

Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County



VOTERS GUIDE

FOR DUVAL COUNTY ELECTION OF MARCH 22, 2011

SUMMARY OF OUR ENDORSEMENTS

Mayor: **Mike Hogan** (page 2)

Others reviewed: pages 6 & 7

Sheriff: **None** (reviewed p6)

Tax Collector: **Dick Kravitz** (p4)

Property Appraiser:

Jim Overton (p4)

CITY COUNCIL:

At Large Group 1: **Anyone**

But David Taylor (p4)

At Large Group 2:

John Crescimini (p4)

At Large Group 3 : **N/A** (p4)

At Large Group 4: **Juan Diaz and Jim Robinson** (p4)

At Large Group 5:

Robin Lumb (p4)

City Council District 1:

Clay Yarborough (p5)

City Council District 2:

Bill Bishop (p5)

City Council District 3:

Mario Rubio (p5)

City Council District 4: **N/A** (p4)

City Council District 5:

Stephen Hyers (p5)

City Council District 6: **None** (p3)

City Council District 7: **None** (p3)

City Council District 8: **N/A** (p5)

City Council District 9: **N/A** (p5)

City Council District 10: **N/A** (p5)

City Council District 11:

Doug Moore (p5)

City Council District 12:

Joe Andrews (p5)

City Council District 13: **None** (p5)

City Council District 14:

Kendall Bryan

and Henry Mooneyhan (p5)

Message from our President:

Dear Duval County Taxpayers.

It is with great pleasure that I present this voters guide on behalf of the Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County Inc's Candidate Committee. We hope that this guide will be useful to you for deciding how to vote in our spring municipal elections. Our purpose in bring this guide to you is to help you make an educated decision about who you are going to vote for. We have also provided information about who will best represent the interests of the Taxpayer, the most often overlooked constituency.

Can we continue to allow fear mongering politicians' threats of cuts to legitimate government remain as cover to raise and invent taxes as funding for the corporate, cultural and philanthropic special interests of the politically connected? The answer is resoundingly NO! Residents of Duval County, now is the time to vote your conscience without fear or concern for party labels and acknowledge that our fair city and county can be saved. Our fate is in your hands! Please vote on Tuesday March 22, 2011.

Best Regards,

Victor L. Wihelm Jr., President
Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County Inc.

WHO ARE THESE Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County?

Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County was originally created in 1987 for the purpose of promoting and adopting the local Charter amendment that limits local property tax revenue increases to not more than three percent per year. This charter amendment successfully passed and is now contained in Article 14 Sec 14.09 and has been ignored by subsequent mayoral administrations. Throughout the years, it has been involved in reining in the excessive spending of taxpayer money by city government. We are not a "527" and we do not exist simply to promote or oppose any candidate.

We are a non-profit and non-partisan group of citizen advocates focused solely on issues of transparency, good governance and fiscal responsibility. We are the leading group in the fight against waste, fraud, corruption, inefficiency, wrongdoing, and tomfoolery in Jacksonville city government. We are here to remind the politicians that it's the taxpayers' money that they are spending and they are expected to spend it wisely.

Our Mission:

It is the mission of the Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County, Inc., to prevent, identify, and publicize all forms of fiscal waste, extravagance, and imprudence within and by the government which impacts residents of Duval County, Florida.

We represent the special interests of YOU the TAXPAYER!

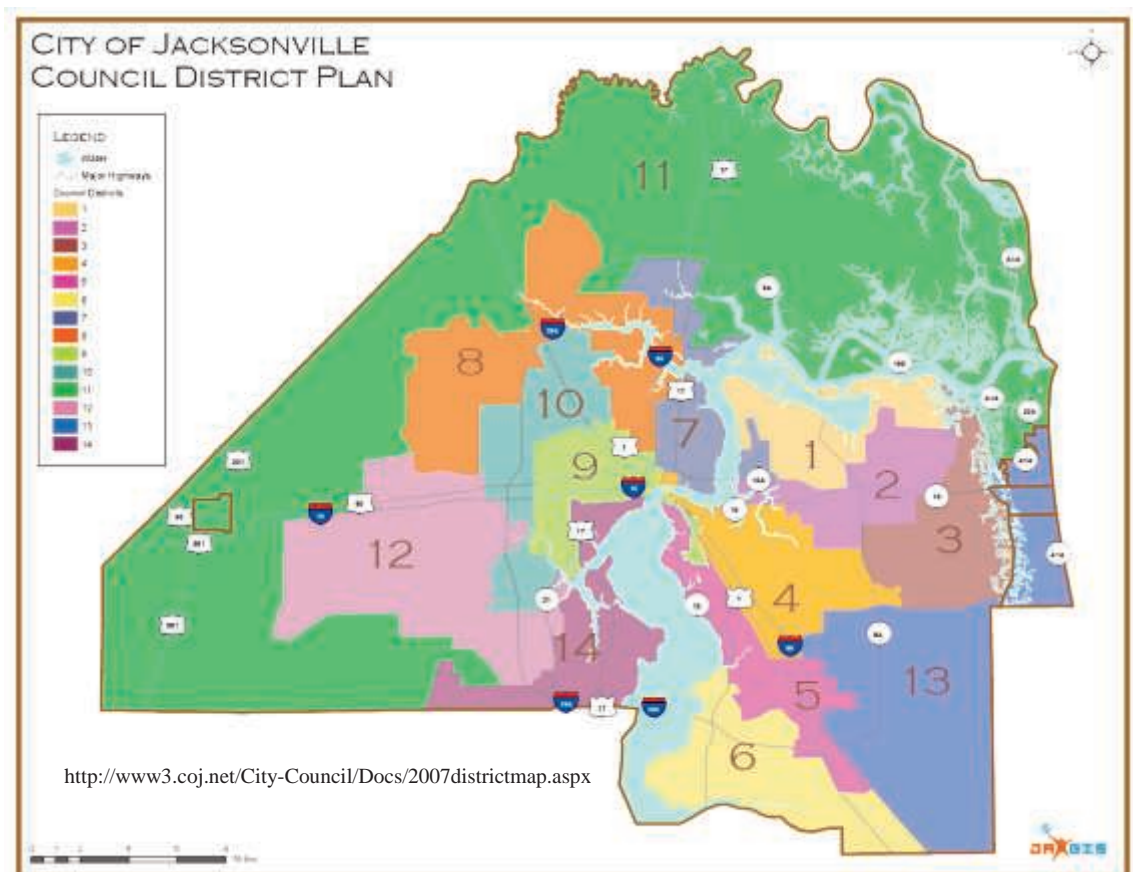


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We want to thank the individuals and groups that made this voters guide possible. All Taxpayers of Duval County are in your debt...

MAYORAL ENDORSEMENT

MIKE HOGAN

Concerned Taxpayers' Choice for Mayor

Mike Hogan has held political office for nearly twenty years and generated a number of strong supporters (and a few detractors) in that time. His last opponent, eight years ago, is coincidentally now the chairman of the Concerned Taxpayers' Candidate Committee; for that reason Mr. Hogan may have had to work harder to convince us that, if elected, he will walk where he now talks regarding fighting government spending increases and growth of programs.

The fact that John Peyton has made a repeated point of attacking Mr. Hogan while praising other candidates may be the best initial reason for a voter to consider supporting Mike Hogan.

In order to run for mayor, Mr. Hogan is giving up an office with no term limits where he faced no opposition four years ago, and probably would have had none this year, or four, eight or twelve years hence. We doubt the \$25,000 raise he would receive as mayor over his Tax Collector's salary is the motivation for running. Nor, at age sixty-one, do we feel Mr. Hogan plans to use the mayor's office as a stepping stone to higher office.

We requested thirty minutes of Mr. Hogan's time for an interview and he graciously answered our questions for over an hour. He was articulate, well prepared, and provided details of how and where he would achieve specific savings in the city budget. Mr. Hogan's prior political experience was relevant without



all being in the appointed "executive" branch (a common limitation with Mr. Brown, Ms. Moran, and Mr. Mulaney). He is the only candidate who has held political office and had to respond to constituent concerns, both in a legislative and administrative capacity.

None of the six candidates whose name appears on the ballot is our perfect choice, but Mike Hogan is the best fit for those of us who believe in limited government doing a few things as efficiently as possible. The Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County endorse Mike Hogan for Mayor of Jacksonville and urge the voters of this county to elect him.

Jacksonville Elections Timeline

February 22, 2011,
Absentee Ballots Mailed

March 3, 2011,
Sample Ballots Mailed

March 7, 2011,
Early voting Begins

March 22, 2011
First City Election

April 19, 2011
Absentee Ballots Mailed

May 2, 2011
Early Voting Begins

May 17, 2011
General Election

Your Candidate Committee Members

John Winkler: Chairman and Past President
Tony Bates: Vice Chairman and Past President
Rod Morrill (legislative affairs)
Dawn Holder (legislative affairs chairwoman)
Dan Carr
Curtis Lee
Conrad Markle (ethics and code enforcement)
Victor Wilhelm Jr. (Past and current president)

Sponsors for the Voters Guide

Daniel Carr
Pat McBride
Conrad Markle
Rod Morrill
Erik Setzer
John Stevens
Kathleen Perera
Joseph Andrews
Jim Fitzpatrick
Odile Gracey
Louis Rose
Ian Keogh
Grace Bryan
Curtis Lee
William Gulliford
Ashleigh Sleiman
Curtis Wolf
Joe Strasser

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

WATCH OUR LOCAL ACCESS TELEVISION SHOW
ON COMCAST CHANNEL 99
THURSDAYS AT 7:30 PM



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The Selection Process

By John Winkler, Candidate Committee Chair
March 1, 2011 - Jacksonville, Florida

The process of developing the information necessary to making informed and informative endorsements and commentary on the candidates and races in the March 22, 2011 Jacksonville consolidated unitary election was lengthy and time-consuming. Several of the members of the Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County, Inc. had been, since last summer, discussing the idea that we should go beyond the typical "special interest group" style endorsements, which result from closed-door sessions and rarely give any explanation as to why one candidate was deemed superior to another.

We decided to conduct fully transparent interviews, video recording and posting the candidates responses, as well as producing a spreadsheet of City Council candidate responses compared directly to incumbent votes on crucial issues. The seven votes we selected were:

The 2010-11 fiscal year budget and the property rate increase votes. (Two of the seven) We considered both since many disingenuous council members claimed the property rate increase did not amount to a tax increase as, overall, it was "revenue neutral." In other words, if a non-homesteaded taxpayer was lucky enough to have property which depreciated less than the average, their taxes went up. We viewed this as a tax increase, and the budget as relying upon a tax increase.

The vote to "settle" litigation on the Trail Ridge landfill, resulting in a roughly billion dollar extension of Waste Management, Inc.'s twenty year old contract with the City for another couple of decades, without any competitive bidding. This issue was so important to conduct of good government a voter can validly weigh the response (or vote) more heavily than we did in judging candidate's concern for the taxpayers.

The 2010 doubling of the garbage fee, breaking the promise of gradual fee increases made when the fee was created in 2008.

The vote to restore an ethics code to the City Charter. A number of candidates mistakenly assumed that this bill required additional expenditures and based their opposition on that error, which might indicate a flaw if they were to be elected – they did not read the bill before deciding how to vote.

We also rated candidates on whether or not they would have voted last summer to give the Jaguars the last 25% of the money Everbank is paying for stadium naming rights, about \$800,000 a year. (The Jaguars already got 50% of naming rights money, increased a year ago to 75%) With a subsidized stadium, dedicated maintenance funds and other concessions costing the taxpayers and improving the franchise's bottom line at public expense, our affection for the team and its owners was outweighed in this instance by the crying core public service needs in this city.

While all of the foregoing votes took place in 2010, our final bellwether vote occurred in 2008, when the City Council passed a bill reducing corrections officer retirement to 20 years and putting a minimum annual 3% cost of living increase onto public pensions, despite elusive funding possibilities. Although elements of the bill had to be passed to comply with federal labor law, that may have been done as a "cover" for the other fiscally irresponsible aspects of the bill.

These objective questions asking how each City Council candidate would have voted on the seven specific issues described above were prepared in November. After approval by the Board and submission to the candidates in December, the tedious but rewarding process of recording and comparing the results of the survey went on for over four weeks, overlapping with the interviews we conducted with over three dozen mayoral, consti-

tutional officer, and City Council candidates. No candidate for any office can legitimately complain that he or she was not given ample opportunity to plead their cause with us. We then prepared the detailed report contained in this guide explaining to the public our decisions and what brought us to each conclusion.

One thing we refused to consider in our deliberations was the political affiliation of the candidates, which we regard as entirely irrelevant to whether or not a person shares our concerns on behalf of the taxpayers (and which appears nowhere in this guide). The entire committee approved each endorsement and the specific language in our report, and our Board of Directors then amended and approved that report for release and publication. As far as we know, this is the most objective attempt by any organization to explain and justify its endorsements that has ever been seen in our consolidated city.

City Council District 7: No Pick No Endorsement

We are disappointed with Johnny Gaffney and his poor rating on behalf of his constituent taxpayers. Unfortunately, despite repeated requests, his opponent marc McCullough has not provided us with any basis upon which to endorse him as an alternative. We regretfully cannot recommend that the voters of District Seven choose either of their two options for city council.

City Council District 6: No Pick No Endorsement

We were presented with a dilemma after our interviews of the three candidates in District Six. We honestly feel Mandarin and the city as a whole would have been better served if one or both of the challengers to incumbent Jack Webb had chosen instead to run against at large council member Stephen Joost, who wound up unopposed. Either Mr. Schellenberg or extreme late-comer Mr. Youngblood would have handily received our endorsement over Mr. Joost. Instead we have two new otherwise commendable candidates forced to attack each other as well as the incumbent.

Our opinion of Jack Webb is severely mixed. On the one hand, he consistently stood up for competitive bidding throughout the landfill fiasco, and he has always been a focal point of collegiality on the council, even after back-stabbing personal attacks by other members; on the other hand, he unnecessarily compromised his ability to control the landfill expansion process and did relatively little, in our opinion, to restrain the 2009 and 2010 city budgets. On balance, more of us think Jack Webb has been more helpful to the concerns of the taxpayer than not. We wish it were not so close a call.

Given our druthers, Matt Schellenberg, Greg Youngblood and Jack Webb would not be lumped into one district race and would all be able to serve together on the next council. Since that is not and cannot be the case, we decline to endorse any specific candidate over the other two in what promises to be an interesting contest.

Our Process

- All non-incumbent city council candidates were mailed our questionnaire.
- The questionnaire assigned a CTDC "fiscal responsibility rating" based on responses to past city council ordinances.
- Did not respond means candidate did not return questionnaire.
- Refused to answer means questionnaire was returned without answers
- "Don't know" was an answer.
- Graded like a take home test, non-responses, refused to answer and "don't know" were given zeros.
- Those that responded to the questionnaire were invited for an interview.
- We interviewed over 37 candidates
- We interviewed constitutional officers
- We meet four times for interviews over the course of 4 days
- Several attempts were made to reach all candidates and accommodate their schedules on an individual basis.
- Interviews were open to the public.
- The "Pledge to Taxpayers" had no consideration for endorsements.
- Candidate committee deliberated fair and objectively based on responses to the questionnaire and interviews.

Non Partisan for a reason:

The Candidate Committee and Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County has witnessed the use of political party label and partisan rhetoric to confuse the voters and obfuscate the issues. Often analogies to national issues are used that have no bearing legislative and governance matters in Duval County. The political insiders have used this tool to play one side of the electorate against the other with the Taxpayers losing in every instance where special interests are successful.

Our voters guide deliberately omitted the partisan political label for this very reason. A process that considers the voting record of incumbents and how non-incumbents would have voted, combined with the answers to very specific questions, is the most effective means to find those candidates who will best represent the Taxpayers.

In the end, issues of fiscal responsibility, transparency and accountability impact everyone in our great city regardless of their political party affiliation or lack thereof..



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CTDC CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENTS

Our Choice for Tax Collector DICK KRAVITZ ENDORSED



Dick Kravitz has a long history as a non-establishmentarian city and state legislator. We feel this should result in Mr. Kravitz being relatively un beholden to special interests. His past private sector employment in connection with the Jacksonville Suns put him at least as much in the public eye as he would be as county tax collector, a position he pledges to use as a "bully pulpit" to press local government for smaller budgets and greater efficiencies. Unlike Mr. Corrigan, Dick Kravitz has a solid record in public office as a fiscal conservative. We view past performance as the best guide to likely future actions. Accordingly we endorse Dick Kravitz for the office of Duval County Tax Collector.

City Council At Large Group 1 : **ANYONE ELSE BUT NOT DAVID TAYLOR !**

Steve Burnett caused us concern over his approval of the Mayor's original no-bid landfill plan and opposition to restoring an ethics code to the city charter. He did not dispel these clouds in our interview and we are accordingly unable to endorse him in the first election in this race, although we view him as superior to David Taylor and thus wish him well.

Kimberly Daniels apparently has stronger community support and would have voted in agreement with our positions as noted on the survey results on the back cover of this guide. She sees more of a social services mission for local government than we deem ideal, but like Mr. Burnett we view her as a much better choice than their opponent David Taylor, as explained hereafter. We stop short of an endorsement only because she entered the race at the last minute and we are not yet fully familiar with the extent of Ms. Daniel's community involvement and civil experience. We will revisit the group one race after March 22 to consider an endorsement before the May second election.

David Taylor earns a rare **UNCONDITIONAL REJECTION from CTDC** and an admonition to the voters to choose either of the other candidates rather than just passing on this race. Mr. Taylor's flagrant disregard for the city sign ordinance and the repeated investigations into his professional conduct as a lawyer ("I have so many Bar complaints, they all run together," Mr. Taylor is quoted as saying by the Times-Union, see <http://jacksonville.com/news/metro/2011-01-27/story/duval-judge-reports-forgery-bar-lawyer-denies-doing-it>) would be enough in themselves to for us to decline to recommend him; his huge investment of personal funds (over \$200,000.00 through 12/31/2010) and matching ego lead us to an official rejection. It is important to vote in this race, however, to guarantee that Mr. Taylor comes in third and does not advance to the May second election. By not voting at all, the least informed voters in the county who foolishly vote merely on name recognition will be making the decision for those better informed voters who decline to vote in this at-large contest.

Our Choice for City Council At-Large Group 2: JOHN CRESCIMBENI ENDORSED

Our choice for city council in this contest is the incumbent and we endorse John Crescimbeni. He has always considered the best interests of the taxpayers at large in every official action and has the institutional knowledge to continue to serve effectively for years to come. His known incorruptibility leads us to reject all other candidates as unknown quantities. Amazingly Mr. Crescimbeni performs his duties responsibly and responsibly without using the taxpayer funds budgeted to the employment of an assistant. Of his three opponents only Vince Serrano gets to the starting gate. Tom Patton is an involuntarily retired local public radio and television reporter whom we respect for his participation in the political process, and Paul Martinez never returned our survey questions.



City Council At Large Group 3 NO CHOICE

Stephen Joost—UNOPPOSED

No contest. Incumbent Stephen Joost, whom we do not support, was the only candidate to qualify and thus is reelected by default. There are several candidates in other crowded races who, based on where they live, could have run against Mr. Joost, and whom we in fact urged to run against him. Anyone unhappy with Mr. Joost during the next four years needs to reflect on the fact that he is unopposed.

Our Choice for City Council At Large Group 4 : JUAN DIAZ & JIM ROBINSON CO-ENDORSED

Both Jim Robinson and Juan Diaz impress us as serious fiscal conservatives who are prepared to take tough action on the city budget. We cannot recommend Greg Anderson, who did not respond to our questionnaire. While reserving the right to reconsider our endorsement for the May run-off, we co-endorse Juan Diaz and Jim Robinson for in the March election.



City Council District 4: NO CHOICE Don Redman —UNOPPOSED

No contest. If the voters of District Four later express dissatisfaction with the performance of Don Redman, they have no one to blame but themselves.

Our Choice for Property Appraiser JIM OVERTON ENDORSED

This is a vastly different world than the booming real estate market of 2003, and with the uncertainty of the next four years there is a benefit to retaining the services of an assessor who has administered the property tax rolls in both fat times and lean. Jim Overton freely admits that the job of Property Appraiser is much more complicated than he imagined it to be when he beat out a field of opponents (including Mr. Kraft) in 2003, and acknowledges that he is now better at the job than when he started. Since we do not automatically endorse incumbents (far from it, as witness other sections in this guide), we had to take Mr. Overton's assertion that he needs four more years to achieve optimal efficiencies under advisement. After Jim assured us that he would press the legislature for ad valorem exemption reform, seeking to expand the tax base to allow a reduction in rates, and he referred to the existing system of exceptions and limitations as "unfair," we concluded he should get the chance to address that unfairness. While reminding him that we will monitor his progress, the Concerned Taxpayers endorse Jim Overton for Property Appraiser.



Our Choice for City Council At-Large Group 5 ROBIN LUMB ENDORSED

Mr. Lumb impresses us with his knowledge and quick wit, combined with a perfect score on our "quiz." We endorse Robin Lumb with an Honorable Mention to Fred Engress. We lack sufficient information on candidates Hall, Foy or Rukab to express any favorable opinion due to their failures to respond to our requests.



Candidates Pledge to the Taxpayers of Duval County

I _____ do hereby swear or affirm the following commitments to the residents and Taxpayers of Duval County Florida to:

1. Introduce or support legislation to seek the repeal of the storm water fee/tax.
2. Introduce or support legislation to seek the repeal of the garbage fee/tax.
3. Introduce or support legislation to seek the repeal of the JEA franchise fee (utility tax).
4. Obey the existing tax cap for the city budget. Abide by the mandate of the voters and comply with the 3% tax cap on ad valorem taxes as provided for in the Charter - Article 14 Sec 14.09
5. Not implement an increase in sales tax without voter approval via public referendum.



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CTDC CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENTS

Our Choice for City Council

District 1: CLAY YARBOROUGH ENDORSED

Clay Yarborough gets Concerned Taxpayers' nod over Darryl Fleming and Lindsay Brock for voters in District One. Mr. Yarborough always votes his conscience, and on money matters his moral compass unwaveringly agrees with ours. Both Mr. Brock and Mr. Fleming impress us as sincerely interested in the District One constituency but have no track record. We urge them to run again in 2015. For the 2011 election we endorse Clay Yarborough for a second term.



Our Choice for City Council District 2: Bill Bishop ENDORSED

Bill Bishop's philosophy of local government may not be identical to ours, but his dedication to transparency and demand for logic and reason from his fellow council members is consistent and refreshing. He is scheduled to serve a year as city council president during his second term if re-elected, and look forward to reasonable government under his future leadership. We agree with Mr. Bishop that his professional employment as an architect brings a needed perspective to the council in urban design that his opponent lacks. He will bring much needed expertise and the highest ethical commitment to a second term and we urge his constituency to reelect him. We endorse Bill Bishop, the incumbent in District Two.



Our Choice for City Council District 3: MARIO RUBIO ENDORSED

We have become disillusioned and disappointed with Richard Clark over his actions regarding the Trail Ridge Landfill no-bid contract extension, his attempt to prevent Jack Webb from serving a council president this year, and his early departure from a council meeting to enjoy an expensive steak dinner with a lobbyist after a "successful" vote (to note but a few of our concerns). Since Mr. Clark also served a partial term before his uncontested reelection in 2007, he already has the six years tenure needed to receive a \$10,000-plus annual pension for city council service. He also voted for the change in city pensions that enabled Rick Mullaney to qualify for his \$152,000 pension this year. [FACT CHECK REQUIRED] It is time for Mr. Clark to retire from public office before he does further damage to taxpayer interests.



Our Choice for City Council District 5: STEVE HYERS ENDORSED

Another crowded race, District Five candidates include a former public employee union president (Jack Daniels), a judge's spouse (Lori Boyer), a licensed ferryboat captain/attorney/MBA (Fritz VanVolkenburgh), and a genuine Horatio Alger success story, Steve Hyers. Since Ms. Boyer and Mr. VanVolkenburgh actively objected to providing us with answers to the objective questions regarding how they would have voted on certain issues, we lack valid data on their candidacies to determine if they would be fiscally responsible with public funds. Jack Daniels, although he submitted answers at the extreme last minute, is a perennial candidate and we feel he lacks seriousness of purpose. Although Mr. Hyers may seem to some to be almost too earnest, he does come across to us as genuinely concerned about taxpayer issues, and not one to part with public funds lightly. We therefore endorse Steve Hyers for council member from District Five.



City Council District 8, 9 and 10 No Choice

Incumbents-UNOPPOSED

No contests. No one residing in these three districts has any basis to complain about the representation they will continue to receive from these three unopposed incumbents for the next four years.

Our Choice for City Council District 11:

DOUG MOORE—ENDORSED

Ray Holt, District Eleven incumbent, appeared to support bidding the expansion of the landfill until he took substantial campaign contributions last spring from the current landfill operator and its lobbyist. Then Mr. Holt voted to extend the landfill contract for decades despite a counsel auditor report showing extra costs to the taxpayers in the tens of millions of dollars. Until then we might have given Mr. Holt the benefit of the doubt we no longer have. As an incumbent, Mr. Holt's voting record is an open book and, to us, unpleasant reading. In our estimation he is likely to continue to act contrary to the taxpayers' interests if reelected. Doug Moore has presented himself well to us and gives us no reason to hesitate in our support of his candidacy. While we cannot dislike the third candidate in District Eleven, Tom Baine, and would support him over Mr. Holt, he has not given us good reasons to prefer him over Mr. Moore, who impresses us as being the more electable fiscally responsible candidate. Accordingly, the CTDC endorse Doug Moore for city council from District Eleven.



Our Choice for City Council District 12: JOE ANDREWS ENDORSED

In this three way race we exclude Doyle Carter from consideration for our endorsement only because he did not seek it. The other two candidates, Joe Andrews and Jim Davis, score well on our fiscal responsibility index (although we have scold Mr. Andrews for not knowing how he would have voted on the landfill issue). Between these two, our endorsement goes to the candidate we know better, Joe Andrews, in large part because of his public service on the TRUE commission, with an Honorable Mention to Jim Davis.



Our Choice for City Council District 14 : HENRY MOONEYHAN & KENDALL BRYAN CO-ENDORSED

With a nearly absurd number of choices, the six way race to represent the Riverside to Argyle crescent promises to confuse voters even more than most. After interviewing five of the six candidates (only Jim Love ignored our repeated entreaties to help us educate the voters) and observing all six in a candidate forum, two stand out as potentially better aligned with our view on fiscal responsibility than the others. Henry Mooneyhan has a perfect score on our rating scale, and Kendall Bryan impressed us with his interview.



Either Mooneyhan or Bryan would keep the concerns of the taxpayers foremost as a council member. We co-endorse both Kendall Bryan and Henry Mooneyhan in District Fourteen.

City Council District 13: No Pick No Endorsement

This is another race overpopulated with respectable candidates, at least one of whom should have run instead for the at large seat held by Stephen Joost. All four candidates meet our general qualifications and have very good to excellent fiscal responsibility ratings. Given the close rankings and the answers we received in our candidate interviews we have decided to refrain from any endorsement in the first election. Assuming no candidate receives a majority of the votes in District Thirteen in the first round, we will revisit the two remaining contestants for a possible endorsement in the May election.

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CTDC's OTHER CANDIDATE ASSESSMENTS

Mayor: Others: Rick Mullaney

Rick Mullaney says in his advertising, "I'll be a conservative mayor who works for the taxpayers, and no one else." His 34 point plan contains details for ruling the city not provided by any other candidate. He is attempting to project an image of forthright "change" and openness as a break from the present administration that he served as General Counsel for seven years. Mayor Peyton says Rich (and Audrey) have great ideas (although he isn't endorsing either of them just yet).

We have a hard time reconciling Rick's decades of high-level government insider employment with the "aw shucks" home-spun Horatio Alger autobiography depicted in Rick Mullaney's campaign advertising. Perhaps he could have explained the epiphany that led to this new found fiscal conservatism he claims on our behalf as taxpayers, but despite repeated requests, Mr. Mullaney did not manage to interview with us. Perhaps our endorsement doesn't matter to the former head city lawyer; maybe he suspected that he would not get it even if he had answered our questions. We have not been able to forget that while Rick Mullaney was the General Counsel for the city he oversaw a change in the law that allowed him to retire last year at age 55 with a starting pension of over \$152,000 a year; having "got his," so to speak, his tough talk on city employee pension reform sounds a trifle shrill. We also remember that two years ago Rick pushed hard for Mayor Peyton's plan to bypass the bidding process and give a half billion dollar contract extension to Waste Management to run the city landfill, and that he didn't speak out to stop City Council from giving away tens of millions more without bidding when the landfill issue came up again last year. Works for the taxpayers? Maybe, but not at a discount. If elected, Rick will be pulling in over \$325,000 a year from the taxpayers, between his public salary and his public pension.

Another concern of ours is that any long-term former General Counsel acting as mayor would, knowingly or not, unduly influence the city's new chief attorney, compromising his or her independence and impartiality when acting as the lawyer for the City Council, School Board, Sheriff and other officers and agencies that make up our consolidated government.

Another point – Rick has decades of experience on the "inside" of the city administration as the mayor's chief of staff (lining up votes in City Council for the mayor) and General Council, telling council and everyone else what they can and should do. He has enormous skill at evading public record requests and Sunshine Law meeting requirements. Is this the fox to hire to guard the henhouse?

Sheriff: John Rutherford

Most county sheriffs find themselves trying to expand their budget at the unintended expense of all other local government functions, and John Rutherford is no exception. There is a tension in the Sheriff between the best interests of fiscal responsibility and getting the best for his department. As happened last year, both the Sheriff and City Council will claim credit for any roll-backs in the final budget from the Sheriff's initial requests; we are just happy to see both sides engaged in a process to restrain growth in the Sheriff's portion of the city's public safety expenditures.

We recognize that John Rutherford continues to bring much more experience to the job of sheriff than his opponents. With improved transparency in the budgeting and procurement processes he

and city council can, and hopefully will, find greater efficiencies in the future. However, we are concerned that Rutherford simultaneously accuses the past City Councils of "underfunding" public safety pensions by \$356 million as though something illegal had taken place (which the Sheriff, when asked, acknowledges is not the case) while stating he is only responsible for police work rules and not pensions or collective bargaining issues. Thus, while on balance, we are satisfied with the current direction (if not the pace) of fiscal constraint shown by the incumbent, and we do not endorse either of his opponents, we are compelled to withhold any endorsement in the race for Sheriff of Duval County.

Sheriff: Ken Jefferson

Mr. Jefferson recently retired as the Sheriff's department spokesman. He maintains that too many sworn officers are on desk duties and claims he would get them back in the streets. The incumbent challenges the validity of this argument and maintains that the assignments to projects and other internal duties are needed to promote the development of a new generation of cost effective and fiscally sensitive leadership. Mr. Jefferson would expand the applicant pool for new policemen by requiring only an associate's degree rather than the current four-year college degree/experience minimum.

In most other specific policy areas there was a general agreement between Mr. Jefferson and the current Sheriff. Take home vehicles, potential cost savings in the motor pool, the use of community service officers and the need to revisit pension commitments all show considerable continuity of thought between these two candidates. What we did not hear from Mr. Jefferson which might have resulted in our endorsement was a bold plan to achieve substantial cost savings through systemic organizational restructuring. What that might be, we don't know, but without stronger concrete plans for enhanced fiscal savings we cannot recommend either the incumbent or this challenger over the other at this time.

Sheriff: Soren G. Brockdorf

Mr. Brockdorf is a young JSO patrolman with a very bright future. His thoughts on departmental improvement, which are very similar to those of Mr. Jefferson, reflect an organized and managerial mind. He would accept recruits who meet the minimum state requirement, arguing that some of the finest officers in other jurisdictions have no more general education than a high school diploma. In his opinion the sworn officers on desk duty are anxious to return to the field, and a substantially larger presence in the streets can be had without adding additional police. Mr. Brockdorf also has an accounting background which can only be helpful as he advances in the department. We feel that Mr. Brockdorf needs to gain additional experience before we could consider him to be more highly qualified than his two opponents. We commend him for the brave act of running for the office held by his ultimate boss (although we do not believe there would be any repercussions from this exercise in democracy).

Mayor: Honorable Mention: Warren Lee

We interviewed Mr. Lee and found him to be very sincere with extensive experience in a multitude of public safety jobs, probably better suiting him to run for sheriff than mayor. Nonetheless Warren Lee appears to be the true citizen candidate – neither aspiring politician nor a frustrated political gadfly, Mr. Lee assembled over 5,000 signatures from registered voters to get on the ballot in lieu of the \$10,436.46 filing fee. Unfortunately, Mr. Lee's fund raising has been much less than that of his opponents, and whatever the merits of his ideas he is proving unable to communicate them to the electorate. His strong stand in dealing with the pension crisis and willingness to regard every aspect of the budget as one the table were sincere, but the steep learning curve for Mr. Lee should he be elected mayor could force him to rely on Peyton administration hold-overs just to get business conducted. While we like Mr. Lee and wish him well, we do not feel he can overcome these issues of experience and electability. Nonetheless, we consider Mr. Lee as our collective second choice after Mike Hogan and therefore give Warren Lee an Honorable Mention as candidate for Mayor.

Property Appraiser : Kurt Kraft

The sole plank in Mr. Kraft's platform is "term limits," that is, the present office-holder should leave after eight years even though no law requires his departure. While we agree that the voters tried in the last century to impose a two-term limit on this job (as well as those of School Board, Sheriff, Tax Collector and others), it has been clear since 2000 that only the mayor and city council were affected. Mr. Kraft's opponent never promised not to seek a third term, and we cannot condemn him for seeking to retain this difficult administrative position.

While we find Mr. Kraft to be pleasant and well-qualified for his present duties as a long-term employee in the Property Appraiser's office, we cannot agree that the voters should change leadership merely because eight years has passed. We thank Mr. Kraft for giving the voters a choice in this race.

Tax Collector: Honorable Mention: Ryan Taylor

We note, first and foremost, that Ryan Taylor is NOT related to David Taylor, whom we have specifically Anti-endorsed in his city council race. Ryan has been a managerial employee of the Tax Collector's office for some years and helped implement many innovations in that time, including the queue ticket system. Although Mr. Taylor filed to run for Tax Collector long before his opponents, he has not previously held elective office and has not raised the substantial sums which conventional wisdom dictates as defining "viability" in a candidate. The practical matter of money aside, we are concerned that Mr. Taylor's relative youth and inexperience with executive public or private administration will interfere with his "hit the ground running" effectiveness in office. While we do not endorse Mr. Taylor in this election, he rates an Honorable Mention.



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CTDC's OTHER CANDIDATE ASSESSMENTS

Mayor: Others: Alvin Brown

Despite our best efforts to corral Alvin Brown for an interview, we had to settle for observing him at a mayoral forum and reviewing his responses to other groups' questions. Other groups with whom our members are affiliated have shared our frustration in getting responses from Mr. Brown, leading us to believe there is a general lack of seriousness about his campaign. Mr. Brown's constant references to national figures and issues of the 1990's, when he was part of the federal administration, concern us that he would look for "big government" solutions in a decade when limited economic resources, if nothing else, are going to force heavy reliance on local budgetary answers in the areas of public safety and infrastructure improvements. Mr. Brown may have a far-sighted vision for our city, but without demonstrating an equal eye for fiscally responsible detail we cannot endorse him.

Mayor: Others: Audrey Moran

Ms. Moran, in our opinion, has attempted for months to cultivate an aura of accessibility with the press and the public. It was surprising to us, then, when it proven to be not merely difficult but impossible to arrange an interview with her – again, as with Mr. Mullaney, despite personal contact and seeming agreement to appear (37 other candidates found the time, although we made it clear that it was not mandatory to interview to be considered for our endorsement). Friends of ours who urged Ms. Moran's staffers to help arrange an interview were just as frustrated to be told that they could learn Audrey's views from her website and frequent public appearances. When we looked for her answers to our questions in these alternate sources we found little which directly addressed our concerns, but much which we perceive as avoiding commitment to the philosophy of any limitations on the scope and proper role of local government. It is on that basis, and not merely because we were avoided, that we cannot endorse her candidacy.

Tax Collector: Others: Michael Corrigan

As term-limited city council member Michael Corrigan last year let it be known that he was planning on running for either Property Appraiser or for Tax Collector in 2011. We have to scratch our heads over that dilemma – what criteria does the upwardly mobile politician use to decide between two highly paid offices, neither of which he is qualified to hold? Each pays \$149,000 a year, comes with medical benefits and other perks, and either tacks on to the pension that he has already "earned" from six years on city council. While we assume Mr. Corrigan chose Tax Collector because that incumbent is not seeking reelection, while the sitting Property Appraiser is, we were unable to ask him what metrics determined the decision since he never replied to our numerous requests for an interview.

We doubt Mr. Corrigan could have shed any light on dismal voting record which would have persuaded us to support him for either office, however. [see the last page of this Guide for representative votes] Some on our committee were represented by Mr. Corrigan for the last eight years in city council, and were also disappointed with his lack of responsiveness to other, non-fiscal, constituent concerns.

We do not feel that a professional politician should be rewarded for repeatedly raising taxes be electing him to the job of collecting them from us. Accordingly, we do not merely endorse another candidate for Tax Collector, **CTDC**

REJECTS Michael Corrigan as a candidate for office.

Mayor: Others: Steve Irvine

A perennial mayoral candidate, Mr. Irvine told us upfront that he had no chance of becoming mayor. He refuses campaign contributions and has extremely limited exposure for his message for more private support for public health. While we cannot endorse him or recommend voting for him we admire his moxie. We can't help thinking the more than \$10,000 Mr. Irvine spent putting his name on the ballot might have been better spent promoting his views in other ways.

Candidate Questionnaire Sent Out by Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County

This is the candidate questionnaire sent out by the Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County to city wide political candidates. The responses are recorded in the candidate response pages located on this website. On behalf of the Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County, Inc., which for over twenty years has monitored local government on behalf of the citizens, I present this brief questionnaire to you as a candidate for local office. Using the results we will be better able to make recommendations and/or endorsements in your race. Please either fax your responses to 389-6431 and/or email them to jswpa@yahoo.com by January 2, 2011. Responses by mail are not encouraged but may be send to the CTDC c/o John Winkler, 2515 Oak St., Jacksonville, FL 32204

All of the non-incumbent City Council filed candidates are being presented with the same questions, which are based on what you would have done had you been a member of the City Council during the last term. Your responses will be compared directly with those of other candidates in your race or, in the case of the incumbent seeking reelection, with the actual votes cast by that individual. If you care to explain your answer you may do so in as much detail as you wish without regard to the limited space provided.

1. How would you have voted on Ordinance 2010-557-E, the 2010-2011 Jacksonville City Budget?

Aye _____ Nay _____ Do not know _____

Optional: explanation of your answer: :

2. How would you have voted on Resolution 2010-553-A, the 2010-2011 ad valorem tax millage rates?

Aye _____ Nay _____ Do not know _____

Optional: explanation of your answer:

3. How would you have voted on Ordinance 2010-217-E, the Trail Ridge Landfill settlement/contract?

Aye _____ Nay _____ Do not know _____

Optional: explanation of your answer:

4. How would you have voted on Ordinance 2010-216-E, the increase in city garbage and other fees?

Aye _____ Nay _____ Do not know _____

Optional: explanation of your answer:

5. How would you have voted on Ordinance 2010-616-E, the Ethics in the Charter Bill?

Aye _____ Nay _____ Do not know _____

Optional: explanation of your answer:

6. How would you have voted on Ordinance 2010-644-E, the Everbank Field Naming Rights Revenue Transfer?

Aye _____ Nay _____ Do not know _____

Optional: explanation of your answer:

7. How would you have voted on Ordinance 2008-983-E, the unfunded 20 year Retirement for Corrections Officers and 3% COLA bill?

Aye _____ Nay _____ Do not know _____

Optional: explanation of your answer:

Additional Questions

8. What has motivated you to run for City Council in 2011?

9. What do you view as the proper primary purposes and functions of local government?

10. Should City Council members receive salaries? _____

If your answer is yes, then how much per year? \$ _____

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

SUMMARY OF OUR ENDORSEMENTS

	City Council District 3:
	Mario Rubio
Mayor: Mike Hogan	City Council District 4:
Sheriff: None	N/A
Tax Collector:	City Council District 5:
Dick Kravitz	Stephen Hyers
Property Appraiser:	City Council District 6:
Jim Overton	None
CITY COUNCIL:	City Council District 7:
At Large Group 1:	None
Anyone	City Council District 8:
<u>But</u> David Taylor	N/A
At Large 2:	City Council District 9:
N/A	N/A
John Crescimbin	City Council District 10:
At Large Group 3 : N/A	N/A
At Large Group 4: Juan	City Council District 11:
Diaz and Jim Robinson	Doug Moore
At Large Group 5:	City Council District 12:
Robin Lumb	Joe Andrews
	City Council District 13:
City Council District 1:	None
Clay Yarborough	City Council District 14:
City Council District 2:	Kendall Bryan
Bill Bishop	and Henry Mooneyhan



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MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE ON ELECTION DAY!

2011 Jacksonville City Council Election Survey Results

Candidate	Office Sought	2010-2011 budget	2011 tax rate hike	no-bid landfill contract	double garbage fees	add ethics to charter	Everbank naming rights fee transfer	20 yr corrections pension & 3% COLA	CTDC FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY RATING	OUR CHOICES For the election of March 22, 2011
		Ordinance 2010-554	Ordinance 2010-557	Ordinance 2010-217	Ordinance 2010-216	Resolution 2010-816	Ordinance 2010-644	Ordinance 2008-983		
Michael Corrigan	Tax Collector	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	14%	DICK KRAVITZ
Steve Burnett	At Large Group 1	no	no	yes	no	no	no	no	71%	
David Taylor	At Large Group 1	no	no	Don't Know	no	no	yes	Don't Know	43%	ANTI-ENDORSED
Kimberly Daniels	At Large Group 1	no	no	no	no	yes	no	no	100%	
John Crescimbeni (I)	At Large Group 2	no	no	no	yes	yes	no	yes	71%	ENDORSED
Tom Patton	At Large Group 2	Don't Know	Don't Know	yes	Don't Know	yes	no	Don't Know	14%	
Vince Serrano	At Large Group 2	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	86%	
Paul Martinez	At Large Group 2	no	no	no	no	yes	no	no	100%	
Juan Diaz	At Large Group 4	no	no	Don't Know	no	no	no	no	71%	CO-ENDORSED
Greg Anderson	At Large Group 4	DID NOT RESPOND								
Jim Robinson	At Large Group 4	yes	yes	no	no	yes	no	no	71%	CO-ENDORSED
Robin Lumb	At Large Group 5	no	no	no	no	yes	no	no	100%	ENDORSED
Sean Hall	At Large Group 5	DID NOT RESPOND								
Fred Engness	At Large Group 5	no	no	no	no	Don't Know	no	no	86%	Honorable Mention
Don Foy	At Large Group 5	DID NOT RESPOND								
Michelle Tappouni	At Large Group 5	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know	yes	yes	Don't Know	Don't Know	14%	
Robin Rukab	At Large Group 5	DID NOT RESPOND								
Clay Yarborough (I)	City Council District 1	no	no	no	no	yes	no	no	100%	ENDORSED
Darryl Fleming	City Council District 1	yes	Don't Know	Don't Know	no	yes	Don't Know	Don't Know	28%	
Lindsey Brock	City Council District 1	REFUSED	REFUSED	no	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED	14%	
Bill Bishop (I)	City Council District 2	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	57%	ENDORSED
Stephen Heckel	City Council District 2	no	no	Don't Know	no	no	no	Don't Know	57%	
Richard Clark (I)	City Council District 3	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	Did Not Vote	43%	
Mario Rubio	City Council District 3	no	no	no	no	yes	no	Don't Know	86%	ENDORSED
Jack Daniels	City Council District 5	no	no	no	no	yes	no	no	100%	
Robert 'Fritz' VanVolkenburgh	City Council District 5	REFUSED TO ANSWER								
Lori Boyer	City Council District 5	REFUSED TO ANSWER								
Steve Hyers	City Council District 5	no	no	Don't Know	no	Don't Know	no	Don't Know	58%	ENDORSED
Jack Webb (I)	City Council District 6	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	28%	no recommendation yet
Matt Schellenberg	City Council District 6	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	86%	no recommendation yet
Greg Youngblood	City Council District 6	no	no	Don't Know	no	no	no	no	71%	no recommendation yet
Johnny Gaffney (I)	City Council District 7	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	28%	unable to recommend
Marc McCullough	City Council District 7	DID NOT RESPOND								
Ray Holt (I)	City Council District 11	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	28%	
Doug Moore	City Council District 11	no	no	no	no	yes	no	Don't Know	86%	ENDORSED
Tom Baine	City Council District 11	no	no	no	no	yes	no	Don't Know	86%	
Joe Andrews	City Council District 12	no	no	Don't Know	no	yes	no	no	86%	ENDORSED
Jim Davis	City Council District 12	no	no	no	no	yes	no	no	100%	
Doyle Carter	City Council District 12	DID NOT RESPOND								
Danny Becton	City Council District 13	no	no	Don't Know	no	yes	no	Don't Know	72%	no recommendation yet
Dave Smith	City Council District 13	no	Don't Know	no	no	yes	no	no	86%	no recommendation yet
Vanessa Williams	City Council District 13	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	86%	no recommendation yet
Wm. "Bill" Gulliford	City Council District 13	no	no	no	no	no	yes	no	72%	no recommendation yet
Jill Dame	City Council District 14	Don't Know	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	28%	
Jim Love	City Council District 14	DID NOT RESPOND								
Greg Rachal	City Council District 14	no	no	Don't Know	no	Don't Know	no	Don't Know	58%	
Kendall Bryan	City Council District 14	no	no	Don't Know	yes	no	No Answer	Don't Know	28%	CO-ENDORSED
Shelton Hull	City Council District 14	no	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	58%	
Henry Mooneyhan	City Council District 14	no	no	no	no	yes	no	no	100%	CO-ENDORSED
									Average rating of all respondents	80%

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Not Sure Where to Vote? Find Your City Council Voting District
<http://www.dualelections.com/precinctfinder.aspx>

VOTE FOR LOWER TAXES AND SMALLER GOVERNMENT



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