

Montana Conservation Voters Missoula City Election Voter Guide

www.mtvoters.org

September, 2009

Montana Conservation Voters presents this slate of endorsed candidates for your support. The endorsement process included candidate questionnaires and interviews, and decisions made by the chapter board with approval from the MCV Board of Directors. Copies of questionnaires are available to members by calling 254-1593, or e-mailing kevin@mtvoters.org.

Mayor John Engen was elected to his seat in 2005 and is unopposed in his re-election bid. John was instrumental in passing an open-space bond for Missoula, protecting land in and around the city for generations to come. He has promoted affordable housing and has worked to update the City's zoning regulations. John also helped facilitate the passage of the Urban Fringe Development Area, to protect agricultural land around Missoula. He established an advisory board on sustainability and climate change and is interested in launching a brown-fields restoration and redevelopment project. In his endorsement interview, John also committed to identify means to preserve agricultural lands, in order to promote a local food system for Missoula, the Garden City. **Visit John at www.engenformayor2009.com.**



Ward 1 - Dave Strohmaier, was endorsed by Montana Conservation Voters and elected to the Missoula City Council in 2005, and has been a conservation champion on the Council, earning a 100% on the 2009 Montana Conservation Voters Missoula City Conservation Scorecard. Dave works as an historian with Historical Research Associates where he specializes in environmental and Native American history, and history of the American West. He spearheaded a feasibility study to restore the North Coast Hiawatha Amtrak passenger railroad to bring services from Glendive to Missoula, and sponsored a resolution calling for Citywide Fuel Consumption Reduction. Dave faces Ryan Morton, who did not seek MCV's endorsement. **To support Dave, send checks to 508 E. Pine St., Missoula, MT 59802, cell? (406) 327-8911, home (406) 721-1958, or email dstrohmaier@msn.com.**



Ward 2 - Roy Houseman is challenging incumbent John Hendrickson, who was first elected to the Council in 2005 and received a poor 20% on the 2009 MCV Missoula City Conservation Scorecard. Roy is a union leader and was elected in 2007 as the youngest President of the United Steelworkers Hellgate 885. He grew up in Great Falls and graduated from the University of Montana with a Bachelor's degree in English Literature and Psychology in 2003, and later worked for Smurfit-Stone as an operator. Roy helped his local union develop a travel plan for the Beaverhead-Deerlodge Partnership, involving the timber industry and various labor, community and conservation organizations. He convened various unions for a presentation from The Nature Conservancy on conserving thousands of acres from unwise development. He also recently drafted a guest column with Sierra Club and the Blue-Green Alliance to support the American Clean Energy Securities Act. **To support Roy, send checks to 927 Phillips St., Missoula, MT 59802, phone (406) 544-4940, or e-mail roy.houseman@gmail.com.**



Ward 3 - Bob Jaffe was endorsed by Montana Conservation Voters in his first bid for City Council in 2005 and earned a 90% of the 2009 MCV Missoula City Conservation Scorecard. Bob owns a small software and web design firm. He has been a strong voice on the City Council for effective planning, alternative transportation, open space and mitigating the loss of agriculture lands. Bob also hosts a Missoula Government blog, providing an open forum for community members to discuss City Council issues. He has been active in the Community Food and Agriculture Coalition, he helped build a new playground on the Westside, and was on the board of a local non-profit that provides economic assistance and develops affordable housing. In 2007, he helped found the Missoula Chapter of Montana Conservation Voters. His opponent, John Quandt, sought endorsement and was interviewed by local members but was not endorsed. **To support Bob, visit him at www.jaffeforcouncil.com or mail checks to 1225 South 2nd W. St., Missoula, MT 59801, phone 880-2052, or e-mail bobj@montana.com.**



Ward 5 - Mike O'Herron is challenging incumbent Dick Haines, who received the lowest score on the 2009 MCV Missoula City Conservation Scorecard at 13%. Mike is a 17 year resident of Missoula and a downtown small business owner. He works in forest management for the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. He has also worked as project manager for the Montana DNRC Forested Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan. Mike is very interested in identifying more energy efficient transportation strategies and growing more of our own food. On energy, Mike says "There is no downside to getting prepared for a rise in energy prices, because even if energy prices stay low and manageable, we will be far more self-sufficient and environmentally healthier as an urban center." **To support Mike send checks to 4117 S. Reserve St, Missoula, MT 59801, phone (406) 240-4199, or e-mail mikeforward5@gmail.com.**



Ward 6 - Marilyn Marler is seeking re-election after winning her first election in 2005, when she was endorsed by Montana Conservation Voters. She's a conservation champion, having earned a 90% score on the MCV 2009 Missoula City Conservation Scorecard. Marilyn is the co-owner of Butterfly Properties, a property management company emphasizing sustainable living. She has been working for 10 years on noxious weed control and native plant restoration on Missoula's open lands. She is a Natural Areas Specialist for the University of Montana and has been lending her expertise on noxious weed control and native plants to groups like the Native Plant Society, Montana Natural History Center and Rocky Mountain Invasive Plant Council. Her opponent, Kathy Greathouse, did not seek the MCV endorsement. **To support Marilyn, visit her at www.marilynformissoula.com, send checks to 1750 South 8th St. West Missoula, MT 59801, phone (406) 544-7189, or e-mail marler@bigsky.net.**





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www.mtvoters.org

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***Inside: MCV's
Missoula 2009
City Conservation
Scorecard and
Endorsements
for the 2009
Missoula City
Council Election***

Election Calendar

October 5th: Close of regular registration. Late registration begins.

October 19th: Absentee ballots are sent out.

November 3rd: General Election Day.

Missoula Candidates

Here is a list of current Missoula office-holders, and candidates who are on the 2009 General Election ballot. Visit www.mtvoters.org or call (406) 254-1593 for up-to-date information through election day.

Your Vote Matters in the Upcoming City Elections!

The Missoula City Council candidates we elect this fall will make vital decisions that affect the health of our community, our clean air, clear water, and our city's future.

Your vote matters!

Inside you'll find our Voter Guide, featuring the candidates that Montana Conservation Voters has endorsed. And, read our first-ever *2009 Missoula City Conservation Scorecard*, which tells you how the City Council is voting on key Missoula conservation and environmental issues. Use this information and support the candidates who will stand up for our conservation values.

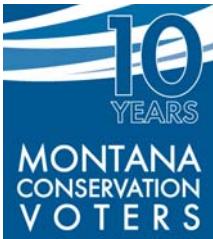


Send in your ballot by November 3rd.

If you weren't sent a ballot and live within city limits, contact the Missoula County Elections Office at (406) 523-4751.

Position	Incumbent	Up for re-election	Candidates who have filed
Mayor	<u>John Engen</u>	Yes	<u>John Engen</u>
Council W1	Jason Wiener	No	
Council W1	<u>Dave Strohmaier</u>	Yes	<u>Dave Strohmaier</u> , Ryan Morton
Council W2	Pam Walzer	No	
Council W2	John Hendrickson	Yes	John Hendrickson, <u>Roy Houseman</u>
Council W3	<u>Stacy Rye</u>	No	
Council W3	<u>Bob Jaffe</u>	Yes	<u>Bob Jaffe</u> , John Quandt
Council W4	Lyn Hellegaard	No	
Council W4	Jon Wilkins	Yes	Jon Wilkins
Council W5	Renee Mitchell	No	
Council W5	Dick Haines	Yes	Dick Haines, <u>Mike O'Herron</u>
Council W6	Ed Childers	No	
Council W6	<u>Marilyn Marler</u>	Yes	<u>Marilyn Marler</u> , Kathy Greathouse

Previously endorsed Incumbents and currently endorsed Candidates are underlined.



Montana Conservation Voters 2009 Missoula City Conservation Scorecard

www.mtvoters.org

September, 2009

Dear Missoula County Conservation Voters,

Who we elect matters!

City Council elections this fall are important to the Missoula conservation community. I encourage you to review your City Council members' conservation votes, and use this information to make an informed vote for City Council candidates this fall.

Missoula is a special place with vibrant neighborhoods, three great rivers, neighboring wilderness, and abundant recreational opportunities. It is the economic center of western Montana. Our city faces a gamut of troubles that threaten our quality of life.

Missoulians expect clean air, water and access to open space. City Council shapes policy affecting bike and pedestrian transportation, local food production, and the acquisition and management of parkland and open space. We need to promote renewable energy and reduce our fuel consumption for our families' economic security. We need to plan for growth in town and on our urban fringe, adequately funding the planning effort. All these needs are reflected in the past votes of our current City Council.

With your help, we will help elect strong leaders to local office who are committed to our shared conservation values.

The Missoula City Conservation Scorecard before you was assembled in consultation with conservation and environmental organization colleagues, reviewing votes affecting our city's clean air, water, and open spaces between January 2008 and March 2009. These ten votes by our twelve City Councilors make up our final scorecard.

Please use this Scorecard to decide who deserves your vote.

Thanks to all the conservationists in Missoula that make our city a better place to live, work and play, for their guidance in developing this scorecard.

Sincerely,

Alex Taft, Vice Chairman

Who we elect Matters! This is especially true at the local level, where the candidates we elect to the Missoula City Council put our tax dollars to work, and are the first line of defense for protecting our healthy communities, clean air, water, and beautiful outdoor heritage.

Read how City Council members voted on Missoula conservation issues and make an informed decision in the November 3rd election. Please approach Council members about their votes in support of, or in opposition to the conservation community's position.

The Missoula City Council has twelve members, six of whom are running for re-election. Mayor Engen is up for re-election and is unopposed. Three of the six incumbents running were previously endorsed by MCV, as was the mayor who is running unopposed. Montana Conservation Voters urges the re-election of these pro-conservation incumbents, and the defeat of two incumbents who received poor grades on this scorecard.

Please join us in this effort!

2009 Municipal Election Calendar

October 5th: Close of regular registration. Late registration begins. Voters may still register at the election office up to and including Election Day, fill out and submit a voter registration card, and vote a ballot.

October 19th: Absentee election ballots are sent out.

November 3rd: Municipal General Election. Voters have until 8:00 p.m. on November 3rd to return mailed ballots to the county election office or ballot drop-off boxes.

Here's what you can do as a Conservation Voter to elect these candidates.

- Help the candidates with phone calls, meeting with voters at their doors, or with mailings and fundraisers.
- Write a letter to the editor in support of these candidates.
- Register to vote. Vote on November 3rd!
- Donate to Montana Conservation Voters Political Action Committee to elect pro-conservation candidates: www.mtvoters.org/pac

2009 Missoula City Conservation Scorecard



		1. Equitable Transportation Revenue	2. Conserve Agricultural Land	3. Increase Parkland Dedication	4. Fund Open Space Management Plan	5. Support Green Tags	6. Adopt Urban Fringe Development Area (UFDA)	7. Reduce City Fuel Consumption	8. Support Peer Review of 3rd and Russel St EIS	9. Support Increased Planning Resources	10. Reconsider Support for Chickens Ordinance	Entire Council Score
Ward 1	Jason Wiener	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
	Dave Strohmaier	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Ward 2	Pam Walzer	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	90%
	John Hendrickson	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	20%
Ward 3	Stacy Rye	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	90%
	Bob Jaffe	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	90%
Ward 4	Lyn Hellegaard	-	NP	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	22%
	John Wilkins	+	-	+	-	-	-	AB	-	+	-	33%
Ward 5	Renee Mitchell	NP	-	+	-	-	-	AB	-	-	AB	14%
	Dick Haines	-	-	-	NP	NP	-	-	+	-	-	13%
Ward 6	Ed Childers	+	-	+	+	+	+	AB	-	+	+	78%
	Marilyn Marler	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	90%

(+) indicates a vote with the Conservation Community NP stands for not present
 (-) indicates a vote against the Conservation Community AB stands for abstained, not included in score

1. Equitable Transportation Revenue, March 23, 2009

This resolution called for equitable distribution of federal and state transportation revenue to Missoula. Missoula residents make up 8.5% of the Montana population but only receive 2.6% of the federal funds for highway and transit improvements, representing less than a third of the resources the City ought to receive given its relative population to the state. Proponents included the Bike Walk Alliance for Missoula, Missoula Advocates for Sustainable Transportation and Missoula Institute for Sustainable Transportation.

Conservation Community position: Support
Vote: 8/3, Renee Mitchell absent, resolution passed



2. Conserve Agricultural Land, May 13, 2009

This motion would have restored the integrity of an "Agricultural Parcel" within the Chickasaw Place subdivision, in an effort to mitigate the loss of irreplaceable agricultural soil in the face of continued population growth and development. The Chickasaw Place subdivision would have converted all 9.4 acres of prime farmland to residential uses. The Office of Planning & Grants recommended that the 3 best acres of farmland, all previously farmed, would be permanently protected in a design that encouraged food production. The motion failed, but final approval did include some farmland mitigation measures. The Community Food and Agriculture Coalition led the effort to mitigate the loss of prime farmland slated for development. Read more here: <http://missoulafac.org/content/index/90>.

2009 Missoula City Conservation Scorecard

Conservation Community Position: Support

Vote: 2/10, measure failed

3. Increase Parkland Dedication, March 9, 2009

This resolution amended City Subdivision Regulations to close a loophole in parkland dedication requirements and increased parkland for multi-family development in new subdivisions. Providing adequate and useable green space for multi-family projects improves the quality of life for residents, decreases pressure on our existing parks and open space, and adds to the area available for rainwater infiltration. Additionally, the newly adopted regulations allow the parkland dedication to be used for community garden space.

Conservation Community Position: Support

Vote: 9/3, measure passed



4. Fund Open Space Management Plan, February 9, 2009

This measure approved and authorized the Mayor to sign an agreement with Ecosystem Research Group to prepare a plan for managing Missoula's open space lands. This represents the City's effort to secure professional and scientific expertise in preparing a plan for managing and preserving the integrity and inherent value of Missoula's open space.

Conservation Community Position: Support

Vote: 7/4, Dick Haines was absent, measure passed

5. Support Green Tags, February 9, 2009

This measure allows Missoula to sponsor renewable energy certificates to raise money for conservation projects and create incentives for renewable energy development in the City. The Greenhouse Gas and Energy Conservation Team proposed a partnership with Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF) to sell renewable energy certificates or green tags. In exchange, BEF allows the City to keep 10 percent of the revenue to invest in municipal renewable energy development. The City's approval of this proposal is a significant step toward reducing the inherently higher cost of developing a cleaner energy future for Missoula.

Conservation Community Position: Support

Vote: 9/2, Dick Haines was absent, measure passed

6. Adopt Urban Fringe Development Area (UFDA) Project, November 24, 2008

This resolution included the Urban Fringe Development Area (UFDA) in the 2005 Missoula County Growth Policy. This resolution helps guide growth over the next 10+ years toward the urban core that already provides City services. This project reflects an abundance of community input resulting in a plan that guides future growth and helps avoid sprawl. A monthly roundtable of groups that discuss issues such as this met and submitted a letter to the Missoula City Council supporting the adoption of the resolution.

Groups who supported the resolution include:

Clark Fork Coalition; Community Food and Agriculture Coalition, Five Valleys Audubon Society, Garden City Harvest, GlobalWarmingSolution.org, Home Resource, HomeWORD, Montana Conservation Voters Missoula Chapter, Missoula Institute for Sustainable Transportation, Missoula Urban Demonstration Project, Montana Audubon, North-Missoula Community Development Corporation, Sierra Club Montana, and Wildlands CPR.

Conservation Community Position: Support

Vote: 7/5, measure passed



2009 Missoula City Conservation Scorecard

7. Reduce City Fuel Consumption, November 3, 2008

This measure supported reduction of fuel consumption and energy use by the City of 10 percent below 2007 levels by January 1, 2011. As fuel and energy costs rise and concerns over global climate change mount, the City must do what it can to reduce fuel and energy consumption. This is an effort to reduce the burden on the City's budget, conserve resources and protect the environment.

Conservation Community Position: Support

Vote: 8/1, 3 abstentions, measure passed

8. Support Peer Review of 3rd Street and Russell Street EIS, October 6, 2008

This measure called for a second look at the 3rd and Russell Street reconstruction Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The peer review, supported by the Missoula Advocates for Sustainable Transportation, was to ensure thorough public participation and that the "preferred reconstruction design alternative" reflected the community's support for all forms of transportation, preserved neighborhood design, and followed a "complete streets" concept.

Conservation Community Position: Support

Vote: 7/5, measure passed

9. Support Increased Planning Resources, September 22, 2008

This resolution established fees for the Office of Planning and Grants to review and process land use applications. Maintaining adequate funding for the Office of Planning and Grants ensures the City of Missoula has resources to support the community's request for a professional approach to planning for growth and requiring responsible and functional development of Missoula.

Conservation Community Position: Support

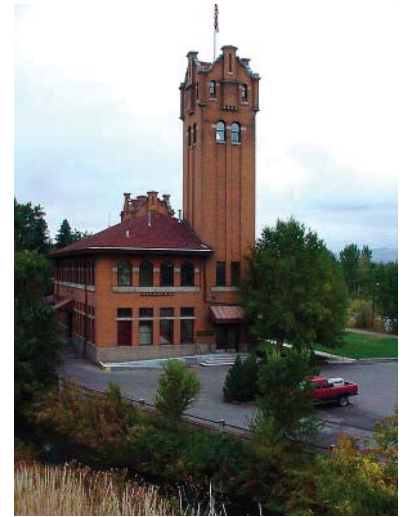
Vote: 8/4, measure passed

10. Reconsider Support for Chicken Ordinance, January 7, 2008

The motion would have reconsidered the chicken ordinance, which supports local food production and allowed City residents to have backyard chickens. Conservationists and local food advocates supported the original chicken ordinance, so this resolution would have potentially reversed that earlier victory. Currently 85-90% of Missoula's food comes from elsewhere, relying on fossil fuel dependent transportation. So, as residents become increasingly concerned with climate change, food safety, and rising oil prices, they gravitate toward greater self-reliance. The Community Food and Agriculture Coalition supported the urban chicken ordinance.

Conservation Community Position: Oppose motion to reconsider

Vote: 4/7, 1 abstention, motion failed



Support Montana Conservation Voters

The Montana Conservation Voters Political Action Committee has set an ambitious fundraising goal this year, to launch our group on solid financial footing for the next decade. Be part of our growing grassroots movement, working to protect Montana for future generations. If you're not a member, please join the movement at www.mtvoters.org/join. If you're already a member, please consider making an additional gift at www.mtvoters.org/pac.

Paid for by the Montana Conservation Voters Political Action Committee
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