

# VOTE 2018

## MUNICIPAL ELECTION VOTER GUIDE

**ABSENTEE VOTING BEGAN: January 30**

**EARLY VOTING: February 14 – March 2, 2018 ELECTION DAY March 6**



### LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization that does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. The League provides unbiased, factual information so that voters may be well informed.

The candidate information in this Voter 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 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.

For more information, visit the LWVSFC website: [www.lwvsfc.org](http://www.lwvsfc.org)

### WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?

**MAYOR** Five candidates will be listed on your ballot. One of them will be elected to serve as Santa Fe's first full-time Mayor.

**CITY COUNCILOR** Only the candidate(s) in your City Council District will be listed on your ballot. One of them will be elected to represent you on the City Council.

To see your sample ballot, go to: [lwvsfc.org](http://lwvsfc.org)

### LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CANDIDATE FORUMS

**MAYORAL CANDIDATES: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 5:30 - 7:30 P.M.**  
HEC (Higher Education Center) - 1950 Siringo Road (near Yucca)

**CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 5:30 - 7:30 P.M.**  
HEC (Higher Education Center) - 1950 Siringo Road (near Yucca)

Open to the public (no charge, no registration). The candidates will appear in person, make opening statements, and answer questions from the audience. The questions will be submitted in writing and will be screened by a panel to eliminate duplicate or inappropriate questions.

Questions regarding the forums may be directed to: [votersguidelwv@gmail.com](mailto:votersguidelwv@gmail.com) or (505) 699-7781.

### ELIGIBLE VOTERS

You 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 6, 2018.

See the NM Secretary of State's "Voter View" at <https://voterportal.servis.sos.state.nm.us/WhereToVote.aspx> to determine your voter registration status if you aren't sure if you are eligible to vote in this election.

For more info, also see: [https://www.santafenm.gov/city\\_elections](https://www.santafenm.gov/city_elections)  
Or call the City Clerk's office: (505) 955-6521

### WHEN AND WHERE TO VOTE

**Absentee Voting begins January 30.** Applications for absentee ballots may be obtained only from the office of the City Clerk. Absentee ballots can be returned in person to the Clerk's office or mailed.

**Early Voting begins February 14 and continues to March 2.** Early voting can be at the Office of the City Clerk, 200 Lincoln Avenue, during their regular hours and days of business, Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. In addition, early voting can be at the Geneveva Chavez Community Center, 3221 Rodeo Road, February 14 thru March 2, Tuesday thru Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (except Friday, March 2, voting will close at 5 p.m.)

**ELECTION DAY, MARCH 6 - 7 A.M. TO 7 P.M.**

**You can vote at any of these Convenience Centers:**

- Montezuma Lodge, 431 Paseo de Peralta
- Gonzales Community School, 851 W. Alameda
- Salazar Elementary School, 1231 Apache Avenue
- Atalaya Elementary School, 721 Camino Cabra
- St. John's United Methodist Church, 1200 Old Pecos Trail
- Christian Life Church, 121 Siringo Road
- Nina Otero Community School, 5901 Herrera Drive
- 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
- Geneveva Chavez Community Center, 3221 Rodeo Road

## New This Year Ranked Choice Voting

Santa Fe will be using a new type of ballot for our election this year. The ballot will allow voters to rank all the candidates in order of preference. This is called Ranked Choice Voting (RCV). RCV is a type of runoff election and it ensures that we elect our leaders with a majority of the vote. Simply find the name of your favorite candidate and fill in the bubble next to your favorite candidate's name in the 1st choice column. Then find the name of your next favorite candidate and fill the bubble next to their name in the 2nd choice column. Do the same for as many candidates as you feel you can support.

FOR MAYOR PARA ALCALDE Four (4) Year Term Plazo de Cuatro (4) Años	1st Choice 1ª Opción	2nd Choice 2ª Opción	3rd Choice 3ª Opción	4th Choice 4ª Opción	5th Choice 5ª Opción
Peter N. Ives	<input type="radio"/>				
Alan Webber	<input type="radio"/>				
Kate I. Noble	<input type="radio"/>				
Joseph M. Maestas	<input type="radio"/>				
Ronald S. Trujillo	<input type="radio"/>				

While different from the ballot we are used to, it allows the voters to have a back up plan if their favorite candidate can't win. We make choices like this everyday — if I can't have chocolate cake, I'll take cherry pie, and if they're out of cherry I'll have apple.

The voting machines will alert you if you've failed to fill out your ballot completely and give you a chance to correct it. You can try as many times as needed to fill out your ballot exactly the way you want it. Your 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th choices will NEVER hurt your favorite candidate, and they will ONLY count if your favorite candidate is eliminated. You don't have to rank every candidate, but RCV gives your ballot more power the more candidates you choose to rank.



The voting centers will have extra poll workers this year, so if you have any questions or problems in voting, help will be there.

Additional information about RCV and what to expect can be found at: <http://votedifferentsantafe.com/>

Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) is sometimes called "Instant Run-Off" because it is designed to avoid the cost, inconvenience and delay of holding a run-off election if one candidate does not receive a majority of the votes in the election.

### WITH THANKS

The 2018 Municipal Election Voter 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.

The League gratefully accepts tax-deductible donations to support voter services projects such as Voter Guides, candidate forums, and voter registration efforts. If you would like to contribute, please make your check payable to:

**League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County**  
1472 St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
505-982-9766, [www.lwvsfc.org](http://www.lwvsfc.org)

# 2018 MUNICIPAL ELECTION VOTER GUIDE

## MAYOR CANDIDATES

### The League asked:

1. Have you held an elected or appointed governmental position, and what are your strongest qualifications for the position of Mayor?

2. What policies and programs would you prioritize, and how would you propose funding these?

3. Under the new Charter provisions, the Mayor will be able to restructure the City's government, including firing the City Manager, City Attorney, or City Clerk without Council approval; in what ways would you propose restructuring?

4. Do you think the City revenues are appropriate, and if not, what changes would you propose?



Peter N. Ives

I have the knowledge, experience and temperament to lead our City as Mayor. I moved here for 34 years ago having received my undergraduate Degree from Harvard College and my law degree from Georgetown University. I married a local woman, Patricia Salazar Ives, with deep roots in the Northern NM Hispanic community. We raised our three children here in Santa Fe, in our schools and participating in the daily life of Santa Fe.

I would prioritize housing in order that our workers could return to Santa Fe and our seniors, young people and new business could find homes in Santa Fe. The impact on our economy would be tremendous. I would also work to bring all of Santa Fe together in a vision for a sustainable future.

With the implementation of the new enterprise wide computing system, I would evaluate the needs of the various departments, combining where appropriate and necessary. The greater goal is to ensure that all the departments are working together and serving the people of Santa Fe. The three key positions must be filed with people who share these goals and will work toward them.

Yes, but we must always be pushing for greater efficiency in accomplishing the work of the City. Results based accountability, now used for budgeting, will allow us to weed out unproductive programs and elevate those that in fact have real positive impact on the people of Santa Fe.



Alan Webber

I've worked as policy advisor to the Mayor of Portland, Oregon; special assistant to the US Secretary of Transportation; advisor to the Governors of Massachusetts and Michigan and consultant to the City Manager of Gainesville, Florida. My strongest qualifications come from my experience as an entrepreneur and businessman, learning how to manage and lead an organization, create and meet a budget, create a positive workplace environment, and make and keep satisfied customers.

Implementing the McHard Report so the City works for people; creating new jobs and affordable housing to keep and attract young people; working with neighborhood associations to produce stable and attractive neighborhoods; emphasizing sustainability programs in energy, water, and food; fighting drugs and crime for community safety; collaborating with Santa Fe's public schools and the legislature to make pre-K available to every child. These are basic City services, funded through the general fund.

The organization chart makes no sense. "The People of Santa Fe" belong at the top. The City Manager has 14 direct reports; fleet management is part of Finance; aviation, transit, and parking are under Public Works. It needs a thorough restructuring to support our employees' work and meet our residents' needs. I'll talk with current managers and outside experts, then move quickly to propose a restructuring to make City government work for our people.

The City needs to collect all the revenue it is owed, account for it carefully, and manage it effectively. 80% of the City's revenues are from the GRT; the City needs to work with the Legislature to diversify our tax base in ways that are fair and progressive. We need a financial contingency plan so we're not caught unprepared the next time there is a recession — which is what happened in 2007-2008.



Kate Noble

My strongest qualifications are my passion for my hometown and the experience and insight earned during nine years of economic and community development work inside the City of Santa Fe. My knowledge of our city and how to get things done is unmatched. Also, I currently serve on the Santa Fe School Board and have learned how much more a mayor could do to support education in this community. I will be that mayor.

We need to evolve our government to be excellent for our community. My first priority is to boost morale and find efficiencies through a worker wisdom project. This will seek ideas for improvements from the people who work on the front lines of the City. We must also prioritize updated affordable and workforce housing policies and funding (through current bond revenues) and effective partnerships with schools to strengthen our economy for the 21st century.

We need to streamline senior leadership at the City and activate a team of skilled managers who will support each other and empower workers. We can find efficiencies in department functions, and identify areas which overlap and complement. Management must be accountable to workers and for making front line job functions easier and smoother. Critically, we need to update human resources to serve a modern workforce and create flexibility and flex time for working families.

Current revenues are essentially appropriate and much can be done to identify efficiencies, to improve financial management practices, and to innovate delivery of improved services. We need to understand all current and projected revenues in each service area of the city. This includes revenue from taxes, services, utilities, land sales, federal and state governments, partnerships, and more. We need to align recurring revenues to recurring costs and create responsible plans for updating and maintaining infrastructure.



Joseph M. Maestas

I serve as District #2 Santa Fe City Councilor. I have held elected positions in Espanola as Mayor (2006-2010) and Councilman (2000-2006). Past appointed positions: Member, NM Economic Development Partnership Board (2007-2010); and Governor Richardson's Blue Ribbon Water Task Force (2001-2004). My strongest qualifications are my experience in public service — 33 years in Federal civil service and 14 years as an elected official; my executive experience, my engineering problem-solving skills; and my proven leadership.

a. Reorganize city hall. b. Develop a balanced 2019 budget. c. Create an action plan to revitalize the Santa Fe University of Art & Design. d. Increase affordable housing by: developing a city support (land donations, infrastructure, etc.) plan for tax credits; annually fund programs in the capital improvement plan, and issue bonds as a permanent funding source. e. Provide free public transit service. f. Expand broadband in the downtown area. (All revenue neutral.)

The new Mayor must still obtain the consent of the City Council for appointments. I propose restructuring by: freezing all personnel actions; making interim appointments, if needed, pending final ones; initiating national search for city managers; convening citizen advisory committees to screen applicants; interviewing City Clerk for possible retention and contract negotiations; reducing management positions through organizational consolidation; eliminating the deputy city manager position; and initiating forensic audit and implementing organizational changes per findings.

Santa Fe's gross receipts tax (GRT) rate (8.435%) is one of the highest in NM. The city is 75% dependent on GRT revenue. I do not support raising GRTs. I will review all existing revenue uses and determine if they should be re-dedicated for other priorities. I will identify wasteful programs, projects, and practices and either eliminate, reduce, or streamline them to save money. I will lobby the State Legislature to reform municipal tax law.



Ronald Trujillo

I have had the honor to have served as a leader in municipal government for the past 12 years, sitting and chairing committees. I passionately believe in this City and have fought for its future. Instead of running for other offices I have remained a Councilor, and intimately know the issues we face. I bring demonstrated leadership and experience to the office. I possess many years of managerial experience from my career in state government.

I would prioritize: Restructuring of city government in the areas of communication (international/external). Accountability (financial, delivery of vital services). Transparency (access to process). Intergovernmental collaboration (city, county, state, tribal). Broadband expansion and digital economy. Job creation. Entrepreneurial partnerships. Public-Private collaborations. Education/training. Improved fiscal responsibility in the City is the first step in funding, followed by partnerships and collaborations with businesses, both long standing and emergent.

I will be appointing a transition team, utilizing best practices from other successful municipalities. The City needs a phased approach. We must allow for transition between new staff and existing staff. I will focus on experience and conduct a thorough job search for the best candidates. We must ensure that transition keeps effective continuance in mind. New councilors and staff can potentially stall critical business in the City, which this plan will help mitigate.

City revenues are not optimal. As Mayor I would work with the business sector to engage in entrepreneurial partnerships where we leverage the natural resources of the City and match them with the needs of various businesses. We must diversify our revenue streams, keeping in mind protecting our natural resources and assets. The City cannot continue to rely on taxing its citizens as a primary revenue base. We must balance the government, fiscally and operationally.

# 2018 MUNICIPAL ELECTION VOTER GUIDE

## CITY COUNCILOR CANDIDATES

### The League asked:

1. What are your strongest qualifications for the position of City Councilor?

2. What, if anything, should the City Council do to increase the availability of affordable housing in Santa Fe?

3. What do you think is the most important issue for the City, and how would you propose to resolve it?

4. How do you think the new full-time Mayor position will affect the workings of the City Council?

5. What should the City Council do to ensure that City funds are appropriately managed and spent as intended?

## DISTRICT 1 CANDIDATES



Signe I. Lindell

Experience, solid community involvement, and collaborative, productive relationships with government officials and city employees mark my tenure on the Council, and all known 2018 Councilors have endorsed me. I've been a university professor, worked for an affordable housing nonprofit, and owned a successful business, and as a retiree, I work fulltime for Santa Fe, attending hundreds of meetings and community events. I am known for navigating difficult situations with grace and good will.

Available housing is imperative for Santa Fe's economic future. As a former Planning Commissioner, my thorough understanding of the land use code allows me to work collaboratively with both neighborhoods and developers to ensure that proposed developments meet code and suit proposed locations. While lowering of development fees encourages affordable housing, Council must work diligently at facilitating dialogue with all stakeholders to reach consensus on housing for humanitarian reasons and for our economic success.

The big picture is workforce housing, which is indispensable for creating good paying jobs and sustainable economic development. Near term, it's the urgency of the \$2.3M mortgage payment on the SFUAD campus. We have a tremendous opportunity to work together to foster forward-thinking public/private educational partnerships and expand support for our thriving film industry. The Resolution I co-sponsored states our vision of maximizing opportunities to cultivate development focused on education, innovation and entrepreneurship.

I have good relationships with every Mayoral candidate, and I know I can work for the betterment of our City regardless of who is elected. I believe the workings of the Council will remain much the same with a fulltime Mayor. I will always strive to set an example of listening and accepting or disagreeing with civility with others' opinions, views and perspectives. This, I believe, is the mark of a true public servant.

With an over \$300M budget, proper budgeting is the starting point. It's a complicated process, and I have worked to make it more understandable and transparent. I proposed a unanimously passed Resolution resulting in increased accountability, and we actively review policies and procedures to ensure best financial practices. As a Council, we created a vastly improved multi-year Capital Improvement Plan and prioritized repair and maintenance of all City facilities, helping to depoliticize resource allocation.



Marie Campos

My strongest qualifications begin with core values — Love, Respect, Compassion, Faith, Understanding, Honesty, Spirituality, Balance, Peace, and Empathy. Having values, combined with a Master degree, cultural preservation, community development, and Chief Financial Officer experience, uniquely positions me to add an educated and indigenous perspective towards helping the new Mayor and council serve well. Locals repeat to me an old saying, "Ocupa de la gente" meaning — take care of the people. This I promise to do.

Earmark El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro/Agua Fria, Old Pecos Trail and the like historic, environmental, cultural and tourism assets as Commons Zones. Identify available properties suitable for development. Support fringe development by improving public transportation, mandate inclusionary zoning which require developers to sell or rent 10-20 percent of the units they build at below-market prices, create developer incentives, and remove unjustified restrictions and costs of infill development in non-Common Zones like St. Michael's Drive.

Cost of living is too high. SF imposes inflated water rates. Public Utilities Expenses includes Water, Waste Water and Environmental Services (Trash Collection). SF spent \$103M and took in \$267M in FY 2015-2016. Revenues exceeded Expenses by \$164M dollars of overcharges to working family ratepayers. I call for lowering of fixed cost water rates for ratepayers by \$10 per month from \$18.52 to \$8.52 and usage rate adjustments to start lowering the cost of living.

Effects of having a full-time Mayor on council will depend on who is elected. The new Mayor is charged with legislative and administrative duties. With the shifted balance of power, council has limits on how it can intervene in management and HR practices. If the Mayor is an honest and smart public servant, he will work with the council and the council with him to forward the will of the people, and all will benefit.

The Council should vote to fully adopt the recommendations of the McHard Report, which clearly outlines the fiscal management challenges deeply embedded in the City's operational culture. A forensic audit is a must. The Council should also vote to implement appropriate safeguards and oversight to prevent future fiscal derailing of taxpayer funds in a way that would further erode public confidence and trust. We must get our fiscal house in order as a highest priority.

## DISTRICT 2 CANDIDATES



Nate Downey

During this time of drought and housing shortage, I stand out as the water expert. During this time of financial confusion at City Hall, I'm the experienced employer and former credit union board-chair. As a devoted husband, father, coach, and St. John's College graduate who's also a landscape contractor with an understanding of climate change, housing, and potholes, I've pushed for bike lanes, ridgetop protection, the living wage, ranked-choice voting, industrial hemp, alternative energy, etc.

My experience as a permaculture designer/contractor will be essential when it comes to finding common ground on development issues. I will lead a city effort to identify sites where livable, walkable neighborhoods can be built with a mix of housing types, including apartments and multifamily dwellings with opportunities to work nearby. The Santa Fe University of Art and Design campus and the Midtown Link Overlay District represent excellent locations for such improvements.

Water is life, and we can tap a variety of untapped sources. The city must move towards water harvesting, water recycling, and waterless technologies that encourage roof-reliant developments that use only water that falls on a property. The long-term goal would be to make this technology commonplace within 10 to 20 years for new development. Our city has been at the forefront of water conservation, river restoration, and stormwater infiltration, but we can do better.

I hope the stronger mayor will lead to accountability and fiscal responsibility, but a strong mayor does not mean a weak council! I will apply my experience running a business with 20 employees and my credit union board-chair experience to improve economic development and job growth from film to food, from tourism to technology, and from healthcare to construction. Given my involvement with afterschool programs, I'll also develop ways to expand these necessary functions.

Without trust from its citizens, a city cannot function. The McHard Report identifies 80 recommendations, and I agree with many of them. Specific measures I'd push for include better publicity for the city's waste, fraud and abuse hotline; improved employee training and support; updated computer systems; much improved access to information on the city's website; and continued simplification and rationalization of the city's business units and enterprise funds.



Carol Romero-Wirth

My education, work experience and community knowledge. I am a lawyer with a master's degree in public policy. I have developed significant policy experience and leadership skills through my work in the non-profit sector, state and local government, political campaigns and in education and environment issues. These experiences will ground me as a City Councilor in addressing the wide range of issues facing our community.

We should start with multi family, workforce rental housing at the Santa Fe University of Art & Design, and on suitable City owned properties recommended by the Community Development Commission. Finding a consistent, stable revenue source without raising taxes for the affordable housing trust fund will be important in leveraging other funding. A workforce housing summit to develop comprehensive solutions with all stakeholders should be commenced.

Externally, workforce housing. Internally, restoring trust in City government's ability to handle its responsibilities. Implementation of the McHard Risk Assessment recommendations is required. Employees will need job training and input in developing the new systems and policies to do their jobs well.

As a member of the City Charter Review Commission, we found power was diffused with little accountability in an era where problems and policy are more complex. The new Mayor will propose a budget, a legislative agenda and have appropriate staff to advance their vision. City Councilors can also make policy proposals. The Mayor's new power is not absolute. Policy will require five votes to advance, so we will need to work collaboratively.

Establish internal controls and continue implementing software systems upgrades. The new governance structure with leadership and accountability in the Mayor will be paramount to putting our financial house in order.



Joe H. Arellano

I have 30 years of successfully owning and operating businesses in Santa Fe, including substantial involvement with federal, state, and city government rules and regulations. I have over three years of service as a member of the City's Public Safety Committee, dealing with crucial issues for our community. I manage, oversee, and am accountable — critical skills that a city councilor needs where thoughtful planning and open, responsible, practical, and effective local government is expected.

We want our teachers, healthcare workers, artists, and public safety employees to live in Santa Fe, closer to their work and benefitting our local community. But we need to fully understand why some choose to live elsewhere: is it only the cost of housing, or are there other issues? The private sector is building more lower-cost housing and adding rentals. The City should continue fostering affordable housing availabilities directly and indirectly, and with community involvement.

The City's financial house is in disorder, wasting resources and dollars and threatening economic development. A performance review of City functions and staffing will help bring us to more efficient and effective government. We must zealously protect business we have, and welcome new business and enhance tourism, critical drivers of jobs. Santa Fe will become a more desirable business destination when we improve City business services, a task I would undertake as Councilor.

A full-time mayor gives Councilors a partner in long-term strategic planning. We need thoughtful and targeted development to improve our economy and become a world-class city, but it must include community input and careful and transparent planning. With citizens' views, we will have the information to make smart decisions about how to ensure, for example, that the soon-to-be-vacated city-owned 60-acre campus on St. Michaels Drive becomes a vibrant and profitable hub for the city.

The recent McHard report addressing fraud prevention in City operations and management pinpoints 66 issues, with recommendations on each, many of which have been hidden for too long. Immediate work to review that study and implement needed fixes is a first step. I propose a 3-year pilot program at \$150,000 per year, creating a strong auditor's office with appropriate support, making quarterly progress reports, to shed light on financial management and help regain public trust.

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## DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATE



Roman "Tiger" Abeyta

I am a former member of the City of Santa Fe Planning Commission. I served over 20 years in local government primarily in Planning and Land Use. I was also the Deputy City Manager, Deputy County Manager and Santa Fe County Manager. Today I serve as the Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Santa Fe/ Del Norte and have been in that role for 7 years.

The City Council needs to stop allowing payment in lieu of housing in new developments so that affordable housing is evenly distributed in all areas of the City and not just on the southside. The City Council also has to identify property outside of District 3 that has potential as future affordable housing sites.

While there are several pressing issues that the City needs to tackle, the most important issue for the City to address at this time is the findings in the Fraud Prevention Audit Report. A work plan needs to be adopted by the City Council that prioritizes the recommendations in the report and progress must be reported to the Council on a monthly basis.

A Mayor with management experience may be more hands on in the daily operations of the City and therefore would be the primary contact for the Council when it comes to operational issues. Whereas a Mayor who doesn't have these qualifications may still be very dependent on a City Manager in which case the Council will have to rely on the City Manager for operational issues to get addressed.

All of the recommendations in the Fraud Prevention Audit Report need to be implemented. Moving forward the City Council needs to hold the City Administration accountable when approving the annual operating budget. A system needs to be put in place where the City Manager and Mayor report to the Council on a monthly or quarterly basis on the progress on the funded goals, initiatives, and fund balances.

## DISTRICT 4 CANDIDATES



Eric John Holmes

I am a proven business leader in the Santa Fe with over 25 years of experience. I support the youth in the community and have coached for over 15 years to include: youth leagues, elementary school, middle school and high school. I am a native who know the issues the city faces day to day and will strive to find solutions with ideas not only from myself but offered from my district constituents.

I will work with the Council and Mayor to look at available land and work closely with the Neighborhood Associations, surrounding neighborhoods and developers on possible locations for new affordable housing projects. I want to have a conversation with the Santa Fe Public Schools on workforce housing ideas. I also want to ensure housing for teachers, emergency responders and others have the opportunity in owning a home in Santa Fe.

Transparency and trust are the most important issues facing the City. Currently the public feels that city employees are not honest which is untrue. The City Council and Mayor need to work together to gain the trust back and show that the employees are hardworking and there to serve their community.

We will need a close working City Council that can collaborate on the issues needed for Santa Fe to ensure that the actions will be the work of the people and not just the voice of the Mayor.

Most constituents don't know we have a Treasurer at the City of Santa Fe. With this position, new policies are being created. I would like monthly expenditure reports for not only the City Councilors and Mayor to review but also input and review from the public to ensure that the public funds are expended correctly. Transparency is needed in the Finance Department with an Audit done from an outside agency from the top position down.



Greg Scargall

I'm a decisive leader who will challenge the status-quo. My professional leadership experience consists of four areas with award winning success during the past twenty years: military, entrepreneurial, creative arts, and education. I have an MBA in management, 30+ visual art awards, and built a national award winning program serving veterans at Santa Fe Community College. A strong background in budget management, and community organizing. My triple "A" promise: I will be Authentic, Accountable, Accessible.

Start by ensuring the 1400 approved units get built ASAP. Then, let's beef up our Land Use department. This department is understaffed, and in need of a technology overhaul. This would translate into greater efficiency, accuracy, and approval times. Finally let's come together as a community and decide if we are for, or against the workforce. If we support our workforce, then we need to solve this comprehensive problem with a citywide sense of urgency.

I believe the most important issue we face as a community is restoring public trust in our local government and its leaders. We need to elect decisive leaders who will work legislatively to improve transparency, accountability, efficiency, and ensure that every hard earned tax dollar is safeguarded at city hall. If we continue with the status-quo, it will be difficult if not impossible to move forward with financially solving the "big issues" facing our community.

This election is historic, and we are heading into unchartered territory. Santa Feans should no longer accept leadership based on the status-quo of passing the buck. If we elect a strong Mayor then the Council may be a side show. A smart Mayor will balance power, and partnership. A weak Mayor could get run out of town. Let's wait and see, but make no mistake the people of Santa Fe better get their money's worth.

I support looking into the feasibility of creating an Office of Inspector General. We currently lack internal competence to ensure that every hard earned tax dollar is being safeguarded. We need to be hyper-transparent about how we are addressing every one of the 66 issues brought forth in the McHard report. Let's engage a forensic accounting firm to look for instances of fraud. Modernize infrastructure, technology, develop clear policies, and procedures for every department.



JoAnn Vigil Coppler

I have a Master's Degree in Public Administration and have held progressively responsible positions in local government, the executive branch and the judiciary which included high level budget management, managing people and programs. I have worked for the city of Santa Fe under two Mayors and have direct working experience in managing its budget and recruiting and selecting for qualified managers and employees. I have a proven track record of professionalism, ability and integrity.

Having worked with the SFAR Government Affairs Committee on housing for many years, I am very familiar with housing issues. It is clear the city needs to identify its parcels of land where builders can build and offer affordable workforce housing. To see that become a reality, the city must review zoning and land use ordinances that hinder that goal and relax those where possible. The St. Michael's Overlay District is a good example.

The most important issue is to address the city's overall financial condition and start by making improvements where the McHard Audit Findings indicated major improvements were critical. In conjunction, a strategic plan must be developed by the Mayor and City Council to determine where the city wants to be in the next five plus years and plan for budgetary conditions that will make those goals a reality. Affordable workforce housing must be included.

A full-time Mayor will have time to offer more oversight to programs and projects and will provide more up to date information to the City Council on a regular basis. He or she will be expected to be inclusive in the decision-making by having the time to collaborate with the City Council and get its input prior to coming to conclusions. The Mayor will be expected to develop a team among us.

The City Council needs to ensure recruitment of highly qualified and capable managers and those whose responsibility requires budgeting and managing money. Reports on budget and project status must be communicated to the City Council on a timeline basis. The City Council needs to do the homework necessary to understand all proposals and have enough of a background to ask the right questions of staff and and those seeking and approved for funding.