

VOTE 2016

**CITY OF SANTA FE
MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

Tuesday, March 1, 2016

ABSENTEE VOTING: January 26 – February 26, 2016

EARLY VOTING: February 10 – February 26, 2016



VOTERS' GUIDE

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization that provides information about political issues and candidates for public office in order to promote greater citizen participation in government. Because the League is nonpartisan, it does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. It does provide unbiased, factual information for citizens to use when preparing to vote.

The candidate information in this Voters' Guide was obtained by means of a questionnaire sent to all the candidates. Their unedited responses have been printed exactly as submitted (up to the stated word limit for each response). The candidates for each position are listed in ballot order, along with their contact information and their responses to questions posed by the League. The Voters' Guide also includes detailed information on when and where to vote in this election.

For more information, visit the LWVSFC website: www.lwvsfc.org

VOTER REQUIREMENTS

Any person desiring to vote in the March 1, 2016 regular municipal election must be a qualified elector in the City of Santa Fe (registered to vote in a precinct that is wholly or partly inside the boundaries of the City of Santa Fe, and a City resident). The Santa Fe County Clerk closed the registration books for this election on February 2, 2016.

Visit the NM Secretary of State's "Voter View" at <https://voterview.state.nm.us> to determine your voter registration status, including your registered address and your precinct number.

QUESTIONS? NEED MORE INFO?

Santa Fe County Bureau of Elections: 505-986-6280.
http://www.santafecounty.org/clerk/elections_information.php

Santa Fe City Clerk: 505-955-6519; 505-955-6521; or 505-955-6326.
http://www.santafenm.gov/city_elections

LEAGUE CANDIDATE FORUMS

Municipal Judge Candidates Forum

Thursday, February 11; 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.
Main Library Community Room, 145 Washington Avenue

City Council Candidates Forum

Thursday, February 11; 6:15 to 7:45 p.m.
Main Library Community Room, 145 Washington Avenue

JOIN THE LEAGUE

Democracy is not a spectator sport.

Annual Membership:

\$54 per individual, \$80 per Household, \$30 per student

I/we want to join the League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County

I/We want to contribute to the LWVSFC Education Fund
(No membership necessary.)

The LWVSFC Education Fund is a 501(c)3, tax exempt organization. Donations to this fund are tax-deductible. Make your check payable to LWVSFC Education Fund.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

e-mail _____ Phone _____

Mail completed form with payment to: **League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County**
1472 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505



LEARN MORE 505-982-9766

WWW.LWVSFC.ORG

WHEN AND WHERE TO VOTE

ABSENTEE VOTING: January 26 – February 26, 2016

An application for an absentee ballot may be obtained only from the office of the City Clerk. Applications for absentee ballots must be received and accepted by the City Clerk prior to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 26, 2016. January 26, 2016 was the first day the City Clerk could mail an absentee ballot to a registered voter whose application had been accepted, and the first day to vote absentee-in-person. Ballots must be received in the office of the City Clerk by 7:00 p.m. on March 1, 2016.

Office of the City Clerk

200 Lincoln Avenue, City Hall, Room 215
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 909, Santa Fe, NM 87504-0909

Phone Numbers: 505-955-6519 or 505-955-6521 or 505-955-6326

EARLY VOTING: February 10 – 26, 2016

Early Voting will be conducted in the office of the City Clerk, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (regular business hours). Early voting will begin on Wednesday, February 10, 2016 and close on Friday, February 26, 2016.

Early voting will also be conducted at the Genoveva Chavez Community Center, 3221 Rodeo Road. Early voting at this location will be held Tuesday through Saturday, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., except on Friday, February 26, 2016, when voting will close at 5:00 p.m.

VOTING CONVENIENCE CENTERS TO REPLACE POLLING PLACES ON ELECTION DAY: TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2016

VOTING CONVENIENCE CENTERS will be used for the first time during the 2016 Municipal Election. Qualified voters in the City of Santa Fe may vote at any one of the twelve Voting Convenience Centers listed below. All Voting Convenience Centers will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. Voters are encouraged to choose the Voting Convenience Centers that are the most convenient for them to use, regardless of the precinct in which they are registered.

VOTING CONVENIENCE CENTERS (FOR ALL PRECINCTS)

Montezuma Lodge, 431 Paseo de Peralta
Gonzales Community School, 851 W. Alameda
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 1301 Osage Avenue
Atalaya Elementary School, 721 Camino Cabra
St. John's United Methodist Church, 1200 Old Pecos Trail
Christian Life Church, 121 Siringo Road
El Camino Real Academy, 2500 South Meadows Road
Sweeney Elementary School, 4100 S. Meadows Road
Southside Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive
Nava Elementary School, 2655 Siringo Road
Kearny Elementary School, 901 Avenida de las Campanas
Genoveva Chavez Community Center, 3221 Rodeo Road

WITH THANKS

The 2016 Municipal Election Voters' Guide was produced and distributed by the Santa Fe New Mexican, in partnership with the League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County. The League appreciates the New Mexican's generous support of this project and commitment to educating the public.

Tax-deductible donations to the League's Education Fund are gratefully accepted to support voter services projects such as Voters' Guides, candidate forums, and voter registration efforts. If you would like to contribute to the LWVSFC to support voter services, please make your check payable to the LWV Education Fund.

Marcy Litzenberg, Voter Services Chair
Ann Coulston and Suzanne Ronneau, Vice-Chairs

League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County

1472 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505
505-982-9766
www.lwvsfc.org

CITY OF SANTA FE MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Tuesday, March 1, 2016

CITY COUNCILOR

4-year term. Annual Salary: \$29,500

The League asked:

1. What in your background uniquely qualifies you to be on the City Council? (50 word limit)

2. What are the most important steps the city should take to balance its budget? (75 word limit)

3. Choose one of the biggest problems facing Santa Fe today (other than the budget) and explain how you would deal with it. (75 word limit)

4. What would you do as a City Councilor to increase openness and transparency in city government? (75 word limit)

District 1



Marie Campos

Q1: Santa Fe is deeply rooted in Native and Spanish culture; a village lifestyle in a modernized society. My credentials: ARTIST; St. John's master degree; 17 years' community development/cultural preservation experience; a proficient knowledge of framing law; and the backbone needed to sustain Santa Fe's quality of life for future generations.

<http://www.mariecampos.com>
505-660-0002

Q2: Steps to balancing the budget are: determine revenue from taxes and other sources, categorize them into restricted and unrestricted revenues; determine personnel and non-personnel needs; prepare a preliminary budget; do a "Financial Analysis"; negotiate detailed departmental budgets within restrictions; solicit input from the public; develop one final budget for the entire City; after complete, compile and balance the proposed budget; introduce it to City Council; hold committee and public hearings; make amendments; then passes it!

Q3: Unless we prevent inappropriate development, we will lose everything we love about Santa Fe. Let's: repair our streets, sidewalks, parks/trails; incentivize building low/moderate income housing that keeps Santa Fe's village lifestyle green, with open spaces, mountain views, clear skies and local aesthetics; create a safe, secure and affordable city where young families can raise their children; historically preserve the West River Corridor; and uplift our veterans, seniors, at-risk-youth, those struggling with poverty, addiction and homelessness.

Q4: City employees have always treated me well. When I've needed information it may have taken a long time, however they respectfully provided it, eventually! Transparency can be expedited with easy access to all our city public records online; so employees don't have to dig through paper files. Difficulties with long response and process times can be a thing of the past by digitizing records and streamlining application processes. A citizen service policy will also help.



Frank Montano

Q1: My experience of three terms as a city councilor and two terms as a school board member uniquely qualifies me to be a city councilor. Over the course of twenty years as a public official I have many accomplishments that have benefitted the community including the Living Wage Ordinance.

frankmontano2@netzero.com
505-204-9704

Q2: All expenditures must be analyzed. Each department must look at what it is doing and consider areas where their budgets can be cut. The public must be informed of potential cuts and involved in the process from analysis to the final decisions. Difficult decisions must be made; in my experience, it is possible to make budget cuts without cutting programs. The council, city staff, business community and the public must explore opportunities to increase revenues.

Q3: The city needs a Strategic Plan. At every council meeting the governing body is introducing too many proposals, resolutions and ordinances. Nine different people are going in nine different directions. City problems should be identified and prioritized. A process to analyze these problems by the governing body, staff and public should be initiated and a strategic plan developed which would include steps to accomplish the goals. A General Plan update should be a priority.

Q4: Openness and transparency is needed on how the city spends bond money and on various projects. Laws should be passed that would outline how the use of bond and other taxpayer monies are used to accomplish various projects. I would propose regular progress reports to the public through council or committee meeting and on the web page. The city's budget needs to be made available on the web in a form that the public understands.



Kathryn P. Kennedy

Q1: I'm a born and raised Santa Fean and a proud small business owner of Skylight. I'm engaged in daily management and business development. I sit on the boards of SF Prep Alumni and SF Prom Closet. I'm the co-chair of the Nighttime Economy Taskforce and a Leadership SF graduate.

kateforcouncilsantafe@gmail.com
505-670-0135

Q2: We need to work with the experts on this issue and coordinate a comprehensive strategy. I am a positive voice for progress and environmental sustainability and support the path to a balanced budget by expanding, stabilizing and diversifying our economy by not laying off city employees. I support smart growth that would allow for more residents to live within city limits and spend their incomes locally, which would increase our gross receipts tax.

Q3: We need to create an environment for people to have the opportunity to pursue their dreams right here in Santa Fe by ensuring that the business climate is welcoming and that there is ample entry-level housing in interesting, multi-use neighborhoods. Supporting new residents will bring increased revenues, increased customers for small businesses, and support the attraction and retention of a new generation that will carry Santa Fe through the next 20 years.

Q4: We need to restore the public's trust in city government and provide better access to the city government. I would support a system of simple, digital solutions that track allocated funds from approval through the process through which expenditures are made so that any citizen can see where the city's money is spent. I want to ensure that our local government is fair, honest and responsive to everyone through transparent systems such as these.



Renee Villarreal

Q1: My background is in community planning and non-profit advocacy. My strength is bringing people together to solve problems. I worked as a Santa Fe County community planner for seven years, and was appointed by Mayor Coss to the City's Planning Commission. Today, I work for a foundation helping non-profits succeed.

reneeforsantafe@gmail.com
505-699-9734

Q2: To meet our budget shortfall we must first restore trust with the public and end "bridging strategies" that take from dedicated funds like the water fund or parks bond to cover general fund expenses. Regular, frequent internal audits should be required. Second, we must plan for the future and conduct a workforce assessment to include multi-year planning. It's also time to question whether Santa Fe's regressive GRT is the best way to fund city operations.

Q3: The biggest problem facing Santa Fe is separation between our different communities, neighborhoods, groups and people resulting in a lack of cooperation and collaboration. Take housing - we need affordable housing so people from all walks of life can afford to live, work, and send their kids to public schools here. Together, we can strengthen policies and programs to encourage the construction of affordable, energy-efficient homes, the rehabilitation of older homes, mixed-use, and other housing options.

Q4: Openness and transparency create trust and the belief that our government is working for us. To get things done, we want an engaged and supportive public. One program I support is "participatory budgeting" which has community members decide together how a portion of the city's budget is spent. It allows people to play an active role in balancing and prioritizing services - and it has worked in small and large U.S. communities and across the world.

District 2



Peter Ives

Q1: Raised a family in Santa Fe for 32+ years. Served on boards of homeowners associations, art organizations, educational institutions. I do my homework on the issues, acting in an informed manner. Willingness to discuss and to explain my thinking on issues, while keeping an open mind. I love Santa Fe.

peternelsonives@gmail.com
505-690-8451

Q2: A plan is needed (I propose two years), combining right sizing government, primarily through attrition and internal transfers, examining both expense cuts and revenue enhancements. Cuts reviewed should include cutting interest paid by using fund balances to pay off debt, reduce/limit overtime, restructure leave policies and health care to reduce impacts on the city budget. Revenue enhancements should include building the economy, collecting city bills, enhancing fees to cover services, reviewing tax levels, finding efficiencies.

Q3: How to unite Santa Feans to preserve our heritage while becoming a city that is livable for all its citizens, promotes health and resiliency through planning, and always builds community across all of Santa Fe. We must foster the participation of all Santa Feans in the city's planning efforts. First steps should include a commitment to ensuring that policy decisions promote wellbeing and health and build community. Increase public participation opportunities.

Q4: Increasing transparency and accountability requires updating the City's IT infrastructure to ensure both timely capture and posting of information, budgets, finances, and permits, facilitating citizen feedback, participation and criticism. Once the new system (which is in planning currently) is in place, ensure timely posting of financial, budget, audit, meeting (including packet) and other information, so it is readily available to everyone. Then we must ensure information is readily accessible and understandable. We increase listserve use.

District 3



Chris Rivera

Q1: I have been a public servant since 1987 when I started with the Fire Department. After retiring in 2010, I decided I should run for City Council representing District #3. I have been serving as a City Councilor since 2012 and in that time have served on various city committees.

cmrivera100@gmail.com
505-424-0407

Q2: The city should first take steps to make sure we are using acceptable and transparent accounting principles. We should then make sure we are operating as efficiently as possible taking steps to assure the public that we are not operating with more personnel than other cities of similar size and with similar services. Lastly, we need to look at various ways of generating revenue; preferably through economic development or stronger collection of delinquent accounts.

Q3: Currently, the city relies heavily on Gross Receipts Taxes to provide funding for General Fund Departments. Because of this, we primarily rely on tourism spending to help us fund the daytoday operations of the city. If tourism or travel is negatively affected in any way, the General Fund suffers and ultimately the city realizes financial troubles. We need to diversify our funding sources and find more reliable sources of funding daytoday functions.

Q4: I have been a proponent for transparency and I look forward to increasing any and all methods for further improvement. I feel all of our minutes, agendas and communication should be available on the Internet for the public to see. Each department's budget and expenditures should be visible by all on the city's web page and there should be a way for the public to comment on those specific budgets and expenditures.

District 4



Mike Harris

Q1: As a district resident for twenty-eight years, I have a good understanding and great appreciation for the people of District 4. My record as a successful local businessman over the past forty years as well as my recent experience as a Planning Commissioner has prepared me to serve.

mike@harrisnm.com
505-470-9213

Q2: • Develop a multi-year plan; no more than three years • Monitor the newly instituted budget control system for compliance • Recover full cost of services through user fees • Continue restrained spending by departments, including personnel requirements • Restructure capital outlay and GRT-supported debt service, including early repayment of NMFA Drinking Water Loans • Update the recording of accounts receivable and collect the money • Increase rates assessed by the Parking Division • Finalize modifications to the employee health insurance plan

Q3: In order to build upon prior Governing Body resolutions regarding economic vitality and sustainability, I advocate that priority should be given to the redevelopment of the Siler/Rufina as an Innovation District. Appropriate steps may include policy mechanisms and incentives; zoning code amendments to support entrepreneurship in a mixed/use environment; expedited permitting; enhanced broadband access; and a public/private partnership to develop onsite renewable energy resources consistent with the goals of the Sustainable Santa Fe initiative.

Q4: The Enterprise Resource Planning initiative underway should receive the necessary staff and financial support in order to ensure a successful outcome. Targeted benefits should include: • 24/7 availability of government services to citizens • Support for Santa Fe businesses through e-Government capabilities (eg. online permits, licenses, and inspections) • Increased transparency to land use issues • Improvement to the annual budget development and review process The Governing Body should anticipate lengthy meetings and take steps to avoid midnight sessions.

MUNICIPAL JUDGE

4-year term. Annual Salary: \$118,385

The League asked:

1. How have your training, professional experience and interests prepared you to serve as Municipal Court Judge? (50 words)

2. What improvements are needed in the Municipal Court and how could those improvements be implemented? (75 words)

3. What ethical practices would you adopt to ensure your independence as Municipal Court Judge? (75 words)



Ignacio Gallegos

Q1: As a trial attorney for eight years, I know the court process. As an administrative hearing officer for two years, I have the temperament, stamina and listening skills needed to afford everyone due process. As a business-owner I have managerial and budgeting experience. And as a human, I care deeply.

electnaciogallegos@gmail.com
505-459-4470

Q2: First, Santa Fe Police may file their cases in either Magistrate or Municipal Court. I would work toward mending fences to bring more SFPD cases to Municipal Court. Second, I believe that a zero-cost, voluntary Courts-to-Schools program is necessary to curb the number of future DWIs. Finally, Municipal Court has an electronic records-keeping system that needs to be utilized to be effective, and to go (mostly) paperless would be a step in the right direction.

Q3: The Code of Judicial Conduct applies to the Municipal Judge. I will adhere to it. It is common practice to do a conflict-check in each case. As judge, I would keep a list of the known individuals to whom a conflict would apply, so that if ever a conflict arose, which it is bound to do, I could recuse myself and assign one of the pro-tem judges to adjudicate the case.



Virginia Vigil

Q1: I'm currently **pro-tem Municipal and Teen Court Judge**. I've been a prosecutor and defense attorney. I've worked at the NM Legislature, been a County Commissioner and a community volunteer. As a practicing attorney for 24 yrs, I'm interested in Alternative Sentencing, Restorative Justice and Veteran's Court.

VoteVirginiaVigil@gmail.com
505-474-9399

Q2: The major complaint I hear from citizens is the time they take off from work to appear in court. **I will work towards flexible court hours by providing night or Saturday morning hours.**
• Enhancing services for DUI, Drug and Homeless Court.
• Support drug and substance abuse services.
• Video that promotes transparency and consistently and fairly reads defendants their rights at arraignments • BEST Practices administrative model • Implement bail bonds improvement recommendations from task force and providers.

Q3: No ethical practices can be adopted without ensuring them by personal role modeling. The legal system can succeed by consistently following rules and regulations. However, the human system flourishes when guided by one's independent moral compasses which guides our ethical choices. A moral compass that has a strong value system of fairness, equity and impartiality. This is a position that commands respect. I believe respect is earned every minute of everyday in everything I do.