
ELECTION TIMELINE

FILING ENDS

01/04/19

**#WOKEVOTERSTL BOA
PRESIDENT DEBATE**

01/26/19

**LAST DAY TO REGISTER
FOR THIS ELECTION**

01/26/19

#WOKEVOTERSTL BRUNCH

02/23

**LAST DAY TO REQUEST
AN ABSENTEE BALLOT**

02/27/19

GOTV TEXT&TOAST

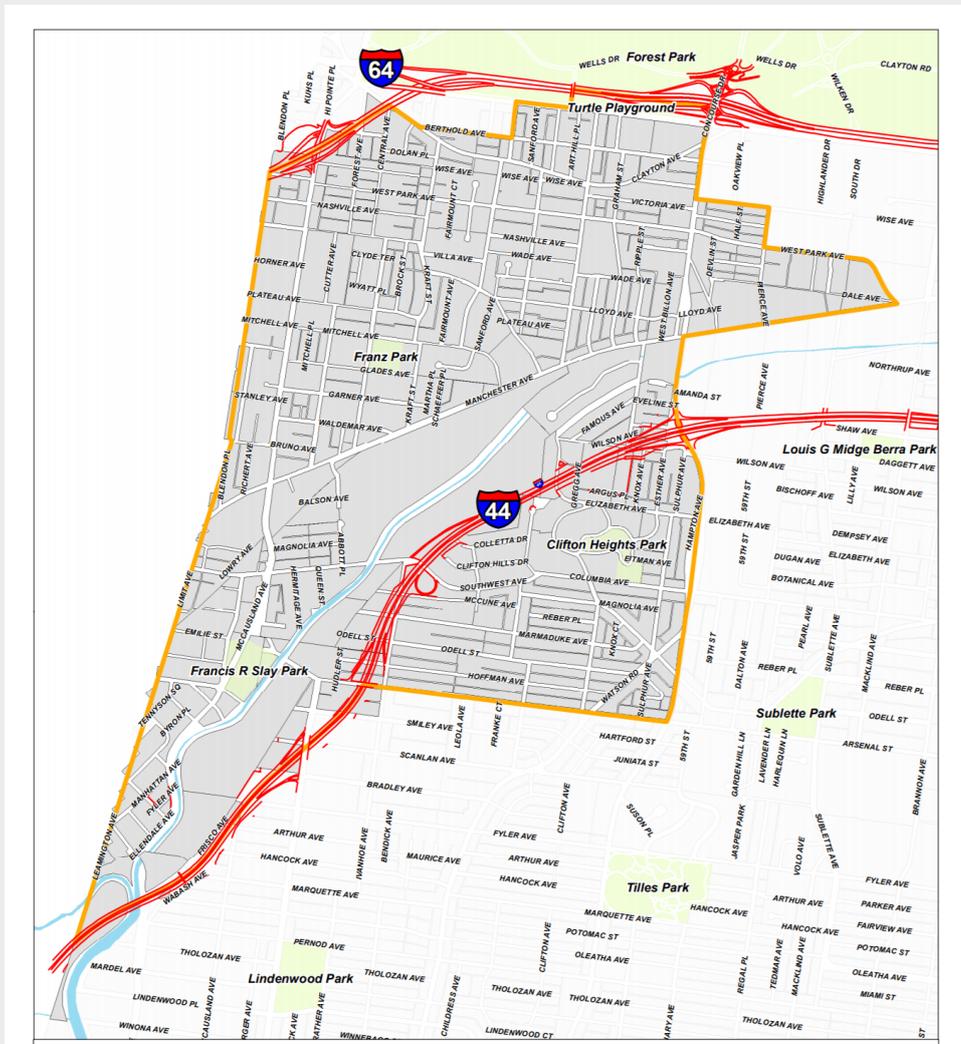
3/4/2019

ELECTION DAY

3/5/2019

WARD 24 CANDIDATES

LORIE CAVIN
 BRET NARAYAN
 TERI POWERS
 DANNY SAMPLE
 TOM BAUER



Map of Ward 24

Candidates in bold are those that completed the questionnaire.

Question 1: What do you believe to be the most important role(s) of a member of the Board of Alderman?

TERI POWERS

Legislation and constituency service

DANNY SAMPLE

Our most important role on the Board of Aldermen is working to write and approve Board Bills and City ordinances that help to strengthen and protect the unique needs of all of our Wards' residents.

Members of the Board of Aldermen need to be accessible to their Constituents and to understand how to best serve their Wards. I would do so by continuing the relationships I've created as Democratic Committeeman of the 24th Ward through connecting with our school PTO, with our neighborhood Associations, with organizations helping the underrepresented, and with our local small business owners.

We need to ensure development for housing and goods and services of all kinds are equitable and affordable. We need to expand the rights of those without a voice.

We need to ensure our Ward boundaries are mapped to honor voices of the oppressed and to help the needs of all those within them.

I will fight to ensure:

1. Quality, affordable, safe, and equitable housing available for all residents of the 24th Ward.
2. Public Safety strengthened through safer streets, maintained schools, road repairs, and clean and timely refuse collection.
3. Development that protects our waterways, increases property values, offers affordable goods and services near our homes, and that utilizes organized labor in all construction bids.
4. Everyone has a seat at the table. Underrepresented residents (LGBTQIA+, immigrants, people of color, the disabled, the unhoused) should be heard and embraced in their representation at the Board of Alderman, in employment and housing, and in fostering city ordinances that protect us all.

As the next 24th Ward Alderman, I will work to build bridges and to create a landscape of open communication. I feel that our role as an Alderman is to be a leader who works to inspire others and to have us all reach our goals together.

Question 2: What are your top legislative priorities for the city of St. Louis?

TERI POWERS

EQUITY, Affordable housing, Crime Reduction, criminal justice reform, safe demolition of abandoned buildings,

DANNY SAMPLE

The first issue is affordable and equitable housing and development opportunities for all within our City. We see many places around our City that have raise their rents to the point where people have to move to other areas in order to sustain housing and to support their families. Within the 24th Ward, I have heard from many residents that also faced this struggle including not being represented by their landlords and not receiving the appropriate housing services that they are paying for each month. We also need to make sure that there are adequate markets for everyday essentials and groceries within a short distance for those that don't have transportation. We want neighborhoods that don't just have stores. We need neighborhoods that have houses filled with families that are surrounded by affordable stores to support them.

Public safety is the 2nd concern of mine. Throughout our ward and throughout our city, residents are seeing in the news reports of how dangerous our City is seen throughout the region and throughout our country for too many decades. We saw that in the last Mayoral race, when there was a big push by all candidates for this as well. We all want safe streets. We want to be safe from criminals, and we want to know our first responders are there to protect us appropriately. Public Safety does not just mean a police force that is plentiful, it means having a police force that is mindful of those that they are there to protect and serve. It is having a public safety program where each and every one of us is well protected, while not being racially profiled.

Equal opportunities for underrepresented and oppressed is the 3rd issue. Neighboring our ward, in Maplewood, there is an immigrant who is claiming asylum in order to stay with his family and children. We need to protect our most vulnerable. We see women who are seeking health care services whose personal safety is being threatened in the streets. We see brand new residents of our City, who are threatened because of their countries of origin or for their religions. We see people of color being racially profiled or harmed because of mistaken identities or false reporting. We see our transgender community being harmed or killed due to bigotry. A big focus of mine is to better serve these communities, to ensure protections for them in employment, housing, public safety, and in healthcare services.

Question 3: In what ways will you create ongoing feedback and collaboration structures between constituents and your office to ensure responsive policies, decisions and accountability?

TERI POWERS

Web page, e-mail updates on crime, attendance of ward neighborhood association organizations, town hall meetings

DANNY SAMPLE

I've already established strong lines of communication with my Ward as the Democratic Committeeman. They know how to reach me, and I'm always accessible. Each month, I attend neighborhood meetings of many sorts from Neighborhood Associations to Democratic outreach organizations. Our Constituents would have input into any Board Bills, budgetary commitments, and development decisions. I would create forums for my Constituents as their Alderman. Right now, I'm planning a Listening Tour as the Candidate for 24th Ward Alderman.

Question 4: Displacement has taken place in countless neighborhoods across the city, with the Black population decreasing by 60 percent in some of the most severe cases. What do you attribute to this decline and if elected how would you combat displacement?

TERI POWERS

Again EQUITY encompasses much. Development, including affordable housing, employment and job training opportunities,

DANNY SAMPLE

We have seen this a lot in the Central Corridor and in Saint Louis County as homes were overtaken by blighting neighborhoods or through the use of eminent domain. We also know gentrification is happening and that the black population that remained in those neighborhoods were priced out by rents being raised or with new development of shops and grocery stores in which they've been priced out. There is also the issue of transportation. We don't have an expansive MetroLink system that connects North and South Saint Louis. So, in effect, those without the ability to afford their own personal ground transportation or vehicles are trapped in certain areas. It's a vicious cycle for our City, and it is the reason our greater metropolitan area has the national reputation of being discriminatory toward people of color. As stated before, we need to development that offers affordable goods and services near our homes. We need to create places of employment which offer a prevailing wage. We need to expand our public transportation systems, such as MetroLink.

Question 5: Do you support the upcoming city ward reduction? What will you do to ensure a just and equitable process?

TERI POWERS

Preference would be to maintain 28 wards. As that appears unlikely, work within BOA committees, with feedback from constituents and other wards, for an open and transparent process

DANNY SAMPLE

While the voters made their decision in 2012 about Ward reduction, I think it's important to re-evaluate this issue. I've attended Board of Aldermen meetings as a member of the St. Louis City Democratic Central Committee to voice concerns about the reduction of Wards and what that would ultimately mean concerning representation for residents throughout our City, especially residents in North City and people of color. We have not seen a map of what the Ward reduction will look like. As far as I know, there hasn't been any drafts of mapping Wards given to the public. I think there are great concerns from North City residents at this time. I am under the impression that more representation is ultimately better for those that are being served. I always think it's best to listen to our voters. If it indeed comes down toward Ward reduction, I want to be a strong voice in the process so that it's equitable and that voters are not diluted.

Question 6: What is your stance on the privatization of Lambert Airport?

TERI POWERS

Not in favor. Do not see justification for privatization.

DANNY SAMPLE

We all want the best airport in the country. Having just traveled to and from India, I can tell you that Lambert International Airport is one of the best I've seen, and we are very lucky to have it. At this time, I am not in favor of privatization of our airport. There are way too many questions that are unanswered. Our airport is a treasure for our City and state. It is something that we need to hold onto with all our might. There are no other major airports within the country that are privatized, and I don't understand why there is the need to do this at this time. With further investigation or with further data collection, we may see an argument for privatization. However, with my experiences in public education, I know that privatization hurts public entities and ultimately their funding and existence.

Question 7: What is your position on the use of TIFs and other tax incentives in the city of St. Louis?

TERI POWERS

Again, transparency in communicating within wards on the use of TIFs. Would hold townhalls within ward regarding community development

DANNY SAMPLE

For many years, we have seen enormous amounts of development along the central corridor. The tax abatements or incentive programs that were used to build and to entice developers of companies, corporations, and small business owners worked to ensure that these areas thrived and offered goods and services seemed to work for the most part. However, I believe it is best practices to ensure that these companies and corporations remain once tax incentives run out for these developers. In order to operate our City effectively, we need tax revenue. We have needed a lot of development throughout our city for a long time, especially in the north side of Delmar where there are vacant homes that are causing grave public safety issues. There have been talks within the Board of Alderman to reinvest in these housing properties and to create incentives for homeowners to purchase these properties through auctions or through low cost sales in return for rehabbing efforts toward the houses that are still standing and are still in fairly good condition. While I believe it is good that we focus on the development of companies offering goods and services to our community, I think we need a stronger focus on affordable housing and revitalization programs for the residents that will ultimately be purchasing these goods and services as well. We also don't want to lose our precious cultural landscapes that make St. Louis City beautiful and unique, simply to be replaced or removed by gentrification.

Question 8: Do you support the demand to close the Medium Security Institute? Please explain.

TERI POWERS

Yes and No. One current alder has suggested use of current facilities for job training and re-entry President grams. Strongly recommend replacement of Corizons in providing physical and mental health care for inmates in criminal justice system. Recommend ending cash bail with low income inmates for non violent crimes

DANNY SAMPLE

Yes. Criminal justice reform is something that is in my heart and mind. After we have seen so many investigations as far as poor enforcement of public safety practices and the questionable treatments or deaths of the accused or arrested, this issue should be a major focus for anyone running for the Board of Aldermen race. We see unhealthy living conditions at our jail facilities such as "the work house." Just a couple years ago during the hottest summer in recent record, there was no air conditioning at the work house. Temporary air conditioning units were installed, but the building is still inadequate for these weather conditions that are constantly changing in the climate of St. Louis. There have been reports of unsanitary living conditions for those that are incarcerated in this medium security facility, while awaiting their trial dates, many without any foreseeable end date in sight. Many of these incarcerated individuals will ultimately lose their jobs, their livelihood, and their health simply because they did not have the money to pay cash bonds or were not guaranteed a speedy trial.

It is my opinion that facilities like the workhouse needs to be shut down or rehabilitated. We should be working to rehabilitate the lives of the incarcerated as well. As Alderman, I would push the issue of reforms within the system. It was great to see decriminalization efforts for fines and prosecution of low level marijuana possession offenses this past year.

Question 9: What is your stance on the city/county reunification, specifically the plan released by Better Together?

TERI POWERS

Not in favor. Do not want one wealthy man dictating what happens to our city government. Both city and county need to address issues in their respective governments before taking steps toward reunification.

DANNY SAMPLE

I am running to be the 24th Ward Alderman of the City, and the City is where my heart resides. At this time, I don't think anyone can answer this question to the best ability. There are so many unanswered questions. While the merger between the City and the County would do well to help our crime statistics, I have concerns as far as the consolidation of the justice system and other local public utilities and first responders. I think voters in both the City and the County should have the strongest voice in this endeavor. Ultimately, I think it is very important to have autonomous school systems and first responding efforts.

Question 10: Did you support Proposition P? Why or why not?

TERI POWERS

Yes. Wanted funds available for improvements

DANNY SAMPLE

I personally did not support Prop P because there were too many unanswered questions. However, the 24th Ward voters did support it in the results of the ballot measure. We need to focus not on simply making our police force plentiful, but we need to focus on making our police force protectors of everyone In our society, especially the most vulnerable. I believe in restorative justice practices.

Question 11: Do you support the legalization of recreational marijuana? Explain your answer.

TERI POWERS

Yes. Retired clinical social worker who provided psychotherapy in private practice and in day treatment programs for individuals living with chronic mental illness. Psychotropic medications have horrific side effects. Marijuana is organic and benefits in treating variety of illnesses has been well documented

DANNY SAMPLE

Yes! I support the legalization of recreational marijuana. It was great to see decriminalization efforts for fines and prosecution of low level marijuana possession offenses this past year. In states like Colorado, we see a booming economy because of their legalization of marijuana. I understand this grave need for those with medical concerns. My brother died last year from colorectal cancer. He had endured numerous invasive surgeries over the course of several years, in which he lost his intestines, colorectal system, and parts of his brain all while not being allowed to take marijuana for pain and anxiety. It was very hard to watch his decline, especially while the medical community was pumping him with morphine and opioids. I wish he would have been able to use marijuana instead to extend his life and to make his end of days more bearable.

Question 12: Do you believe homelessness is an issue in St. Louis. If so, what concrete steps will you take to alleviate homelessness in the City of St. Louis?

TERI POWERS

Plan to introduce legislation (that was shared with former mayor Francis Slay in the past) thru BOA for affordable permanent housing for homeless population.

DANNY SAMPLE

Yes. There are many unhoused on the streets without shelter in the City of Saint Louis. Many of the unhoused Citizens get lost in transportation between the County and the City. I've worked periodically for over a year with an outreach program, AAHSTL, by volunteering to provide toiletries, food, and supplies to the Unhoused surrounding Biddle House and Saint Patrick Center, which are donated by volunteers and supporters. My thoughts are that we definitely need to find permanent homes for these unhoused residents. At this time, I support the housing first model. Housing First is a homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus ending their homelessness and serving as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life. This approach is guided by the belief that people need basic necessities like food and a place to live before attending to anything less critical, such as getting a job, budgeting properly, or attending to substance use issues. Additionally, Housing First is based on the theory that client choice is valuable in housing selection and supportive service participation, and that exercising that choice is likely to make a client more successful in remaining housed and improving their life." (National Alliance to End Homelessness, April 20, 2016).

Question 13: More than 60% of the City's General Fund budget is currently devoted to Public Safety, with the vast majority of those funds allotted to police, prosecution, and jails. Do you agree with this budget allocation? If not, how would your budget priorities differ?

TERI POWERS

Adjustments can and are being made in those areas. We need to focus on prevention, rehabilitation, re-entry and improve training to police. Have conferred with both past prosecuting attorney, Jennifer Joyce, and current Kim Gardner as well as members of BOA public safety committee on these concerns

DANNY SAMPLE

No. I do not believe 60% of the City's General Fund budget should be devoted to public safety.

Public Safety does not just mean a police force that is plentiful, it means having a police force that is mindful of those that they are there to protect and serve. It is having a public safety program where each and every one of us is well protected, while not being racially profiled.

We know that our City has the reputation of being one of the most unsafe cities in the Country. While there is a lot of incidences of major crimes, the solution should not be police, prosecution, and jails alone.

I believe in restorative practices. We need to create opportunities for those in dire need of employment.

We need bigger portions of the budget to be used to provide social workers and a stronger Department of Health in the City of St. Louis. Many of the incarcerated are those who need mental health services. Many residents seeking such medical help are told to go to the County, but then the County will not see or provide healthcare services to City residents. Big problem! I promise you that I will continue to work to change these things if I am elected or not.

We need a bigger budget to provide for affordable early childhood education interventions and childcare services for young or single parents.

Crime happens because there are no other options available for many residents to support themselves, especially in North City.

Question 14: Given that safe, quality, affordable transit is a lifeline for so many city residents, as well as the mark of a world-class City, and given that federal funding for transit seems to be diminishing, how do you think funds from Prop 1 should be used?

TERI POWERS

Need to improve roads and highways and expand transit systems. Public safety is a concern that needs to be appropriately addressed prior to expansion

DANNY SAMPLE

I believe we need to expand MetroLink. My husband is from New Delhi, India, which we visited over the holidays to spend time with our shared parents. India has made it a priority to provide a strong metro system which connects all parts of the City. We see this in other major cities in our country. New York and Chicago both have an excellent transit system.

My grandfather worked for the Railway Exchange when Saint Louis was known for its strong train system through Union Station. It was through him that I started to understand the importance of a strong rail line. If we connect all parts of the City with railways, we all have the opportunity to succeed and to have the opportunity to be employed.

Question 15: How do you plan to address the issue of crime in the city of St. Louis?

TERI POWERS

Have formed a Community Engagement/Public Safety group with ward including Circuit Attorney's Office, Captain Deeba of 2nd District, Neighborhood Association Presidents and other interested individuals within the ward.

Conferring with alders and committee people in 8th, 21st and 28th wards on steps toward crime reduction in their wards. Also following plans originating with the BOA President Lewis Reed.

DANNY SAMPLE

I cannot say this enough. We need to provide equitable and affordable housing, educational opportunities, goods, and services to all areas of the City.

Crime happens in places where there are no employers, no schools, no affordable housing, or no transportation. Crime happens when we feel all hope is lost.

We need to invest in restorative justice practices for repeat offenders and work to create a system to provide them with the assistance required to find stable employment.

**VOTE
MARCH
5TH!**