sought, with candidates listed in alphabetical order.

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League of Women Voters is a Nonpartisan Organization

The LWV never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

Parker City Council (3 seats)

2-year term, elected citywide. Must be at least 18 years old, a United States citizen, a qualified voter, and a resident of the city. The City Council establishes city policy through ordinances and resolutions.

Questions

Strategic: What actions should the City Council take to ensure a thriving community in the long-term?

Economy: What types of businesses would you like to attract to the city, if any, and what should be done to support existing businesses?

Finance: What would you like to change, if anything, about the city budget and taxation?

Diversity: What will you do to ensure that diverse populations feel welcome and safe in the city and have a voice in city government?

Services: What changes should be made, if any, to city services? What would it take to make these changes?

Pandemic: How should the City Council balance safety and the economy during the pandemic?

Other issues: What other important issues are facing the City Council, and how would you address them?

Diana M. Abraham
Parker Councilmember-At-Large



Education: Psy.D-Clinical Psychology with specialties in Neuropsychology and Psychopharmacology MA- Psychology BA- Psychology

Experience: Serving as Parker's first Asian-American city councilwoman (May 2019 to present); almost 20 years in federal law enforcement; diplomatic and national security experience; trained in crisis intervention, crisis management, and hostage negotiations.

Website: <http://drabraham4parker.com>

Strategic: Being a part of Parker's city council for the past two years have really taught me the uniqueness, generosity, cohesiveness, and overall sense of community that Parker is known and loved for. Our city council is made up of individuals from varying backgrounds, life experiences, professional careers, and educational pedigrees, all of which contribute to allowing Parker to benefit from unique and often creative solutions to everyday issues affecting our residents and city operations. Parker is and has always been a "thriving community", and I hope it will always remain so, far into the future.

Economy: Parker has prided itself (rightly so) on being one of the few cities in Texas that is almost exclusively residential. This is by design, choice, and desire by the majority of Parker residents (including myself and my family) to preserve and protect Parker's "Uniquely Country" atmosphere and lifestyle. Our surrounding sister cities provide easy and quick access to a variety of businesses, restaurants, and entertainment venues. Parker's city council is not currently looking to attract additional businesses into the city, however we will continue to support existing businesses as needed.

Finance: Parker has maintained being one of the lowest tax rates and highest property value cities in Collin County. This is due to Parker's successful ability to operate all city operations on a limited but fiscally responsible city budget, despite its continuing growth and aging infrastructure. Since the primary source of city revenue is property taxes, we need to ensure that our city budget reflects sound and responsible financial decisions. If re-elected, I would work to ensure that fiscally responsible financial operations and low tax rates continue for the successful operations of Parker.

Diversity: As the first Asian American elected to Parker's City Council, I can attest to the fact that Parker is very welcoming of diversity especially in city government. Parker's previous city council was privileged to have the first African American ever to serve on the city council, and our city's various committees and boards have residents from various ethnic and religious backgrounds serving on them. Parker's growing population also reflects residents from a variety of diverse backgrounds, and Parker's city council will always encourage all residents to play an active role in their city.

Services: Parker has proven itself to be a responsive and effective provider of city services to its residents. During the February 2021 ice storm, in particular, Parker's city services including its facility, emergency, utility, and city personnel ALL worked together to ensure that Parker's residents were safe and minimally impacted by the state's power outages. Going forward, Parker needs to ensure the city is adequately prepared for similar events, and are able to provide needed services for our residents without having to rely on county, state, or federal resources that may not arrive on time.

Pandemic: During the recent pandemic, Parker City Council worked to ensure that city operations and meetings were appropriately conducted in compliance with state and county mandated social distancing, hygiene, and mask requirements. City operations effectively continued, although at limited staffing capacity. Additionally, Parker City Council is aware of how pandemics and the subsequent economic fall out can adversely affect city operations in terms of budget, revenue, and staffing concerns. Balancing future pandemic concerns with the need to maintain essential city operations will be paramount.

Other issues: Currently, Parker City Council is actively working with residents to develop a much needed city hall, as the current city hall and police station are not adequately meeting the

needs of the city. Active community involvement with city council and city management is needed on this and other issues relevant to the city.

Cindy Meyer
Parker Councilmember-At-Large

No response received

Jim Reed
Parker Councilmember-At-Large



Education: B.S. Metallurgy - Penn State - 1985 M.S. Metals Science & Engineering - 1992

Experience: President - Okmetic, Inc. 33 Years in High Tech Business Strategic Planning for positive company growth Financial Operations and Sales Effective Executive Manager Master Negotiator for Customer Solutions Patent Holder

Email: JimReedforParker@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.JimReedforParker.com>

Campaign Phone: (214) 507-7285

Strategic: Continue to maintain the large lot country lifestyle that draws people to live in Parker. With that in mind, we must be sure to have a 5 year plan that includes a Well-orchestrated organic growth model that includes a right sized infrastructure to support this planned growth. We also need to tap into the vast pool of expertise and utilize our community to improve our city. We must Re-energize Parker's Sense of Community Service and Purpose and invite people to be involved.

Economy: Large Scale Businesses are not a part of the Parker's vision. I welcome any Home based business's but the model must not conflict with any of the key criteria that have made Parker attractive for our residents. Parker is not the place for any new commercial businesses !!!

Finance: Be sure to support a balanced budget and ensure that any plans for an expanded municipal complex are approved by the city and are built in proportion to our city's projected population. Make provisions to collect the Parker taxes paid via internet purchases. Many times

our purchases are automatically designated to Allen. This is free money to our city without any increase to our citizens

Diversity: Everyone who is a Parker resident is encouraged to be involved in our city. To maintain an enthusiastic and vibrant community, I will eagerly support diversity and inclusion efforts. This will be implemented by supporting policies, educating others through trustworthy resources, making mindful decisions, and encouraging a diverse culture in our city.

Services: I support a more effective emergency response system within our city. During the recent freeze event, it was a bit difficult to know the status and outlook. This is important to implement since we know we could be isolated in these type of emergency situations. Along with this plan, I would encourage a neighborhood watch organization with champions in each subdivision that would provide a neighborhood check point for our citizens in any emergency situations.

Pandemic: • I feel we need to follow the guidelines of the State of Texas but also take actions to protect our residents. Providing resources for people to engage remotely is a must !! • I will ensure the city of Parker will make sure to have provisions to make sure are residents can participate and also feel safe during the pandemic • Safety is a # 1 priority of our community
Other issues: • Parker absolutely needs better facilities for our police and staff to allow them to do their jobs properly. However, this facility must be right-sized for our community. • Ensure we have a fair and equitable water plan. • Additionally, we must maintain our large lot country setting that attracts people to Parker. • Being open and transparent making sure anyone representing the city must recognize the priorities that are most important. The community is the customer and as a council member, I plan to communicate that voice and represent those needs. I will Serve as a trusted advocate !!

Ed Standridge
Parker Councilmember-At-Large

No photo provided

Education: Some College. Many business courses

Experience: 30 Years with Electronic Data Systems 9 years with CGI (a Canadian IT Company) 4 years CREST Services 8 Years Reliable Estate Services

Email: estandridge@estgllc.com

Website: http://N/A

Facebook: http://N/A

Twitter: twitter.com/None

Instagram: N/A

Campaign Phone: (214) 632-3848

Strategic: The City of Parker is a high quality rural community in Collin County. Important to attract quality citizens is to insure the tax rate continues to be lowest in the area yet providing highest quality to the residents in Fire, Police and City services.

Economy: The City of Parker is not dependent on business for financial strength in our city. We are not interested in have adding manufacturing or retail business Currently the only retail business in Parker is Southfork Ranch.

Finance: The City of Parker conducts a annual budget workshop followed by the establishment of the annual budget for the city. From this a budget is established for each department and presented for vote to the City Council. No change is needed to this process.

Diversity: The City of Parker has many committees and workshops where citizens are invited to participate. In addition to the public comments, at the beginning of each Council meeting citizen are encouraged to voice compliments and concerns. Citizens can also communicate directly with the Mayor, City Administrator and City Council as they choose.

Services: The only change will be in personnel as the city continues to grow. Increases in personnel are in concert with the established for that department.

Pandemic: All city workers including Police, Fire Department and city workers are sensitive to their and citizens safety during the pandemic.

Other issues: The city is in the process of providing accurate information to citizens for approval of a bond for the construction of a new city administration facilities. We are addressing this with public meeting and workshops to gain input and support for the project.

You may bring this *Voters Guide* into the voting booth! In 1995, the Texas law prohibiting use of printed materials, such as this *Voters Guide*, in the polling place was ruled unconstitutional (*Texas Election Code, Section 61.011*)

Your vote is your voice. Be heard.