

VOTERS GUIDE

June 8, 2019 Election
Richardson City Council Place 3 Runoff



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Website www.lwvrichardson.org, online *VOTERS GUIDE* with more questions: www.Vote411.org



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This *Voters Guide* is a community service to voters of the City of Richardson. Candidate responses published in this guide were typed into www.Vote411.org by the candidates. Four of the questions from the online *Voters Guide* are reproduced in this guide. Responses are printed exactly as received and must meet character limits. Excess characters in a candidate's response have been replaced with an ellipsis (...).

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EARLY VOTING: ALL registered Richardson voters, whether they live in Dallas County or Collin County, may vote early at any [Dallas County Early Voting location](http://www.dallascountyvotes.org/wp-content/uploads/EVLocations.pdf) (www.dallascountyvotes.org/wp-content/uploads/EVLocations.pdf). To vote early in the Richardson City Council Place 3 Runoff Election, **Collin County residents of Richardson** may vote early ONLY at any Dallas County Early Voting location. Collin County residents of Richardson CANNOT vote early at any Collin County Early Voting locations in this election.

The Richardson Civic Center will be an Early Voting location in this election for all registered voters who live in Richardson.

Early Voting Dates & Times		
In-person Early Voting period	May 28 – June 1 (Tuesday through Saturday)	8:00am - 5:00pm
	June 2 (Sunday)	1:00pm - 6:00pm
	June 3 – 4 (Monday and Tuesday)	7:00am - 7:00pm

ELECTION DAY: On Election Day, Saturday, June 8th, polls will be open from 7am to 7pm. **ALL registered Richardson voters** who choose to vote on Election Day rather than during Early Voting, whether they live in Dallas County or Collin County, will have to vote at their designated precinct polling place. Click here to view the list of June 8 [Election Day precinct polling places](http://www.cor.net/home/showdocument?id=26231) (www.cor.net/home/showdocument?id=26231) for Richardson residents. This list is also available through a link on the [webpage of the Richardson City Secretary](http://www.cor.net/government/city-secretary/elections) (www.cor.net/government/city-secretary/elections). To vote on Election Day in the Richardson City Council Place 3 Runoff Election, **Collin County residents of Richardson** must vote at their designated precinct polling place (linked to above). Collin County residents of Richardson CANNOT vote on Election Day at Collin County Vote Centers in this election.

Richardson City Council www.cor.net

Richardson residents vote for all members of the City Council, who are elected for two-year terms on a nonpartisan basis. The Council is made up of Places 1-4 (candidates for these Places must live in the geographical quadrant for which they are running), Places 5-6 (two members elected with no geographical restrictions), and Place 7, Mayor (with no geographical restrictions).

Council members are responsible for hiring the City Manager, appointing the City Attorney, City Secretary, Municipal Court Judges, City Health Officer and citizens to the City's boards and commissions. The Council is also responsible for passing city ordinances, planning for capital improvements, issuing and selling municipal bonds, purchasing and selling property, establishing city departments, determining city services, approving the annual budget, and setting the city's tax rate. The City Manager is responsible for the city's daily operations, hiring department heads, supervising city personnel, directing and coordinating all municipal programs, enforcing all municipal laws and ordinances, and recommending an annual budget.

To view an online VOTERS GUIDE with many more questions answered by the candidates, go to:

www.VOTE411.org	Funded by the



RICHARDSON CITY COUNCIL – Contested Place 3
 For candidate responses to more questions, go to www.Vote411.org



Place 3, Ballot Position 1 (2 candidates on the ballot)

Place 3, Ballot Position 2 (2 candidates on the ballot)

Why do you want to be a member of the City Council and what are your qualifications? (600-character limit)



Janet DePuy

I'm running for City Council because keeping an older suburb like ours vibrant and desirable takes vigilance. I have a long history of civic involvement. I'm a founding member of the Heights Park Neighborhood Association, serving for 10 years as President. I served on the City Plan Commission for over 10 years, ending my service as the Vice Chair. I'm a graduate of Leadership Richardson. I was named a Real Hero in 2018 in recognition of my community volunteerism. I serve on the board of the Arts Incubator of Richardson (A.I.R.), and I'm currently participating in the Citizens Police Academy.



Dan Barrios

I'm running because I love Richardson. I know that as great as we are, we could do better, and it's time for fresh voices. Richardson residents have historically had few choices during local elections, often chosen from a small group of elites. It's time we had leaders who reflect our city, someone that reflects you and helps bring a voice to all corners of the city. I believe that my professional career in business development and my record of integral community service has prepared me to jump right in and find the best path forward for Richardson.

How would you balance meeting the needs of an aging population with encouraging young people to move to Richardson? (600-character limit)

In my work as a Realtor, I've found that young and old often like many of the same activities, neighborhoods, dining experiences. I live in an older neighborhood with many long-time owners but have sold homes to many young professionals and families who choose to live in these older areas. The balance of young and old is embraced and makes for a dynamic environment. Our corporate partners bring younger workers who need housing; but our city has housing for older, retired people as well. I would encourage developers to bring more creative housing to Richardson to accommodate both groups.

Our senior and disabled population often feel an increasing tax bill the most and face the risk of being taxed out. We need to continue to reevaluate our approach to tax relief for this growing population. To attract younger families, we need to consider walkability and bikeability in new developments. Secondly, we need to invest in our neighborhoods and make housing costs reasonable. Currently, the city incentivizes those who can afford \$20,000 in home upgrades. I would add a second category with a lower minimum threshold to encourage investment in a wider range of neighborhoods.

Of the ten Strategies the current City Council lists in its 2017 – 2019 Statement of Goals (<https://www.cor.net/government/city-council/council-goals>), which would be your top three priorities? Why? (600-character limit)

(5) City finances are always a concern and with possible State mandates dictating tax caps, etc., our budget may require adjustments. Maintaining transparency here is critical. (9) Underperforming retail centers/vacant office space are a concern. Providing assistance/coaching to owners, developers or small businesses could be the enhancement these centers need to become catalysts for more opportunities. (10) Continuing involvement with regional entities is of importance whether on boards and committees or with partner counties, as well as working with State legislators to stress local control.

First, we need a strong economy. I'll work to continue attracting companies to Telecom Corridor, but also maximize our small businesses. I'll work with the surrounding community to fill the empty buildings around Main Street, Spring Valley, 190, and Richardson Square with businesses they want and need. Secondly, we must improve the quality of life for our stakeholders. That means everything from spending your dollars wisely and fixing potholes to improving walkability across Richardson. Lastly, I believe it's time for a city council that prioritizes listening to your ideas and your concerns.

Richardson provides financial incentives for some businesses to relocate here. Should these incentives continue, and if so, what types of businesses would you favor? (600-character limit)

Yes, absolutely. They're designed to promote redevelopment, encourage economic growth, generate sales tax and enhance the surrounding area. These incentives have helped bring us several large corporations. The City also provides other incentives specific to housing stock (HIIP), tax abatements through the appraisal districts, and other general economic development incentives. I would want to continue these incentives wherever possible with both large and small businesses. We need both types of businesses to sustain a balanced economy.

Cities commonly use tax incentives as a tool to attract new businesses, and I completely support their strategic use. Like anything, it's about balance. We must use these tax incentives strategically and intelligently to bolster our economic growth. While it's important we attract larger companies, and we also need to ensure they're hiring locally. I will also evaluate what we are doing to attract small businesses. Currently, some residents have opened shop in other cities because Richardson wasn't financially sensible. I will champion bringing those investment dollars back home to Richardson.