



Indiana Muslim
Advocacy Network

2023 General Election: Voter Education Guide - Carmel



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Election Basics & Voter Guide Policy

You have the right to vote in an Indiana election if:

- You are both a U.S. citizen and a resident of Indiana
- You will be at least 18 years of age by the election date, **November 7, 2023**
- You are not currently in prison after being convicted of a crime
- You have lived in the precinct where you vote for at least 30 days prior to the election
- You are registered to vote

The following Voter Guide policy was shared with all candidates before receiving their responses:

- The Candidate Questionnaire was sent to all candidates from all parties
- Candidates replies are printed without editing or verification
- Candidates are listed by district, but in no particular order
- Candidates who did not respond to our questionnaire by the provided deadline are listed with the notation, “No response received by deadline.”

What to Know Before Going to the Polls

Who is on your ballot?

- Based on your address, you will have different different district City Council candidates to choose from
- Both the Mayoral Candidates and At-Large City Council Candidates will be on everyone's ballots
- Use this guide to make an informed decision about each candidate based on their answers to a few questions about key parts of our community
- You can go to indianavoters.in.gov to find out:
 - What district you live in
 - Your closest early voting site, and election day voting site location
 - Voting site hours
 - Who will be on your ballot or a "sample ballot"
 - Check your voter registration status

What do I bring with me?

- A valid ID issued by the State of Indiana or the federal government



Questions Sent to All Candidates

1. **Qualifications:** Why do you believe you are qualified to be the next elected Mayor/City Councilor of Carmel?
2. **Agenda:** What are your top 3 agenda items to address in Carmel if you are elected as Mayor/City Councilor?
3. **School Safety:** The national rise in school shootings has parents, school districts, and law enforcement agencies looking for ways to ensure schools are safe. Do you believe school safety is an issue of concern in Carmel? If so, what would be your plan to address these concerns?
4. **Inclusion:** The Hamilton County Muslim community is historically an immigrant community with limited political engagement. Organizations like IMAN have worked hard to increase voter and political engagement within the Muslim community. How do you see your role in increasing participation from groups like the Muslim community in city government and various decision making processes?
5. **Economic Strategy & Retention:** Many people move to Carmel in order to raise their families with such top rated school systems and amenities. After these children get their education, we are seeing many move to major cities like Chicago or Nashville to begin their careers. What is your economic strategy for Carmel in order to make sure we have enough economic opportunities to retain young, educated, and enthusiastic talent in Carmel?



Candidates On Ballot & Responses Received

Carmel Mayoral Candidates

Sue Finkam (R)

Miles Nelson (D)

Carmel City Council At-Large Candidates

Jeff Worrell (R)

Jake Madore (D)

Rich Taylor (R)

Sara Draper (D)

Matthew Snyder (R)

No response received by deadline.

Carmel City Council District Candidates

North
Central
District

Teresa Ayers (R)
*No response received by
deadline.*

Courtney Culver (D)

Southeast
District

Adam Aasen (R)

Jeremy Eltz (D)

Northwest
District

Ryan Locke (R)

Melanie Brown (D)

South
Central
District

Tony Green (R)

Jessica Irvine (D)

West
District

Loren Matthes (R)

Anita Joshi (D)

Northeast
District

Shannon Minnaar (R)
*No response received by
deadline.*



Sue Finkam

Republican

Mayoral Candidate

Qualifications:

I'm qualified to be Mayor because:

- I have experience. I've made an impact. I have a plan.

EXPERIENCE

- I have 30 years of business experience advocating for people, building corporate culture and leading high-performing teams.
- I have 12 years of municipal experience with over half of that in leadership positions.

IMPACT

- I have increased our savings accounts
- I have enhanced transparency in operations to inform taxpayers and co-founded LetsTalkCarmel.com
- I protected taxpayers with a new method of delivering capital projects so we don't go over budget again and again

PLAN

I released a 57-point plan to help guide this city through its next chapters, and to serve as the start of our first community-driven strategic plan.

Agenda:

Ultimately, I will help by being a strong, independent voice that brings a breath of fresh air to this office. I will make sure our quality of life stays high so you can continue to enjoy our community I will do that by:

- prioritizing crime prevention and keeping public and school safety at the forefront
- committing to fiscal excellence and make sure your taxes remain low, by prioritizing essential services, reducing waste and ensure our economic development efforts stay strong.
- engaging residents in building Carmel's future by bringing transparency, community collaboration and involvement to the forefront of our administration

But being able to list priorities is not enough. I'm the only candidate with the knowledge, experience and plan that you can hold accountable to pull it off. Additionally, as recognized by ReCenter Indiana, I'm the candidate best suited to work across the aisle to get things done.



School Safety:

School safety is a concern in every town and city in America.

I will ensure our police officers are the best and brightest and remain well trained, supported and equipped, and those chosen for school resource officers receive extra training specific to schools and we maintain operations aligned with the model agency award we received.

I will ensure our public safety teams continue to collaborate with school admins and federal agencies so school facilities are enhanced and access points controlled.

I will support use of mental health counselors (funded by safety referendum)

I will make sure all public safety personnel and communications teams drill on disasters to ensure an effective response

I will ensure school resource officers and school safety specialist collaborate

I will be a strong partner to school admins across the board.

It should be noted that the Carmel Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 185 and Carmel Professional Firefighters Union 4444 have endorsed me because of my commitment to and plan for public safety.

Inclusion:

My goal is to involve our international community in more roles on city boards, commissions and committees. In that manner, more people from diverse communities will better understand and contribute to our city, breaking down barriers of engagement. I hope that also leads to more people from the Muslim community and others applying to work in our city. I also want to see an international center/village in our community to celebrate and learn about our various art,s cultures, food, faiths and languages.

Economic Strategy & Retention:

We will continue to attract quality jobs if we can retain quality talent. We will retain quality talent if we continue to offer an amazing quality of place. We have done that in the past by creating a safe, clean, vibrant and diverse, welcoming community.

Additionally, as your Mayor, we need to supplement that strategy with a data-driven economic development department to hunt for key businesses that complement our already high-quality industries in the city. And we need to invest in a robust relationship-based retention program to ensure our key businesses remain in Carmel as they evolve and grow.

As a part of that retention strategy, I would add a business liaison position so we can serve businesses better, and help make them more successful, so they can focus on the bottom line and their families.

Finally, we also need to ensure we have strong regional approach to economic development. We are missing opportunities by not having a strongly branded region. I look forward to being at the table and representing Carmel for these conversations.

It should also be noted that OneZone Chamber, Indy Chamber, Metropolitan Board of Realtors R-PAC and the Builders Association of Greater Indianapolis PAC have all endorsed me for my economic and workforce development initiatives.



Miles Nelson

Democrat

Mayoral Candidate

Qualifications:

My background as an entrepreneur with decades of experience in business ownership, team development, executive leadership, and nonprofit board service will serve me well as Carmel's next Mayor. Currently, I am a Carmel City Councilor for the West District, President of AOI which is an executive search firm, former owner and managing partner of Dog Ear Publishing for 12 years, and former owner of the marketing company M. Nelson & Associates for 28 years,. I am a past board member and President of IPS Foundation, a past board member of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, a past board member of CASA - Marion County, a past board member of the Hispanic Business Council - Indy Chamber, and a past board member of Hooverwood Assisted Living.

My business experience and community involvement in a wide array of activities make me uniquely qualified to be Mayor of Carmel.

Agenda:

1. Keep Carmel moving forward so that it continues to be a welcoming, inclusive and environmentally friendly city. Forward thinking cities attract and retain talent by creating a community where everyone is made to feel included, appreciated, and invested in the city's success.
2. Ensure Carmel has a strong economy by employing smart fiscal management that brings in new investments from businesses and attracts a well-educated workforce to fill those new opportunities.
3. Prioritizing infrastructure investments that maintain our neighborhood's streets, roads, drinking water and wastewater management as well as We must also support our world class amenities while keeping our taxes low so that Carmel remains one of the best places in America to live and raise a family.

School Safety:

School safety should be everyone's concern - not just in Carmel, but around the state and the entire country. It's clear that our schools are under increasing pressure to go beyond simply educating our children. I have a daughter at Carmel High School so this is personal to me.

As Mayor, I will work with our first responders, the SRO's within our schools, our school administration, school board, teachers, and parents to ensure that the Carmel School District is prepared, trained, and equipped to keep our children and the teachers safe.



Inclusion:

As Mayor, I would work to increase political engagement among all groups in Carmel, including the Muslim community. Here are some specific things I would do:

- As Mayor I have the power to appoint individuals to our boards and commissions. Our Carmel Boards and commissions need to look and sound more like the city they represent.
- I will create opportunities for the Muslim community and other groups to learn about the political process and get involved. This could include holding voter education workshops or creating mentorship programs.
- We should make it easier for all people, regardless of their background, to participate in government and in the political process.

Economic Strategy & Retention:

My company is an executive search firm so I know first hand the need to retain young talent and I have the expertise required to address this issue. We need to partner with surrounding communities to create a regional economic powerhouse that competes with cities like Nashville, Charlotte, Denver and Austin that are attracting our young talent.

We need to walk the talk of young people. They want a city that is environmentally friendly. We'll be focused on environmentally friendly policies that also have a good return on investment. Young people also want a city that is welcoming so that regardless of skin color, religious beliefs, who you love, or your age, they know that Carmel is a city that wants them, welcomes them, and encourages them to be successful.

We will build on the legacy of Mayor Brainard to keep Carmel moving forward as an inclusive, environmentally friendly city because those are issues that are important to attracting and retaining our young people.





Jeff Worrell

Republican

City Council Candidate

At-Large

Qualifications:

Prior to running for City Council in 2016, I served as a Redevelopment Commissioner for 11 years. During that time I had the opportunity to learn the inner workings of Carmel city government. I used that knowledge to serve the citizens of Carmel as a City Councilor for two terms. I also ran a successful Carmel based medical equipment business creating jobs and adding to the local economy. I served as President of the Carmel Chamber of Commerce twice, served on the St. Vincent Hospital Board of Directors, Carmel Clay Parks Board, PrimeLife Enrichment Senior Center Board of Directors and multiple non-profit boards. The next Council will have 6 new members. If I am re-elected, I intend to provide institutional knowledge to my new colleagues to help them serve their constituents.

Agenda:

My primary focus will be crime prevention, education and responsible development. The four campaign issues and positions are detailed at Jeff4Carmel.com.

School Safety:

I have a strong working relationship with our local school system. As part of my effort to listen to and understand the point of view of my constituents, I am in frequent contact with our school administrators. I am confident that school safety is a top priority of our school administration and if I hear a concern, I am sure that my input will be welcome.

I have encouraged and supported a strong presence of public safety officers in each of our 15 school buildings. These School Resource Officers (SRO) are employees of the Carmel Police Department and are specially trained in their only job – school safety. This exceptional commitment is the result of a school safety referendum passed in 2019 which I supported. This referendum will come before the voters for renewal again in our next term of office and I will support this referendum again.



Inclusion:

I have built a reputation as your city council member to listen carefully to your concerns and to act when it makes sense. I am also a strong supporter of a diverse and culturally rich community that is inclusive of all races and religions. Our local government has an open process for applying for positions on our boards and commissions. Our next mayor and council have responsibilities to fill these positions and I am committed to seeking input and service from all people. Anyone that expresses a willingness to serve will have my full support.

Economic Strategy & Retention:

It is important to protect and preserve our status as a top-rated community for all people to safely live, work, play, retire, and raise a family. It is healthy for our children to experience other areas of the United States, but my primary mission is to make sure they know they are encouraged to return to Carmel. That is why I have had a focus on attracting new businesses to Carmel with high paying jobs. It remains just as important that we remain a welcoming community with affordable housing and amenities that will encourage all residents to continue to contribute to the high quality of life that we enjoy.





Rich Taylor

Republican

City Council Candidate

At-Large

Qualifications:

I have a deep understanding of municipal finance, municipal operations and governing. I have over 18 years of finance and banking experience. I have served as President of the Carmel Clay Board of Parks & Recreation for 6 years and as a board executive for over 13 years. I was originally appointed to the Parks Board in 2010 and served as Board Treasurer. The Monon Community Center opened in 2007 and sustained an operational loss of over \$1 million per year in 2007, 2008 and 2009. Working with the staff and my fellow board members as the Board Treasurer we implemented a fiscal plan to ensure sustainability in 2010. The Monon Community Center's revenue exceeded its expenses my first year as treasurer and has received no taxpayer subsidy for operations since my help implementing the fiscal plan. As part of the fiscal governing body for the City of Carmel, I will ensure balanced budgets and low taxes.

I have a proven record of serving the community:

- Raised over \$300,000 from the business community to fund CarmelFest from 2005 to 2010.
- One of twenty community leaders invited to serve in the inaugural Carmel Clay Schools Expedition leadership class
- Help to reestablish the Carmel Clay Public Library Foundation raising thousands of dollars for library programs.
- Served as President of the Carmel City Center Community Development Corporation which developed the Center for the Performing Arts venues.

Agenda:

- A fiscally responsible approach to ensuring a strategic and strong Carmel
- Open and transparent communication
- Quality of life amenities with low taxes

You can learn more about my other priorities at www.taylorforcarmel.com

School Safety:

School safety is an issue of concern. This is why I publicly supported the Carmel Clay Schools Public Safety Referendum in 2019. The referendum provided funding to staff a School Resource Officer at each Carmel Clay School. The Carmel Police Department School Resource Officer program was recently recognized with the Model Agency at the National Association of School Resource Officers conference this summer. I have been endorsed by the Carmel Fraternal Order of Police because of my ongoing support for the School Resource Officer program. I plan to ensure our SROs receive the top training and equipment to keep our schools safe. The Public Safety referendum will need to be renewed in 2027. As a City Councilor, I will support the renewal of the referendum to ensure Carmel Clay Schools has the resources to keep our children safe.



Inclusion:

Under my leadership with Carmel Clay Parks, the Parks Department specifically targets and engages minority populations in the Bear Creek master planning process. This includes members of the Al Salaam Foundation. I would like to regularly meet with various faith leaders to understand their needs, wants, and ideas. I would encourage members of these communities to be appointed and included on various boards and commissions.

Economic Strategy & Retention:

Young workers are choosing where they would like to live first and then finding a job. Carmel has created an amazing built environment with unmatched quality of life. Carmel is a community that provides the quality of life that attracts and retains top talent. We need to attract diverse employers and high paying jobs to ensure that job opportunities continue to be available for Carmel's youth. The City needs to create an economic development department with the sole focus of attracting and retaining employers of choice to our community.





Sara Draper

Democrat

City Council Candidate

At-Large

Qualifications:

My global experience and skill set equip me to be a City Councilor. I am an Oxford University graduate, speak 5 languages and effectively communicate cross-culturally. My professional experience is in auditing and market research for global companies.

I moved to the US in 2000 but could not become a citizen and vote until 2013. This disenfranchisement has made me passionate about representation for ALL. The skills I've learned in over a decade as a Guardian ad Litem, advocating on behalf of abused and neglected children in the court system, are perfect tools for me to represent constituents with courage and conviction.

I served on the Buildings & Maintenance Committee for the Village of WestClay, making decisions on asset maintenance and replacement, similar to decisions taken by City Council. I will represent women, who are currently underrepresented, and the 13% of Carmel's residents who were foreign born. In the 2022 Midterms, 49.5% of the Carmel vote was Democrat. Those Democrats deserve to be represented on Council.

Agenda:

My top agenda items can be summarized by my campaign's core values, which are:

- People Focused - Council should make decisions that positively impact the lives of ALL of Carmel's residents and business stakeholders, regardless of their gender, race, faith or socioeconomic status. Sustainability and climate change should also be at the heart of the decision making process.
- Fiscal Responsibility - Carmel's tax revenue should be invested in a responsible manner that benefits ALL of Carmel. New spending should be scrutinized for its impact on the City's financial strength, e.g. the S&P rating, before it is approved. Waste must be minimized.
- Accessibility and Transparency - A Councilor's responsibility is to be accessible to ALL of their constituents. I will be as approachable and transparent as possible. I plan to do this by holding regular public coffees and responding to emails or calls within 48 hours.



School Safety:

I believe school safety is an issue throughout the country. I am the first and only Democrat to receive the endorsement of the Carmel FOP, which shows my commitment to public safety. I have also earned the Gun Sense Distinction from Moms Demand Action, which demonstrates my belief in sensible gun laws. No other candidate on the ballot has obtained both these awards.

I believe strongly that we must prioritize addressing the epidemic of gun violence in our schools. I come from the UK where we experienced one school shooting, which resulted in the Government changing the law. There have been no further school shootings. If the political will is present, this issue can be effectively addressed.

School safety goes beyond the risk of a mass shooting. After the murder of George Floyd, we saw the establishment of Carmel Against Racial Injustice and an outpouring of testimony from black and brown children who did not feel safe at school due to racial discrimination and harassment. As a City we need to demonstrate that intolerance and hate is not welcome in Carmel by electing Councilors who will stand up against hate and set the tone for our community. Carmel should be an inclusive city where ALL are welcomed and valued and, most importantly, feel safe.

Inclusion:

I am a firm believer in the phrase 'If you can see it, you can be it.' I am an immigrant from the UK, and became a naturalized citizen 10 years ago. It is the honor of my life to be on the ballot in Carmel this year, and I am proud to be in a position to represent the 13% of Carmel who are foreign-born per the 2020 Census. My campaign has knocked on over 12,500 doors in Carmel and it's been encouraging and energizing to meet so many immigrants who are excited to see me run for office to represent them. Many have commented that it is like seeing the American Dream in action, and that it makes them feel included and valued, and gives them hope for their children.

I believe in reflective democracy - elected bodies who are reflective of the community they serve make more inclusive decisions. The more diverse we can make our elected and appointed bodies, the more informed decisions those bodies make, which is to the benefit of everyone. And the more our community sees those bodies embrace diversity, the more willing diverse populations are to become involved, so the decisions made become more and more inclusive. It's a virtuous circle which can only help better represent ALL of our community.



Economic Strategy & Retention:

Young talent seeks places with high quality of life, excellent public amenities and schools. Carmel is competing with places like Austin or Charlotte to attract corporate HQs and the young professionals these businesses need. Carmel does provide an excellent quality of life, with our Crown Jewels, our schools, parks, arts organizations and public gathering spaces. I believe housing represents a barrier to these young professionals, and is a big obstacle to economic growth in Carmel. Attainable housing, especially for young graduates, is in short supply. My daughter, a college senior, won't be able to afford to live independently in Carmel when she graduates, so this is personal to me. We need to press developers to include workforce housing in new developments and to build non-luxury options. The lack of appropriate housing for seniors who wish to downsize creates a logjam for young families who want a single family home. We need to urgently find innovative ways to provide options for seniors to remain in Carmel.

The lack of attainable housing also presents a problem in attracting workers for our service economy, especially as we have no public transportation from surrounding cities.

Ideally we would have addressed the dysfunctional housing market 10-15 years ago, but I think we can find innovative solutions to our housing issues now, to ensure Carmel remains an attractive location for businesses to plant their roots, and to allow our local economy to continue to grow.





Jake Madore

Democrat

City Council Candidate

At-Large

Qualifications:

I believe I'm the best candidate because of my day job. Since my time at the IU-McKinney school of law, I've focused on protecting taxpayers from government overreach. This is what I do professionally, and this is what I will do for the citizens of Carmel.

We need city councilors who will; question decisions made behind closed doors, use a fiscally responsible mindset to review budget items which have exploded in cost, and protect taxpayers from city overreach. I know I'm the best candidate for all of these issues, because I do this on a daily basis in the private sector, and I'm ready to use this skill set for my neighbors as well.

Agenda:

Smart Development. We must focus on new development projects that both improve our community and have community buy-in. We can do this by ensuring that citizen feedback is actually considered during the planning process and that each project meets our high-quality building standards and environmental impact goals.

Fiscal Responsibility. We must have a balanced approach when it comes to the city's finances. We need to maintain what makes our city great while making smart investments and improvements that will attract new business, as well as new workers, as our community continues to grow and thrive.

Returning Balance and Common Sense. We must return balance and common sense to the city government. We have seen that a supermajority does not provide Hoosiers with good government, whether at the Statehouse or right here in our city government. Our elected officials must listen to citizen feedback and more importantly, be brave enough to stand up for what is right. We cannot be afraid to defend our teachers and to ensure members of our community have the freedom to worship however they please in our diverse community. This will ensure we can continue to grow our great city.

School Safety:

Providing mental health services to our community members and students is an important part of keeping us all safe. But, we must vote for candidates who actually believe this. As we have seen in Fishers, if we vote for the wrong candidates they will work to take money away from much needed mental health programs.

I will vote "Yes" for CCS this fall to maintain our quality of educational experience and I will always work to ensure we are keeping our community safe by funding our local police and community mental health programs.

Inclusion:

The most basic role the City Council should commit to is to listen and respond to community feedback. Councilors must be willing to work with the community to reach decisions that benefit everyone and right now that doesn't happen often enough. I am here to listen and embrace a community driven decision making model. That is what a government for the people and by the people means.

Economic Strategy & Retention:

The City of Carmel is a unique community within Indiana. We have many different cultures, religions, and family orientations which we all should embrace. However, hate groups want to attack these differences which only increases our brain drain problem.

I believe standing up to protect these differences is how we can build an environment to attract and retain the next generation of families. Our differences make this city great, and we need to ensure all residents are free to live a life that is open and honest without fear.





Courtney Culver

Democrat

City Council Candidate

North Central District

Qualifications:

I have the professional acumen and experience to serve Carmel on City Council, and I have lived in the district for more than 11 years. I have over two decades of experience managing global teams, massive budgets and multi-year projects. I am an empathetic and dedicated leader ready to serve my city.

Agenda:

Community safety in Carmel relies on investments in Fire and Police departments to accommodate the city's growth. Prioritizing infrastructure and financial readiness for future population expansion is crucial for resident protection.

Advocacy for All is a City Councilor's duty. I will actively engage residents and businesses, seeking their opinions and concerns.

Fiscal Responsibility & Transparency ensures responsible budgeting for economic safety and growth while promoting transparent fiscal policies.

School Safety:

Yes, I believe school safety is an issue of concern in Carmel and in every school in America. I believe it's important for our city government to maintain and foster a positive relationship with local law enforcement and its public schools, to ensure a comprehensive approach is taken to keep our schools safe.

I will advocate for funding for public safety and mental health professionals dedicated to our schools and youth. The presence of SROs in our schools is crucial and widely appreciated by all community members. It helps build trust between law enforcement and the students as well.

The city can also partner with CCS to ensure regular safety audits and assessments are performed - school safety work is never 'done' and continuous improvements should be made as our community grows and as the state gun laws in IN become more lenient.

By taking a comprehensive approach to school safety and involving various stakeholders, city governments can help create a secure learning environment for students and contribute to the well-being of the community as a whole.

Inclusion:

I believe Carmel's city government should proactively engage the Muslim community and other immigrant communities to understand how it can be more inclusive of its culture in our city. I have been personally surprised that the City Council meeting Invocations that I have participated in have all been from Christian clergy people- even during Hanukkah. I value the Muslim community and the growing diversity in Carmel. I believe an advisory board or committee solely focused on welcoming the immigrant community (I believe it's close to 15% now in Carmel) would help ensure we are fostering a welcoming city for all.



Economic Strategy & Retention:

I believe strongly that economic strategies in the following areas will attract and retain young, educated and enthusiastic youth in Carmel:

Foster a thriving job market by attracting companies and industries that are attractive to young professionals, such as tech startups, creative industries, and green technology.

Address the affordability of housing in Carmel, as high housing costs can be a significant barrier. Carmel can encourage the development and protection of affordable housing options through partnerships with developers, revising any ordinances blocking affordable renovations of existing homes, and zoning reform in the city.

Establish partnerships between local corporations businesses and educational institutions to create internship and job opportunities for students.

Continue the city's focus on a vibrant cultural and art scene with theaters, galleries, music venues.

Continue to design streets and neighborhoods with walkable streets, bike lanes, and easy access to our parks and community areas like Midtown.

Foster a diverse and inclusive community that welcomes people from various backgrounds and cultures. Celebrate diversity through events, festivals, and community initiatives.

Implement and prioritize sustainability and environmental initiatives, such as renewable energy programs and green infrastructure, to appeal to environmentally conscious young professionals.





Adam Aasen

Republican

City Council Candidate

Southeast District

Qualifications:

I've served on the city council for the past three years and during that time I voted to bring a grocery store to a part of town that desperately needed it, voted to fund needed road improvements to keep residents' safe, and authored an ordinance to crack down on animal abuse. I currently serve on the Carmel Plan Commission as well, helping maintain the look and feel of our city. I'm a past HOA board member and I've served on boards for Carmel Rotary, the Carmel Education Foundation and Janus Developmental Services. I was named Volunteer of the Year by OneZone in 2019.

Agenda:

1. Crime Prevention -- Carmel consistently ranks as one of the safest cities in the state, but I want to keep it that way by ensuring we offer good pay and benefits to police officers. That way we can always attract the best for our staffing needs.
2. Fiscal Responsibility -- We must prioritize funding "needs" over "wants" and make smart investments.
3. Protecting Neighborhoods -- Carmel is a special place, and we must protect the character and charm of our city and its neighborhoods by preventing overdevelopment.

School Safety:

I supported our school safety referendum which put School Resource Officers in every school. I would also partner with our police department to ensure we have safe schools. I have been endorsed by Carmel police for my ability to work with our police on solutions.

Inclusion:

I hold regular town halls and put out a monthly newsletter to engage with my constituents. It also helps to reach out to all people.

Economic Strategy & Retention:

As we continue to build our downtown, we need to plan for engaging public spaces and retail/restaurants that create a place where we all - regardless of our backgrounds - can safely gather and have fun.





Jeremy Eltz

Democrat

City Council Candidate

Southeast District

Qualifications:

We live in a representative democracy, so in my opinion every citizen is qualified to run for office and should! For us to have a healthy and vibrant democracy, the people need to feel represented by the leaders in office. If we just keep having the same people run for office, apathy and division occur (sound familiar). I encourage anyone reading this to consider running for something and I would be happy to help you. On top of that belief, I feel I am fully qualified both professionally and educationally.

I currently serve as the Director of Rural Education at the Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning at the University of Indianapolis. I am fortunate to travel the state, visiting all sorts of communities, to support their school districts. I was a middle school science teacher in Pike Township in Indianapolis before I joined the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). At the IDOE, I created the state's first STEM plan, the STEM School Certification, adopted new science standards, added computer science standards for grades K-8, and adopted the Green Ribbon Schools Award for Indiana to support green/sustainable practices in schools. I received my PhD in educational leadership and currently hold a school superintendent license. My background leads me to make decisions based in research, evidence, and fact; which are desperately needed on the city council. I will always seek expertise to make informed decisions that represent the best interests of my district!

Agenda:

1) Give the council back to the citizens of Carmel. I'm the only candidate that can say my vote and campaign is not influenced by special interests and big money donors. This is a major problem in politics and it is about time we start holding candidates to higher expectations. I have committed to limiting campaign contributions to under \$100. We need political leaders willing to buck the current system and lead with integrity. I would like to pursue efforts to increase direct democracy. The decisions made by the city council impact quality of life, property values, and the long-term viability of the city. It makes sense to me that the people should have more say than every 4 years. 2) Safe, secure, and supportive Carmel community. This includes making roads, roundabouts, and trails safe for ALL users. Police, Fire, EMS all have the resources they need to perform their jobs at a high level. 3) Development that addresses needs of the community and is responsive to the needs of the planet by adopting green, environmentally friendly, carbon neutral building practices. We can continue growing green space to reduce city heat, pollution, and noise. 3.5) Support our schools! Quality schools are needed for continued growth, innovation, and talent attraction in Carmel. It only makes sense for the city council to support it!

School Safety:

I am the only educator running for office and I am running in part because of this issue. I am also a Mom's Demand Action Gun Sense Candidate. Current leaders don't seem to want to address the root causes of safety issues in schools (or society as a whole) because that would require a ton of work, money, and painful introspection. School safety is an area where the city and the school should be partnering. It shouldn't just fall to the school to fix:

1. Promote and provide easy access to mental health services within schools and communities.
2. Enhance physical security measures, such as installing security cameras, controlled access points, and panic buttons, one-way glass film applications, etc. Conduct regular safety drills and train school staff, students, and parents.
3. Implement anti-bullying and anti-harassment programs to create a positive school culture where students feel safe and supported.
4. Foster a positive and inclusive school environment where students feel connected to their peers and trusted adults.
5. Encourage parents and community to participate in school safety committees.
6. Early Warning Systems that track students' attendance, behavior, and academic performance to identify those who may be struggling and in need of support.
7. Incorporate social emotional learning programs into the curriculum to help students develop emotional intelligence, empathy, and conflict resolution skills.

Inclusion:

City leaders should view their role as a facilitator of community engagement and participation, working alongside the Muslim community and other marginalized groups to create a city where everyone's voice is heard, and decisions are made with the input of all residents. City leaders can foster a more inclusive, equitable, and cohesive city for everyone. We need leaders that will actively engage with the Muslim community to build trust and establish meaningful relationships, attend community events, meetings, and cultural celebrations. We can create opportunities for open dialogue and actively listen to the concerns, needs, and aspirations while establishing clear and accessible channels of communication such as community forums, town halls, and digital platforms. We can ensure that city information and resources are available in multiple languages to accommodate diverse linguistic needs and provide cultural competency education for city employees and officials to enhance their understanding of the Muslim community's culture, values, and traditions. I will also encourage members of the Muslim community to participate in city government by running for office, serving on advisory boards, or applying for city positions. We can't just passively expect participation from the Muslim community, we have to proactively reach out and invite them in!



Economic Strategy & Retention:

It has long been my professional goal to ensure all students receive an education that provides them opportunities to go anywhere, do anything they want, but choose to come home. If we want our children to return, we need a city they want to return to. This means putting things in place that are important to the youth. Grow diverse job opportunities in innovative/creative sectors; promote entrepreneurship and small business development. We can create innovation hubs to promote research, development, and entrepreneurship. Many people in the beginning of their career don't make enough to live in Carmel, we need to look at diversifying our housing and develop attainable housing options to make it easier for young talent to live in Carmel. Improve overall quality of life by investing in parks, cultural amenities, green spaces, and recreational activities. Pursue efficient and reliable public transportation to reduce congestion and pollution. We can continue to promote bike lanes, pedestrian-friendly streets, and consider ridesharing options. We must actively create an inclusive and welcoming community that values diversity. Grow our cultural events and festivals that celebrate multiculturalism. Invest in green infrastructure, renewable energy, and eco-friendly practices. Voters for a Green Indiana have recognized me as an environmentally-friendly candidate who can help build more sustainable and resilient Carmel. The youth want a planet to inherit, we need to give them that!





Ryan Locke

Republican

City Council Candidate

Northwest District

Qualifications:

I am a third-generation Carmel resident and an attorney with experience administering state government for nearly a decade – for the Indiana State Police, then the Indiana Treasurer of State, and now at the IEDC. I have helped local communities across Indiana find creative and common-sense ways to serve their residents and solve their challenges. I oversaw our State's financial management, public sector pensions, bond issuances, and investment programs and am ready to apply that knowledge locally to Carmel.

I am qualified to serve on City Council because I have the experience necessary to help us navigate the transition that is before us. I understand public safety needs and have the endorsements of both our police officers and firefighters. I have a firm grasp on the way local government supports and protects our homes, neighborhoods, and property values and have the endorsement of the MIBOR Realtors' PAC to back it up. I am qualified because I care deeply about my neighbors, my friends, and our community.

I am running for Carmel City Council Northwest to bring my expertise and experience home to help ensure that Carmel continues to strategically and responsibly meet the needs of its residents – our needs – now and into the future. My wife Elise and I know there's no better place than Carmel to raise our two young sons, James and Edward, and our chihuahua, Daphne, and my goal is to be an objective, rational, and apolitical voice on the Council to ensure it stays that way.

Agenda:

Sustainability: promote forward-looking operational and fiscal responsibility to ensure Carmel stays the world class place it is.

Invest in the Community: strategically fund public safety, infrastructure, services, and amenities to meet city and resident needs.

Placemaking: foster a community and economic ecosystem where people and businesses want to come and stay.

School Safety:

School safety is an issue of concern. On the Council, I will ensure that our city's budget includes all the necessary funding for the training and equipping of law enforcement, fire protection, infrastructure maintenance and improvement, roads, and other city-related expenditures to keep our children as safe as possible. To be clear, I respect the separation of the schools themselves from the governance of the City, but will do everything within my power to ensure our children have the same safe and open community that I was fortunate enough to call home as a child.



Inclusion:

I am running for City Council with the underlying principle that the Muslim community is an amazing and wonderful part of my community. I live my life this way. As to the work of getting your perspective more included in the City's process, I promise to be available, open, and transparent in everything I do. If something comes up, please call me. I am always excited to forge new relationships, and I understand that by seeking this office, I am opening my door to our Community. It is a part of this process that I am very excited about!

If a proposal comes before the Council that impacts residents, I will seek input. Having spent the better part of the last decade in public service at the state level, I understand that my duty is: (1) to make decisions with the best possible information I can gather; (2) to think about the impacts of those decisions from as many perspectives as possible; (3) to act as a mediator for those differing points of view when conflicts or disagreements arise; and (4) to ultimately make decisions that are objectively in the best interests of those constituents that will be affected. I know that those decisions won't always satisfy everyone, but I also promise to be open about how they are made and to be open to discussions and feedback at any stage of any process.

Economic Strategy & Retention:

Brain drain, as its called in the industry, is a problem everywhere that isn't "cool", "hip", "groovy", or whatever term kids these days are using. We all know that Carmel is an exceptional place to be a kid and to be an adult who is looking for a stable, safe environment to raise kids. The hard part is also catering to the needs of young adults who need to find their own paths.

The key to this is to actively foster a business environment and community that is attractive to the types of companies and employers that our young people are seeking for their careers. If we can create an environment where innovative new companies set up shop, the young labor talent will necessarily follow. The fact that Carmel is such a strong, family-based community gives us a leg up on other communities in the region in finding ways to make it a cool place for young adults to start their careers because the level of familial and communal support is so high.

Another strong factor in this effort is that many of the young people that move away after they finish their education seem to find their way back home to Carmel when it's time to start a family. These people bring ideas, experience, and innovation back with them. This process of returning itself creates economic conditions that become ripe for the creation of new jobs that will help retain more of our young people here in Carmel.





Melanie Brown

Democrat

City Council Candidate

Northwest District

Qualifications:

I have lived in Carmel for the past 18 years. I have raised my children here and have been an active community member as a volunteer in the schools and various organizations. This connection to the community allows me to know where the people of Carmel want this amazing city to move forward.

I am able to speak with people from all backgrounds and belief systems. I can listen with an open mind and a genuine curiosity of other points of view. This trait is critical in a City Council member and I have fine tuned it with my professional and volunteer work.

Professionally I work with cross functional teams to implement patient health safety systems. This line of work demands attention to details, listening to hospital needs and working with a wide range of people. These skills will benefit the city of Carmel as I work to keep it one of the best places to live.

Finally, I care deeply about ALL citizens of Carmel and believe they should have a voice. I hope to be that voice for the Northwest district.

Agenda:

- 1- Transparency in city decisions and development
- 2- Fiscal conservatism while providing support to critical departments like first responders, parks department and infrastructure
- 3- Making Carmel a more sustainable city

School Safety:

I believe school safety is a concern in every community. Our students deserve to have a learning environment where their biggest stressor is midterms, not violence. We have a great team of school resource officers in our schools. I will continue to support these officers and ensure they have the training and support they need.

Inclusion:

I plan to make City Council meetings easier to attend and encourage more engagement. There is no reason the council has to meet at City Hall. We can change times and locations to make the meetings more accessible and inviting. I also plan to have quarterly meetings with HOA leads and can also incorporate that into other populations if so desired.

Economic Strategy & Retention:

The growth Carmel has had over the past decade has been amazing. We have attracted new corporate headquarters and we need to continue to compete with larger cities to bring talent here. While we need to work to continue to attract new businesses, we also need to focus on retaining and growing existing businesses. We will also work to attract and retain a variety of large, small and medium sized corporations that range from start ups to established businesses. We also need to continue to grow our performing arts, small businesses and parks department so Carmel stays a place people want to live.





Tony Green

Republican

City Council Candidate

South Central District

Qualifications:

I have been a public servant for most of life, being the only veteran among all the candidates having served in the military for over 30 years. I have a proven record on the city council of being an independent critical thinker who has expressed their opinion not only in words, but by actual votes consistent with my words. With a new mayor and at least six of nine first time councilors, I feel it is important to provide some continuity and continue serving the people in my district.

Agenda:

My top three items are:

- 1) Protecting the unique character of Carmel's family-residential neighborhoods.
- 2) Increasing the funding and investing in Carmel's existing infrastructure, especially outside of downtown Carmel.
- 3) Investing in public safety to keep up with the population growth and prevent spreading of Carmel's police and fire departments too thin

School Safety:

The Carmel Police officer has 21 police officers who work for Carmel Clay Schools as School Resource officers (SROs). The city will continue to train and support those officers assigned to protect our schools. Recently, Carmel's SRO program won the Model Agency Award and was recognized nationally.

Inclusion:

Mayor Brainard created the Human Advisory Commission on Human Relations in 2009. This has been an effective organization. It was created to better recognize the contributions of all Carmel residents to our great quality of life and identify any obstacles that may prevent full citizen participation in all of our City's civic, and other, activities. We need to continue to leverage this group to keep and continue to improve the communication lines for all groups such as the Muslim community. I would ensure that the commission receives the support it needs from the council to improve engagement.

Economic Strategy & Retention:

Carmel has a proven record for bringing in companies who want to bring their jobs to the city as well as providing opportunities for residents and their variety of needs and wants. The city council needs to continue creating the environment that brings businesses to Carmel, keeps businesses in Carmel, and attracts young professionals from Carmel to stay. This includes ensuring that the city remains fiscally strong, managing its debt, prioritizing its spending and keeping taxes low.



Jessica Irvine

Democrat

City Council Candidate

South Central District

Qualifications:

Carmel's South Central District has been my home my entire life. I am a Carmel Clay Schools alum and first-generation college graduate with a bachelor's degree in public financial management and master's degree in environmental policy and sustainability from Indiana University. I hold a business foundations certificate from the Kelley School of Business. In my professional career, I serve as a senior environmental manager for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. I have been a passionate volunteer for animal welfare organizations for over 7 years. I am running to give back to the incredible community that has given so much to my family and me. I bring experience from my career with the State of Indiana, and I have a unique understanding of the district from living here for the past 34 years. I am ready to contribute new, diverse ideas and perspectives to the city council.

Agenda:

- Environmental Sustainability

Protecting our environment and ensuring its sustainability for future generations is one of my top priorities. I believe in implementing green technologies, reducing carbon emissions, and preserving natural resources. Together, we can create a cleaner and healthier community for all.

- Smart Development

I believe in smart development that prioritizes sustainable growth while preserving our community's unique character. This means supporting responsible land use policies and investing in infrastructure to accommodate new growth while protecting our green spaces and historic buildings. I will work with stakeholders to ensure our community continues to thrive and prosper for future generations.

- Fiscal Transparency

I will prioritize promoting economic growth while maintaining fiscal responsibility and transparency. I believe in investing in the community through education, infrastructure, and job creation, while also being mindful of taxpayers' hard-earned dollars. By utilizing data-driven decision-making, I will ensure that every dollar is spent effectively and efficiently to enhance the well-being of our residents. It is essential that the community has confidence in how their tax dollars are being spent.

School Safety:

I see school safety as a concern everywhere, including Carmel. We need to properly fund our schools, so they have the tools they need to be successful and safe. This means being a supporter of the CCS Operating Referendum this year and the Safety Referendum when it is on the ballot in a few years. Our SROs have done a wonderful job in our schools, but addressing our students' physical and mental health needs will help our SROs and increase safety in our schools.

Inclusion:

Our city is stronger when more voices are represented. I would encourage those in the Muslim community to apply for city committee and board positions. I will actively reach out to and meet with the Muslim community to share ways to become more involved in city government, hear any concerns or visions for the city, and build relationships.

I have a record of proactively engaging with the Muslim community as I attended the groundbreaking for the Islamic Life Center last year. I am committed to continuing to be engaged with diverse communities in Carmel.

Also, Carmel City Council meetings start with an invocation; however, I have unfortunately not seen a diversity of faiths represented. I would advocate for a wider range of diverse faiths to have the opportunity to do the invocation by proactively reaching out to different faith leaders, including those in the Muslim community.

Economic Strategy & Retention:

We need to:

- Keep our municipal tax rate low,
- Maintain our world-class amenities like our parks and trails,
- Fully fund our first responders so we remain one of the safest cities in the nation,
- Support our top-rated school system,
- Offer diverse housing options for all walks of life,
- Invest in and maintain our infrastructure,
- Support small businesses so we have a thriving local economy,
- Support our arts community to give us a competitive edge,
- Implement environmentally sustainable policies, and
- Be a welcoming city for all.

We also have an opportunity to collaborate with the neighboring communities to create a regional economic powerhouse, which could give us a competitive edge to attract and retain a talented workforce.





Anita Joshi

Democrat

City Council Candidate

West District

Qualifications:

I'm a physician who listens to people with the sole aim of helping them. I'm a small business owner who has to be fiscally responsible to keep my business thriving. I am a community leader who has held executive level positions on a wide variety of boards. Most importantly, I have been a resident of West Carmel for the past 19 years, so I know and love this area with every fiber of my being. I will bring leadership and management experience to Carmel City Council, but I will also provide a unique, outside perspective that doesn't always exist at our municipal level. I believe it is important to have voices that listen to and represent the community we live in. I have served on the executive committee of the Center for Interfaith Cooperation and have worked with representatives of all major faiths in the city. I have the ability to bring people together around a common purpose and have a comprehensive working knowledge of the issues that different groups face. I use data driven analysis and compassionate decision making in my everyday life as a pediatrician, and I will bring that with me to the City Council. I believe this will allow me to meet the challenges and opportunities that Carmel has ahead.

Agenda:

- **SAFETY** A community is safest when we all can come together to care for each other and respect each other. We can do that best when we learn about each other and work with our first responders so they learn about us. When neighbors can meet each other as neighbors, and work with law enforcement as partners, all of our children will remain safe.
- **FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY**—We all work hard to earn the money it takes to run our businesses and our households and to plan for the future. We expect the City of Carmel to do the same. It is important that all of us as members of this community have access to the information and resources to allow us to understand Carmel's financial liabilities and strengths. We should be able to participate in the decision making process that will determine where Carmel is headed in the next 30 years and we cannot do this without clear communication and financial transparency.
- **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**—We and our children deserve an environment and a future that is healthy and innovative. We need to make sure that we are thinking about green building, the jobs and industries of the future, and the ability to attract and retain young talent in our city. We want our children to come back home to live in Carmel and so we need to think about how we will make it attractive for them.

School Safety:

The leading cause of death in the US for children from the age of 0-21 is not disease it is gun violence. As a pediatrician I have a unique lens on this issue. Of course we need to fund our resource officers and make sure they are well trained, we need a safety plan and barriers to entry for schools, but that is not enough. We need to address the environment in the schools and the community at large. We need to be able to address the bullying and mental illness issues that often drive youth to commit violence. Creating a school community that is welcoming of differences and will allow children to be true to themselves and that is an important part of the solution.

Inclusion:

If I am elected I will be the first minority woman ever elected to Carmel City Council. I have always been involved in advocating for marginalized and minority communities. My work with Women's Fund as their Grants Committee Chair allowed me to learn about the challenges that many women in all communities face in establishing themselves financially. I have been the chair of the diversity committee on the board of the Orchard School and was recognized by Butler University as a leader in faith and vocation. I have been a leader on the executive committee at the Center for Interfaith Cooperation and have visited Universities, Synagogues, Mosques, Temples and Churches and have been asked to speak at many throughout Indiana. I have been the Vice Chair at Brebeuf Jesuit and led the Medical Task Force's Covid response for them. It should be apparent that I am comfortable working with all people in all settings because I truly see all of us as members of the same human family. Diversity is not something I need to plan to work on, it is a part of my DNA and all will be welcome to discuss issues and concerns with me always. As a physician I am used to being on call and available to my patients. That being said, having time to visit with various members of the community is something I will build into my schedule as city counselor. Having regular "office hours" where anyone can drop in to discuss issues with me is something I plan to do.

Economic Strategy & Retention:

The biggest issue that Carmel is facing is maintaining the high class amenities that we all love while keeping the cost of living reasonable for all residents. The challenge is the debt load and the ongoing maintenance expenses that the city has. We need to understand the infrastructure and maintenance costs and a clear understanding of the projected revenues and the risks that would impact those revenues negatively. Carmel needs to be a welcoming place for people of all backgrounds so they can work, worship and play in peace. We need our city government to look like the city it represents. We need to ensure that we have the funds to maintain the development that has already occurred and plan for sustainable and innovative solutions to future development. We need to invest in green building and development. Carmel should be a model and a leader in this type of development. We need to be courting industries of the future and continuing to increase corporate investment in Carmel. This will help to keep our children in Carmel and attract new young talent to the city. These are the ways that we can create a better financial future and be more transparent with Carmel residents and taxpayers.



Loren Matthes

Republican

City Council Candidate

West District

Qualifications:

I am uniquely qualified to serve on the Carmel City Council as an experienced business leader and an expert in municipal finance. I was a partner at a public accounting - consulting firm until I retired in 2021. I dedicated my 35-year career to advising city and town officials on economic development, downtown revitalization, fiscal management, budgeting, and financing essential services and amenities such as public safety, roads and infrastructure, parks and community facilities. I was active in state and national organizations, taught workshops on municipal finance, and helped with legislation that impacted local finances and taxes.

I am a true servant leader who has lived in Carmel for 23 years. I am married with three grown sons who are married and we have nine grandchildren. Family is very important to me. Over the years, we have been involved in various ministries at our church and many community service activities.

My background and experience will be especially needed as we move forward with a new Mayor and many new Council members. Being retired, I have the time to devote to meeting with constituents, businesses, and organizations such as IMAN. I will be available to listen and gather input, and I will collaborate to improve decisions that impact our citizens and our city.

I love our city and will focus on uniting Carmel around our faiths, our families, and our vibrant cultural diversity.

Agenda:

- **Public Safety:** Ensure our police and fire departments are fully-staffed, trained and equipped to continue Carmel's record as one of the country's safest places to live.
- **Fiscal Responsibility:** I will work to ensure fiscal responsibility, accountability, responsible budgets and low taxes; and to help residents better understand and support financial decisions made by the city. Gather more public input into formulating a 5-year capital and funding plan, and planning our city's future.
- **Quality of Life:** I support amenities that bring people together and give Carmel a quality of place that attracts and retains businesses and residents. A strategic balance must be maintained between density and our city's green space and residential areas. We must maintain strong public safety and infrastructure, schools, protect home values, and be welcoming to all.

School Safety:

School safety is a concern in cities and towns throughout our country, including Carmel. Several years ago, Carmel citizens voted to pay additional taxes to increase school safety by funding School Resource Officers (SRO) (currently 21 police officers are assigned to our schools) and additional fortification and safety measures in our schools.

However, the root of the problem also needs to be addressed through increasing mental health services as well as teaching people about diversity and appreciation of different cultures, beliefs and ethnicities. Schools provide a great way for children of different cultures to grow together as they attend classes and study, and participate together in extracurricular team activities. There should be opportunities to learn about American customs and history as well as to share their own family and ethnic customs. This helps students to learn and appreciate the diversity of classmates from different cultures and ethnicities as well as different family values. Our local festivals and community events help bring people of all ages together to share diverse cultures, arts, music and food. Education and direct involvement is the key to ensuring that people have the resources and opportunities to build relationships and learn from others. We want our children to be free to go to school without fear, and our citizens to be free to worship without fear, and free to share our beliefs and values in a city where all feel welcome.

Inclusion:

My grandparents were Italian immigrants, and I grew up with a mix of American and Italian food and culture. I've had opportunities to travel and I love getting to know people from different cultures and ethnicities, learning new languages, understanding different belief systems and religions, and experiencing different art, music, and food. Now, we can find these experiences right here in our own community as we meet our diverse neighbors and attend community events and festivals.

As a City Councilor, I will be a voice to help represent our diverse voices in Carmel. I have already, and will continue to get folks of different backgrounds involved in city planning and appointed to advisory committees and commissions. One of my top priorities, as a City Councilor will be to engage and survey every Carmel resident; we need to involve a more diverse group of Carmel citizens and stakeholders in our planning processes.

I would use a variety of communication methods to engage diverse populations. This includes digital communication, neighborhood meetings, visiting homes and getting together with people for one-on-one conversations. It is important to listen, gather input, and collaborate, which leads to problem solving, better decisions and new opportunities for improvement. I would make sure to attend meetings of different associations and places of worship and community gatherings to discuss needs and interests of our diverse residents.



Economic Strategy & Retention:

Rather than offering tax abatement incentives, Carmel's strategy to attract business has been to increase quality of life amenities such as strong public safety, great infrastructure, excellent schools, lovely residential areas, beautiful parks, amazing arts and entertainment, and a thriving downtown. This strategy has been very successful as evidenced by the amazing growth that Carmel has experienced over the last 30 years – attracting many new businesses, including over 130 corporate headquarters. We must continue our investment in our world class amenities, increase our green initiatives, and also add more co-working facilities for remote workers and entrepreneurs.

College grads often want to explore living and working in different cities, but many young adults return to Carmel to settle down after they tire of big city crime, traffic, high cost of living and other problems.

With my background in economic development, I will help Carmel to establish a more robust Department of Economic Development, which will work closely with One Zone and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation on global business attraction, business retention and assistance, job training and recruitment. We must work together with nearby cities and counties to form a coordinated regional economic development strategy. We can also take greater advantage of our existing businesses and residents who now live in Carmel but still have ties to people and businesses in other countries.





Indiana Muslim Advocacy Network strives to provide an organized, educated, and amplified Muslim political voice, advocating for positive civic and political changes in the state of Indiana.

Indiana Muslim Advocacy Network urges all Muslims registered to vote, to vote by **November 7th, 2023.**

Sign up to our newsletter below to stay up to date on events and advocacy efforts.



Indiana Muslim Advocacy Network



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