



Election Issue 2017

City Council Mayor – Ken Massey

Mayor Pro Tem Samantha Steckloff

Council Members

- Michael Bridges
Randy Bruce
Valerie Knol
Richard Lerner
Theresa Rich

City Manager Dave Boyer

Resident Concerns Contact Us By Email

Contact us by email at www.fhgov.com. The inquiry form requires you to fill in your contact information for a follow up. Inquiries are automatically routed to the responsible department and follow up typically occurs within 24 hours, Monday through Friday.

Drop Boxes

For your convenience, there are two drop boxes available for dropping off election materials, including absent voter applications and/or absent voter ballots, as well as tax payments. A tan drive-up drop box is located next to the federal post office boxes in front of Police Headquarters at 31655 Eleven Mile Road, right next door to City Hall.

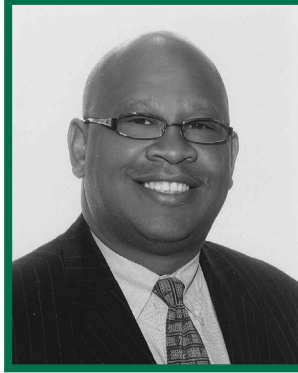


Editor: Gillian Pines
Phone: 248-871-2500
Fax: 248-871-2501
Website: www.fhgov.com
E-mail: gpines@fhgov.com
Address: 31555 W. Eleven Mile Rd. Farmington Hills, MI 48336

Biographies and photos submitted by candidates. Placement of candidate profiles on this page selected at random.

Michael Bridges Candidate for Re-election to City Council

Michael Bridges' personal history may well be a prototype of the American success story. His personal history has taken him from janitor to successful professional. In 2008, Michael was elected to the City Council.



Following his election to the City Council, Bridges has been very active. During his term, the City has been named a Safe City for ten consecutive years, City services have not declined, and the City has received a triple AAA bond rating. Bridges pledges if re-elected, his primary objective will be to maintain these benchmarks.

He also spearheaded the formulation of a task force consisting of the cities of Farmington Hills, Farmington, and the Farmington Public Schools. This task force has two principal objectives - to investigate opportunities to share services and maintain open and cooperative relations with these governmental bodies.

Bridges is running for re-election because he believes he has the necessary experience, leadership, and vision to maintain the City of Farmington Hills' excellent quality of life.

Bridges has a passion for his family, a passion to succeed, and a passion to serve the community.

Valerie Knol Candidate for Re-election to City Council

Valerie Knol is running for re-election to the Farmington Hills City Council. Valerie was elected to Council in 2013 and served as Mayor Pro Tem in 2016. She serves as the Council Liaison to the Beautification Commission and the Historical District Commission. Prior to her election in Farmington Hills, Valerie served on the City Council of the City of Farmington for eight years and served as Mayor from 2007-09.



A longtime activist in our community, Valerie served on the Board of the Farmington Players Theatre, the American Association of University Women, the Farmington YMCA, and the Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce. She currently serves on the Oakland County Zoological Authority.

Valerie is a Manager of State and Local Government Relations at FCA US LLC and previously worked as a senior staff member for the Michigan House of Representatives. Valerie received a B.S. from Western Michigan University and a Master's Degree from Eastern Michigan University.

While on Farmington Hills Council, Valerie worked to maintain our neighborhoods and quality of life by supporting public safety, high-quality services, and infrastructure projects. She has worked collaboratively to encourage compatible redevelopment of underutilized properties to minimize blight and increase property tax base.

Valerie understands that fiscal stability, efficient city services, responsible redevelopment, and effective collaboration with neighboring communities and local organizations are the foundation of a strong community. Valerie's diversity of experience, common sense leadership, record of cooperation, and long service to our community make her exceptionally qualified for re-election to City Council.

Mary Newlin Candidate for Election to City Council

Mary Newlin understands a community needs to have a voice. She is someone who will listen and will represent you as a Council member. Mary is proud to say this is her first public office candidacy. She has been a resident of Farmington Hills for 30 years, after marrying her husband who was raised in Farmington Hills. They have raised three children, all graduates of Farmington Public Schools. Mary has been a registered nurse for 30 years. She has been a volunteer for projects for the American Legion Post in Farmington and a member of the Warner Mansion - Warnerettes.



Mary believes you should feel at home in your City, so Mary is running for Council to ensure a strong community that is welcoming to all. She will push for cost efficiency and the best practices to provide programs and City services for all of our residents. She believes in community involvement in decisions that affect your homes and our City. She wants to improve oversight in all City departments to ensure quality services for everyone. She wants to be your voice so City decisions do not place a burden or decrease the quality of life for anyone in her community.

Mary has asked the community to reach her at yourvoicemarynewlin@gmail.com, or Mary Newlin for Farmington Hills City Council 2017 on Facebook, because your questions and concerns will become her focus. She feels that it is important to meet everyone, so expect a knock on your door.

Samantha Steckloff Candidate for Re-election to City Council

Council member and current Mayor Pro Tem Samantha Steckloff's goal is to ensure that Farmington Hills remains a wonderful place to live, work, raise a family, and retire. During her first term, Steckloff helped Farmington Hills maintain high-quality services - despite large budget reductions, and without tax increases.



After her breast cancer diagnosis two years ago, Steckloff discovered that, despite having outstanding health care resources, Oakland County and Farmington Hills experience poorer health care outcomes than many other areas of Michigan. She then sponsored the City's pioneering Community Health Commission, through which Farmington Hills will obtain public health grants to coordinate community health resources for better health outcomes.

Steckloff authored the City's human rights ordinance, supports the City's commitment to energy-efficient buildings and expanded recycling programs, and encourages sustainable building practices for new buildings.

Opposed to the City Council's new Special Assessment District policy for local roads, Steckloff favors the original policy under which neighborhoods decide, within certain safety limits, when and how to fix their roads.

Steckloff previously served on the City's Parks and Recreation Commission, Commission on Children, Youth and Families, Committee to Increase Voter Participation, and Mayor's Youth Council. She holds a bachelor's degree from Purdue University, and is a 2002 High Honors graduate of Harrison High School. She is the Enrollment Management Coordinator at Wayne State University. Her mother, Vicki Barnett, served two terms as the City's mayor and three terms as our State Representative.

Work for One of the Safest Cities in Michigan - Make a Difference in the Community!

The Farmington Hills Police Department is seeking Police Officers, Dispatchers, and Police Service Aides.

- Police officers perform law enforcement duties that include responding to calls, assisting citizens, and community service-related functions. Candidates must be MCOLES (Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards) certified, certifiable or currently attending an MCOLES police academy, at the time of a conditional job offer.
Police Department Dispatchers answer general and emergency calls, and dispatch police and fire units.
Police Service Aides assist citizens at the Command Desk, answer phone calls, and take reports in person and over the phone.

For more information, contact Human Resources at 248-871-2490.

Candidate for Re-election as Mayor of Farmington Hills

Ken Massey is a lifelong resident of Farmington Hills. He joined City Council in November 2003. Ken served as Mayor Pro Tem in 2006, 2010, and 2015. He is a member, and past chair, of the Farmington Hills/Farmington Emergency Preparedness Commission. Additionally, he is a founding member and chair of Farmington SAFE (Suicide Awareness for Everyone). Ken advocated nationally for Farmington Hills as a member of the National League of Cities (NLC) Public Safety Steering Committee serving as chair in 2012. Ken previously was President of the Farmington Area Council of Homeowners Associations, is active on his subdivision's HOA, the Chamber Board, Hospital Board, and many others.



Ken graduated from North Farmington High School. Community involvement was important from an early age with his participation in civic groups and in scouting, where he earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern Michigan University and a Ph.D. from the University of Texas Southwestern. He completed fellowships at the University of Arizona and the Michigan Hospital Association. Professionally, Ken is a biomedical scientist employed at Wayne State University.

Ken has a track record of getting the job done. He works to keep our streets safe, promote economic growth, and ensure tax dollars are spent wisely. That's why most Council members, current and past, your police officers, firefighters, and many residents support him. Visit: www.ken-massey.com.

Ken and his wife Katherine are proud to call Farmington Hills home.

NON-HOMESTEAD OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This authorization will (i) restore the authority of Farmington Public School District to levy 18.00 mills previously authorized and levied for general operating purposes on non-homestead taxable property (comprised primarily of business, commercial, and rental property) which has been reduced by 0.1548 mill by application of the Headlee Amendment, and (ii) increase the prior authority by 1 mill in the event of future Headlee rollbacks of the same amount. This authority, combined with other unexpired authorizations, would allow the School District to receive revenues at the full foundation allowance permitted by the State.

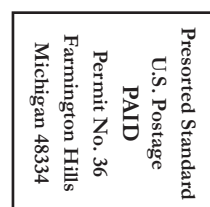
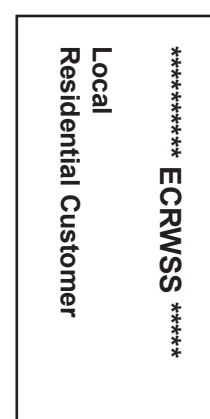
Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed on taxable non-homestead property in the Farmington Public School District, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, be increased by 1.1548 mills (\$1.1548 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) for nine (9) years, the years 2017 to 2025, inclusive, to provide funds for operating expenses? This millage would raise an estimated \$170,000 for the school district in the first year that it is levied.

VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2017

31555 W. Eleven Mile Road | Farmington Hills, MI 48336

FARMINGTON HILLS Michigan FOCUS

Election Issue 2017



City Clerk's Office

ELECTION DEADLINES AND REMINDERS

Don't forget to get out and vote in the upcoming City General Election scheduled for Tuesday, November 7, 2017.

The ballot will include the following Offices and Proposals:

- The Office of Mayor - one to be elected for a two-year term
- The Office of Council Member - three to be elected for a four-year term
- Farmington Public Schools Non-Homestead Operating Millage Proposal (Precincts 1-4 and 7-26 only)

Deadlines:

- **Tuesday, October 10, 2017** – Last day to register to vote in the November 7, 2017 City General Election (City Clerk's Office is open until 4:30 p.m.) You may register at your County or local Clerk's Office or any Secretary of State Branch Office.
- **Saturday, November 4, 2017 until 2 p.m.** – Last day to request an absent voter ballot to be mailed. The City Clerk's Office is open from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. on this date for Election related business only.

- **Monday, November 6, 2017 until 4 p.m.** – Last day to request an absent voter ballot in person. Please be sure to bring Photo I.D. Voters are not allowed to leave with the ballot on this day and must vote the ballot in person at City Hall.

You may contact the City Clerk's Office at 248-871-2410 for an absent voter ballot application or download the form from the City website. Sample ballots can also be found on the City website at www.fhgov.com as of September 25, 2017.

VOTING PRECINCTS

There are no changes in voting locations, but please take note of the following updates:

- Farmington Public Schools has closed Highmeadow Common Campus, however they still own the building and it will remain as Farmington Hills Precinct #11 for the November 7, 2017 Election.
- Dunckel Middle School, Precinct #9, has been renamed - the new name is Farmington STEAM Academy.

NEW ELECTION EQUIPMENT

New election equipment has been purchased state-wide and Farmington Hills will be using this new equipment in the November 7, 2017 Election. The City Clerk's Office will have one of the new voting tabulators, which will be used at the precincts on Election Day, for voters to view at an upcoming Open House.



Watch for more information on the City website, Facebook page, listserv/e-newsletter, and on Cable Channel 8.1 about more opportunities to see the new equipment before Election Day.

The voting process will be very similar for voters, but what changes can the voter expect with the new equipment?

- Smaller ballot sizes - some ballots may be 8 1/2" x 11".
- Voters will fill in a box to the left of the candidate name or proposal choice to cast their vote rather than an oval to the right of the candidate name or proposal choice.
Example: Smith
 Jones
- Larger display with a clear and concise message that your vote has been recorded.



Precinct information and maps can be found on the City website at www.fhgov.com