

INDIANA MUSLIM ADVOCACY NETWORK

2023 Primary Election Voter Education Guide: Fishers



Your Voice Matters. Make an Informed
decision with our Nonpartisan Voter
Education Guide



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Information about Indiana Midterm General Election

Voting in the Indiana General Election:

Indiana's Primary Election is used to narrow the field of candidates for a given elective office or to determine the nominees for political parties before a general election. The Primary Election occurs at local, state, and federal levels. In Indiana, the winners of primary contests are determined via plurality vote. For example, the candidate with the highest number of votes is declared the winner of the primary even if they did not win more than 50 percent of the vote.

Voting Requirements:

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 **THIS** election, May 2, 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 unless you qualify to vote using one of the "Fail Safe" procedures; and
- You are registered to vote.

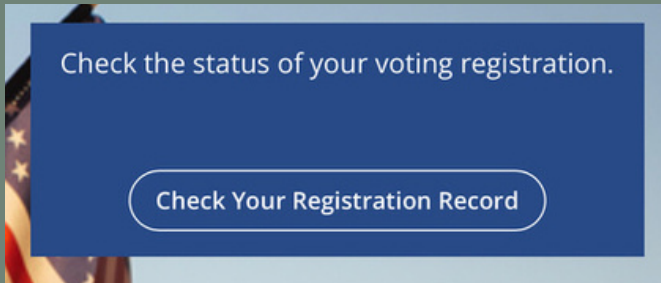
The following Voters' Guide policy was shared with all candidates:

- The Questionnaire is sent to candidates from both parties.
- Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification.
- Candidates are listed alphabetically by party.
- Candidates who do not respond to our questionnaire by the provided deadline are listed with the notation, "No response received."
- Answers to each question should not exceed 200 words.

What to know before going to the polls

Check out indianavoters.in.gov to see your sample ballot.

First, click here.



Next, fill in your first name, last name, date of birth, and select the County you live in, and click submit.

A screenshot of the "Tell us about yourself." form on the Indianavoters.in.gov website. The form includes instructions to enter information exactly as it appears on the voter registration record. It contains input fields for "First Name", "Last Name", and "Date of Birth", and a dropdown menu for "County of Current Registration" with "-- SELECT --" as the current selection. A "Submit" button is located at the bottom right.

Tell us about yourself. X

Please enter your information exactly as it appears on your voter registration record. If you registered using your initials you may have trouble finding your record. Please do not include any suffix (e.g. Sr, Jr) in your last name. Please contact your county election administrator if you require assistance.

First Name

Last Name

Date of Birth

County of Current Registration

-- SELECT --

Submit

A screenshot of the "Search Results:" dialog box. It displays a table with the information entered by the user. The table has three columns: "First Name", "Last Name", and "Coun". The data row shows "FATIMA", "KHAN", and "Hendr". Below the table are "CANCEL" and "Continue" buttons.

Search Results:

Information Entered		
First Name	Last Name	Coun
FATIMA	KHAN	Hendr

CANCEL Continue

Confirm that is you and click continue.

Scroll down, and you will see:

- Both early voting and Election day locations and their hours
- Who will be on your ballot, including which party they belong to and what position they are running for;
- and information about your districts.

Fishers City Council Candidates

This guide covers FISHERS, INDIANA ONLY. If you live in another city, please check our other Guides.

Fishers City Council		
District 1 Southeast	(R) Pete Peterson (i) No Response Received	
District 2 Northwest	(R) Selina Stoller (i)	
District 3 North Central	(D) Crystal Neumann (i)	(R) John Delucia No response Received
District 4 South Central	(R) John Weingardt (i) No response Received	(D) Lane Skeeters No response Received
District 5 Southwest	(R) David Giffel (i) No response Received	(D) Bill Stuart
District 6 Northwest	(R) Brad DeReamer (i) No response Received	(D) Samantha Chapman
At Large (3)	(R) Todd Zimmerman (i) No response Received	
	(R) Cecilia Coble (i)	
	(D) Jocelyn Vare (i)	
	(D) Howard Stevenson	
	(R) Tiffanie Ditlevson No response Received	

Questions sent to candidates:

- **Background:** What training, experience, and background qualifies you for this position?
- **Top issues:** What are the top three issues you would like to address if elected? Why?
- **Islamophobia:** Do you believe Islamophobia is a concern for Muslims living in this city? How do you perceive your role in tracking Islamophobia in our city?
- **Development** - Fishers is an ever-growing community and quite large. Do you believe there should be more or less development/redevelopment, and why?
- **Diversity** - Recognizing that Fishers has made strides with diversity and the Muslim community in the past, What are your plans to make ensure that the momentum continues and that diversity grows?
- **Diversity and inclusion** - How do you plan to involve residents, specifically the diverse minority populations, in the decision-making process in our city/town?
- What are some things Fishers is doing well?
- What are some things Fishers can improve on?

District 1 - Southeast

Democrat: No candidate

Republican: Pete Peterson (i)
No response received

District 2 - Northwest

Democrat: Bill McLellan
No response received

Republican: Selina Stoller (i)



Selina Stoller (i)
Republican

Background: I hold a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from Purdue University and an MBA from Western Governor's University. I previously worked in investment banking, where some of my responsibilities were to provide consulting services regarding distressed assets and planning and managing for private equity funds, specializing in asset allocation, incorporating non-traditional investments in a portfolio, and targeting a minimally acceptable return.

Currently, I am a Business Development Executive who develops a path from product-market fit to systematically growing revenue through sales processes and strategic development. These experiences have greatly assisted me in my role on the City Council, especially when it comes to economic development and fiscal responsibility. Additionally, as an incumbent, I have built strong relationships with many residents and community leaders in Fishers. Maintaining those working relationships and rapport with individuals is essential to successfully solving issues and working together to maintain Fishers as a great place to live.

Top Issues: Fishers is a rapidly growing and evolving community, and with that brings new topics to address. For example, one of our biggest priorities in Fishers is to ensure that our public safety departments have the proper resources. We have been able to add two additional fire departments to meet the needs of Fishers' growing population and also support our Police Department which has become a leader in the state as they address gun crimes. Continuing to emphasize public safety in Fishers will be crucial to the additional development and growth of our city.

Another area that has been a main focus for the Mayor and City Council, myself included, is economic development. We have been very successful in attracting new businesses, investments, and high-quality jobs to our community, and I would like to continue that work if re-elected. It is important that we continue to attract new, high paying jobs of the future and develop quality amenities to meet the needs of our growing population.

Finally, we have worked diligently to ensure that we have quality infrastructure in Fishers. Continued improvements to our roads and walkways such as the ones made to State Road 37 and Allisonville Road are critical to the success and expansion of our community.

Islamophobia: We need to hear from organizations like yours. The Mayor, my colleagues and I have worked very hard to be mindful and educate ourselves on some of the biggest issues facing the Islamic community in our city. Thankfully, Fishers is a growing community, with an extremely diverse population and culture. As elected officials, we are eager to help residents address issues they are facing in the community, and it is crucial that we remain dedicated to ensuring that All Fishers residents are treated with equal respect and inclusion in the process of governance. Expanding our knowledge about the Islamic culture, helping address community concerns, and bringing awareness to those concerns will continue to be part of my efforts.

Development: Our team has worked incredibly hard to advance our vision of creating a smart, vibrant, and entrepreneurial city. Over the last several years, those efforts have resulted in transformative growth and investment for Fishers, a

booming tech and life sciences industry, a robust arts and culture scene, and world-class city services and amenities. We've managed to elevate Fishers across the board while maintaining fiscal responsibility and one of the lowest City tax rates in the county and state. I feel strongly that we need to continue our developmental path and the strategic 2040 plan that was implemented several years ago by the Council and me. That plan includes the additional redevelopment of key areas of the city.

In my district, the Allisonville Corridor Committee has been working hard, for example, to revitalize the corners of 116th Street and Allisonville Road. Kroger will be building a new location, and we are evaluating plans for the existing Kroger location. The development brings in jobs, tax dollars, and redevelopment while also creating the aesthetics that keep home values up and increase the desire to move to our lovely city.

Diversity: The diversity we have in Fishers has been instrumental in our development and evolution as a city. We pride ourselves on helping create an inclusive environment for All residents, and there is still work to be done. We should continue to educate ourselves and our neighbors and be mindful of unconscious biases the Muslim community or other communities may face. I am committed to continuing to engage, learn and advance diversity and respect in Fishers.

Diversity and Inclusion: I believe it is important to listen to the needs of all residents and the challenges they face in our community. Fishers is incredibly diverse, both in population and economically, and everyone should be a part of the decision-making process. I am always interested in meeting with folks to hear ideas and concerns from residents, whether it be in a public forum or out in the community, in the hopes that they can be addressed to ensure inclusivity for everyone.

What are some things Fishers is doing well?

Economic development is the foundation for a good quality of life for all Fishers residents. To attract the private investment portion of economic development, the community must have good infrastructure, education, workforce and be a safe place for everyone. Fishers has attracted much investment, which has enhanced the quality of life while making it a great community place for entrepreneurs, businesses, and residents. Recently, we have partnered with organizations such as the Indy Fuel, Stevanato Group, Andretti Global, and numerous others in the realm of economic development to enhance opportunities within the community.

As a fast-growing community, it is often challenging to keep up with the needs of the residents. Infrastructure requirements change with growth, and we have met

this with the improvements of Hwy 37, innovative solutions to concrete roads crumbling, such as Allisonville, and numerous other projects. When the pandemic hit, we led the way in creating a Fishers Health Department to meet the needs of Fishers and as a result the city was a leader in testing and vaccinations. Fishers Police Department and Fire Department are regional leaders with innovative approaches and advanced technology. Expanding our sewer system to meet the needs of our growing community is another example of a need we met, though not glamorous. Recognizing and meeting the community's needs in a fiscally responsible manner will continue to be a focal point of my efforts.

What are some things Fishers can improve on?

Our city has and will continue to see incredible growth over the years, and with that comes additional challenges to ensure a safe community for residents. We've made important progress to prioritize mental health, providing expanded fire and police services, and addressing the unique needs of our residents. In my next term, I will continue to encourage our public safety organizations and leaders to embrace challenges and find innovative ways to improve services for residents.

I'm particularly proud of the work of the Fishers Police Department, which is the only agency outside of the Indianapolis Police Department to use leading technologies to solve gun crimes and is now assisting other regional agencies to join their efforts. Thinking regionally and ensuring all of Central Indiana is a great place to live, work and play will be critical to the long-term success of our city. Additionally, I think we should embrace and explore opportunities to partner with our neighboring cities to improve and strengthen our entire region.

Website: <http://stollerforcouncil.com/>

Twitter: [@stoller4council](https://twitter.com/stoller4council)

District 3 - North Central

Democrat: Crystal Neumann (i)

Republican: John Delucia
No response received



Crystal Neumann (i)
Democrat

Background: I have a doctorate in business administration and work as an administrator in higher education. My work has been published in several journals, and I have presented at several national and international conferences. My commitment and efforts toward making education affordable and accessible were recognized, in which I was selected as an honoree of Reverend Jesse L. Jackson's Rainbow PUSH Excel 2017. I was also inducted

into the Indiana Latino Leadership Circle in 2020 and Hoosier Women Forward in 2022.

Top issues:

Build Community – We all need to feel safe and inclusive within our city. I also support your civic engagement for your voice to be heard by our government. YOU matter.

Support Mental Health – Again, YOU matter. Your mental health is important to me. According to the CDC, 1 in 5 people will experience mental illness. Let's make sure we are all okay. We're in it together.

Focus on Sustainability – We need to work on a better tomorrow for our kids. This can be done by taking care of our environment and ecosystems, and we can start right here in Fishers.

Islamophobia: Yes, it is a concern. My role is to ensure everyone feels safe, comfortable, and inclusive within the community. I will stand up for you any time.

Development: Development should be refocused on sustainability to ensure our kids have a future here. I would like to continue to work with developers with planting native species (e.g. for shade and flood control), installing LED lights, and permitting for solar panels within covenances. In addition, I would like to see more solar panels across the city, EV charging stations, rain barrels, and composting bins.

Diversity: In addition to trainings, awareness needs to be brought forward through celebration and education. Sometimes people learn when they see festivals or increased mentions on social media. The exposure makes people more curious. As a woman of color, I have found that being able to share food, music, pictures, and tradition makes people more interested in who I am and where I come from. Training is helpful, but the festivities, parades, or celebrations can be a fun way for citizens to learn more about one another.

Diversity and inclusion: I am a person who listens. Also, I believe civic engagement is important, in which I would like to see more citizens being involved and aware of opportunities such as serving on boards, commissions, task forces, working groups, etc.

What are some things Fishers is doing well?

Fishers is doing really well with bringing in companies from the life sciences industries and attracting businesses, which improves economic development. Our public schools are amazing, and our public safety officials are doing their best to keep us safe.

What are some things Fishers can improve on?

I would love to see more action within our Mental Health Initiative and Sustainability.

Website: [Crystal Neumann](#)

Facebook: [Councilor Crystal Neumann](#)

District 4 - South Central

Democrat: Lane Skeeters
No response received

Republican: John Weingardt (i)
No response received

District 5 - Southwest

Democrat: Bill Stewart

Republican: David Giffel (i)
No response received



Bill Stewart
Democrat

Background: I have an over 40-year history of working in and with federal, state, and local government. I worked for former Congressman Frank McCloskey in Indiana's 8th District. I worked in the O'Bannon/Kernan administration and have served in roles as a lobbyist at the Indiana General Assembly. I'm also an adjunct professor at Ivy Tech Community College.

For the past seven years, I have had the honor of serving on the City of Fishers Planning Commission and the Fishers Fire Merit Board. In those capacities, I believe I have played a small role in many of the City's recent successes including the planned expansion of the Fishers District which will house the new area and allow us to host our high schools' graduation ceremonies and many other entertainment activities.

Top issues:

Job growth in Fishers has exploded over the last 10 years and my goal is to keep that progress moving forward by adding high-tech jobs, good-paying jobs, and diversifying our economy so we are not simply a suburb of Indianapolis. We also need to grow in a smart way so we develop quality housing, encourage small business startups, and improve the quality of life so that the people who work in Fishers, like teachers, public safety officers, and firefighters, can also LIVE in Fishers.

We also must continue to focus on quality-of-life enhancements. I support investing in the arts and cultural amenities to make our city appealing, attractive, and interesting to residents of all ages. I believe the City of Fishers can do more to partner with HSE schools to help support and promote our schools. Great schools make Fishers an attractive destination for employers and families, create opportunities for young people and help maintain strong housing values. I will encourage the city to create a Fishers Education Roundtable working with HSE schools, Ivy Tech, city government, organized labor leaders and the local chamber of commerce to find ways to collaborate and support our schools.

Islamophobia: I wish I could say there isn't Islamophobia in our community, but I know that isn't true. Fishers has grown and changed and been enriched by the contributions of new residents in our community. Many of these newer residents are people from all faiths and nationalities. Islamophobia shouldn't be tolerated in ANY way in our community, and I'll be a voice to call it out when we see it. I am a white man, though, and so I want my Muslim friends to know they have a representative, friend, and ally in me, and I want to hear about those experiences so we can make changes right away.

Development: I think we have an opportunity to continue the development/redevelopment we have in Fishers. We should always be planning for the future and positioning our community in a way that we're a welcoming and accommodating community for people to work, live, and raise a family if they choose. I will focus my efforts on attracting more high-tech jobs to Fishers as we diversify our economy.

Diversity: Our community changes every day with the great new neighbors we gain, and they come to Fishers because we have great schools and a good reputation for diversity. By making our community even more attractive for employers and families, we'll draw a diverse and vibrant citizenry. I also think increasing the engagement of the Muslim community is essential to our growth and cross-partnerships with civic, business, and community groups is crucial to identify blind spots.

Diversity and inclusion: First and foremost, I'll be a City Councilor who is accessible and listening to the residents of Fishers. I'll have an open-door policy and I'm currently out canvassing in my district, so my future constituents know who I am and how to communicate with me. I want their feedback and communication. I hope members of minority populations will accept official appointments to established commissions and boards, participate in community meeting, and be a part of our continued growth in Fishers.

What are some things Fishers is doing well?

I think the recent attraction of high-tech jobs is positive. As a planning commission member, I supported the city's efforts to bring Andretti Autosports global headquarters to Fishers and I also supported the establishment of Fishers Life Science and Innovation Park. We must continue to diversify our economy by attracting more high-tech jobs. I also think our quality-of-life projects are phenomenal for families to gather, exercise, and play.

What are some things Fishers can improve on?

My wife and I made Fishers our home 29 years ago and we still love it. Our kids received a great education from HSE schools. Currently, however, our community is difficult for young families and seniors to gain entry because of our rising housing costs. I think Fishers must diversify our housing stock so that young adults and seniors can afford to live in Fishers. I also think we need to diversify our housing stock to help those who work in Fishers, like public safety officers, firefighters, teachers, and service workers so they can also LIVE in Fishers.

Website: <https://friendsofbillstuart.com/>

Facebook: [BillStuart4Fishers](#)

District 6 - Northeast

Democrat: Samantha Chapman

Republican: Brad DeReamer (i)
No response received



Samantha Chapman
Democrat

Background: Political Science and Psychology
B.S. Degree; Juris Doctor; Attorney: Public
Policy Expert

Top issues:

- Smart Investments: Support and improve public and private investments in Fishers.
- Inclusivity: Build a Fishers where all residents feel welcome.
- Transparency: Foster an open line of communication with Fishers residents.

Islamophobia: I believe that Islamophobia is a concern for Muslims living in Fishers. As your future city council member, I will be accessible to listen to concerns from all neighbors, especially as it relates to Islamophobia and bring

those concerns to the city council to form solutions for our Muslim neighbors. One of the greatest ways to combat Islamophobia in our community is through education and by honoring our Muslim neighbors through events, community conversations and celebrations. I am excited to engage with the Muslim community to ensure that our Muslim neighbors have a strong voice and a seat at the table in Fishers government.

Development: In general, I believe that development is positive for our community. But when considering development decisions, we must first consider our neighbors and ensure that development is both strategic and in the best interest of Fishers as a whole. Some considerations that leaders must consider include environmental sustainability, pollution, noise, traffic, accessibility and affordable housing, just to name a few.

Diversity: In general, I believe that development is positive for our community. But when considering development decisions, we must first consider our neighbors and ensure that development is both strategic and in the best interest of Fishers as a whole. Some considerations that leaders must consider include environmental sustainability, pollution, noise, traffic, accessibility and affordable housing, just to name a few.

Diversity and inclusion: As your next city council member, I will be accessible and your direct line of communication to local government. I plan to encourage community members to apply to serve on Boards and Commissions within Fishers government to develop future leaders. I also will encourage all neighbors to attend our monthly city council members to share opinions and concerns. I will also work with minority populations in our community to present resolutions to honor and celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of our minority neighbors in Fishers.

What are some things Fishers is doing well?

As your next city council member, I will be accessible and your direct line of communication to local government. I plan to encourage community members to apply to serve on Boards and Commissions within Fishers government to develop future leaders. I also will encourage all neighbors to attend our monthly city council members to share opinions and concerns. I will also work with minority populations in our community to present resolutions to honor and celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of our minority neighbors in Fishers.

What some things Fishers can improve on?

We have work to do in becoming a stronger, more inclusive city, where all neighbors feel welcome to live, work and play. We also can improve on fostering a

more transparent local government with engaged citizens and neighbors, who feel empowered to speak up and be a part of our growing community.

Website: <https://www.sam4fishers.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sam4fishers>

Twitter: [@Sam4Fishers](https://twitter.com/Sam4Fishers)

At large (3 seats)	
Democrat: Howard Stevenson Jocelyn Vare (i)	Republican: Cecilia Coble (i) Tiffanie Dittlevson - <i>No response received</i> Todd Zimmerman (i) - <i>No response received</i>



Cecilia Coble (i)
Republican

Background: I have eight years of experience and proven leadership serving as a Fishers City Councilor At-Large. I am proud of what has been accomplished in Fishers since the start of my tenure. While I have served on the Fishers City Council, Fishers has continued to be recognized as one of the best and safest cities in which to live. In 2016, Fishers was the first city in Indiana to receive a AAA bond rating and continues to hold this distinction.

I have been an active community servant in Fishers for many years. As a City Councilor, I have been devoted to this position full-time. It provides me the opportunity to work on various city-wide initiatives and committees, while engaging with Fishers residents and community members.

I currently serve as Co-Chair of the Fishers Advisory Committee on Disability which has provided more opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Fishers and beyond. I also serve as a member of the Fishers Arts and Culture Commission.

My law background, professional background, and extensive community service experience serves me well to represent the Fishers community on the City Council.

For more information on my background and education please go to www.cobleforfishers.com.

Top issues: My top three priorities are to continue to advance the quality of life for all citizens of Fishers by continuing to:

1. Support long-term, sustainable economic growth and infrastructure. The City of Fishers continues to be recognized as one of the best cities to live in the United States.
2. Provide the highest standards of municipal services and public safety. Fishers is one of the safest cities in the United States.
3. Maintain fiscal responsibility with having one of the lowest tax rates and holding the Standards & Poor's AAA bond rating, which is the highest possible rating for a municipality. We were the first city in Indiana to receive a AAA bond rating in 2016. Less than 2% of local governments in the country have this designation.

It is important to continue to move Fishers forward as one of the best cities to live, work, and play.

Islamophobia: I believe in learning to serve and serving to learn. I want to learn about any concerns from the Muslim community. Fishers is home to Al Huda Masjid, which is the largest congregation of Muslims in the state of Indiana. The Eman School is one of the reasons families move to Fishers. As a leader in the community, it is vital to ensure that all people are treated with dignity and respect in the City of Fishers.

I will continue to have open dialogue with the Al Huda Foundation and the Eman School. As a Fishers City Councilor, I have enjoyed the opportunities to visit the Al Huda Masjid and to engage the students at the Eman School at the annual student luncheon.

Development: The City of Fishers is focused on growing a sustainable and robust economy while building a desirable community.

The tremendous economic growth has led to the attraction of world-class life science companies and new high-tech job opportunities with an average salary of \$75,000. Launch Fishers and the Indiana IOT Lab are providing successful opportunities for tech and innovation, while providing resources and space for entrepreneurs. These concepts are being replicated around the State of Indiana.

Fishers has created a vibrant community by investing in quality of life amenities, such as the state-designated Nickel Plate Arts & Culture District, the Nickel Plate

Trail, the Geist Waterfront Park, Fishers District and the new event center that will host the Indy Fuel and other community events.

Diversity: Fishers has continued to be recognized as one of the best places to live and work in Indiana and in the United States. In 2014, I was the first Latina to be elected on the Fishers City Council. Since then, the City continues to grow in its rich culture and diversity. I will continue to promote a welcoming community through my leadership as a Fishers City Councilor, Co-Chair of the Fishers Advisory Committee on Disability, and member of the Fishers Arts & Culture Commission.

Diversity and Inclusion: While serving as a Fishers City Councilor, I have the opportunity to meet with residents on a daily basis. I always encourage residents to become more engaged with the City; I share information about volunteer/educational opportunities, serving on committees, upcoming events, etc.

I have helped to provide more opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the City of Fishers and beyond through my leadership as Co-Chair of the Fishers Advisory Committee on Disability. The committee was recognized recently for its commitment on disability inclusion by the Indiana General Assembly.

What are some things Fishers is doing well?

Fishers continues to be recognized as one of the best and safest cities in Indiana and the United States. This is one of the many reasons why people are moving to Fishers. Since Fishers became a city, it has become a vibrant place to live, work, and play, while maintaining fiscal responsibility, good governance, and one of the lowest city tax rates in the county and state.

What some things Fishers can improve on?

Fishers is currently focusing on challenges, such as the mental health of the community and the reinvestment/revitalization of aging areas of the City.

Website: <https://cobleforfishers.com/>

Twitter: [@CeciliaCoble](https://twitter.com/CeciliaCoble)



Howard Stevenson
Democrat

Background: I believe my experience as a lawyer, an entrepreneur, and my many years of service on various boards in Fishers qualifies me for a position on the City Council. I have run a profitable small business for 18 years and I have a proven track record of creating jobs. I am a former school board member for Hamilton Southeastern Schools wherein I approved and oversaw the school district's budget in excess of 144 Million Dollars.

I am currently the President of the Fishers Plan Commission and Vice President of the Fishers Board of Zoning Appeals. I am also an adjunct law professor who teaches a class on land use. This experience will allow me to continue to focus on economic development as a city council member. I have lived in Fishers for 23 years and I believe that gives me a unique perspective on what is in the best interest of our community.

Top issues:

1. Focus on Fiscal responsibility with taxpayers' funds. I believe this is important to ensure effective and efficient delivery of quality municipal services to the residents of Fishers.
2. Advocate for Smart and Equitable Economic Development. I believe attracting more businesses and jobs to Fishers is vital to the continued growth of our city, but we should grow in a smart and equitable way that encourages and invites more minority and women owned businesses to Fishers.
3. Pursue initiatives that foster an environment that will make Fishers the most desirable place in the State to live, work, play, and raise a family. During the 23 years that me and my family have lived in Fishers, it has become more diverse and I want to ensure that our city is welcoming to all who call Fishers their home.

Islamophobia: Yes, I believe Islamophobia is a concern for Muslims living in Fishers. I can cite numerous examples including the experience I read about in the Indianapolis Star Newspaper regarding Sajjad Shah's experience growing up in Fishers. However, I was excited to hear about his "Muslims of the World" Coffee shop that the opened in Fishers in March of 2022. As a member of the city council, I will see my role as spotlighting and supporting small businesses like Sajjad's and serving as a liaison for them to organizations like Fishers' OneZone Chamber of Commerce. I also will work to ensure that Muslim culture is a vital part of the diverse cultural events in the City of Fishers.

Development: I believe Fishers should have more development/redevelopment because it benefits our entire community. However, we should have smart and equitable development that encourages and invites more minority and women owned businesses to Fishers. As the President of the Fishers Plan Commission and Vice President of the Board of Zoning Appeals I have participated in the zoning and land use decisions for our city. Currently, Fishers only has approximately seven percent (7%) undeveloped land remaining so we have to develop that land in a smart and strategic way. As an adjunct law professor, I also teach a law school class on land use that discusses zoning and smart growth and I will bring that experience with me to the City Council.

Diversity: Currently I am co-chair of the Fishers Council on Racial Equity (CORE) and I am proud of the strides that Fishers has made with diversity and the Muslim community, but we can always improve. In order to make our great City even greater, I will as a member of the city council have regular dialogue and interaction with the Muslim community to ensure all social, economic, and religious concerns are addressed in a proactive manner. I will also advocate to have Muslim representation on various boards and commissions in Fishers.

Diversity and Inclusion: Ensuring involvement of residents in the City's decision-making process, specifically the diverse minority population, has been my passion the entire 23 years that I have lived in Fishers. When I served on the school board for Hamilton Southeastern Schools, I was able to get approved a board goal to hire and recruit more minority teachers and administrators because I believe there is strength in our diversity. I also recommended several diverse residents to serve on the district's Superintendent's Advisory Council. I will bring this passion with me to the City Council.

What are some things Fishers is doing well?

Fishers has done a good job recruiting companies like IKEA, Top Golf and others to our community. It has also done a good job with creating more walking and biking trails and enhancing our parks, including the new Geist Waterfront Park.

What some things Fishers can improve on?

Fishers has approximately a Billion Dollars in economic development projects in the next few years including public-private projects like the Event Center that will be home of the Indy Fuel hockey team. I believe Fishers can do a better job of fostering an environment where minority and women owned businesses can work on these projects as project managers, construction companies, architects, engineers, environmental consultants, etc. We should have smart and equitable growth, and diversifying the businesses we use for city involved projects will allow us to accomplish.

Approximately 15% of Fishers residents work in Fishers. Fishers can do a better job creating opportunities for more Fishers residents to work in the city where they live. I will bring a focus on these issues with me to the City Council.

Website: <https://friendsofhowardstevenson.com/>



Jocelyn Vare (i)
Democrat

Background: I have served as an at-large member of the Fishers City Council since 2020. I have two adult children who graduated from Fishers HS. In 2022, I ran for Indiana State Senate and earned 16,000 votes from Fishers residents. I am a 24-year resident of Fishers, the mom of two HSE Schools graduates, a local small business owner, a volunteer and a champion for the community I love. I am a member of the Fishers Finance Committee, Non-Profit Committee and Fishers Arts +

Culture Commission. I served as a committee chair for the successful HSE Schools referendum in 2016. I am a graduate of Fishers City Government Academy, Hamilton County Leadership Academy, Ball State's Economic Development Course and Community Development Course. In 2021, I was recognized as an Impact Award nominee, one of 30 alumni designated in the Hamilton County Leadership Academy's 30-year history. I am eager to continue to serve the Fishers community on the City Council and fight to provide the good local government that all taxpayers deserve.

Top issues:

Fiscal Responsibility & Oversight. This is the most important role of a City Councilor in municipal government. I have stood apart as the reasonable voice that digs into city expenses and budgets. The city cash reserves, completion of State Road 37, investments in road repairs and trail connectivity are concerns of mine. I will continue to scrutinize and make the city budget open and accessible to taxpayers.

Housing. The city invested in a Housing Study and after my prompting, the recommendations were officially adopted into the city's comprehensive plan. A top recommendation - now a top city priority - is encouraging development of housing for seniors, young adults and renters and "right-sized" housing with attainable pricing. The study showed that Fishers has a problematic deficit of housing options, like many other cities across the nation. Addressing this must be an action item for our city.

Good Government - In 2019, I ran for Fishers City Council as a Democrat. By starting from the premise that everybody's voices should be heard, our campaign brought together a diverse, bipartisan community of supporters, and we won! I'm the first Democrat elected by the city of Fishers. I strive to bring broader representation and balance to local government.

I've always worked to serve residents and make government accessible and accountable to the people it's meant to serve. I'm excited to be re-elected and continue fighting for government transparency, civic participation, and the issues that will elevate your community, neighborhood, and household.

Islamophobia - I am a next door neighbor to Alhuda Foundation. I live just one the other side of the Nickel Plate Trail and I walk by the mosque almost everyday. We are neighbors. And neighbors take care of one another.

I know that Islamophobia is a genuine concern for Muslims living in Fishers. My role as an elected official in our community is to help protect the Muslim community and educate all residents. How I strive to protect the Muslim community is to facilitate communication and understanding. I hope that I helped do this when Sunblest residents had concerns about street parking. I served as a bridge to communication and good outcomes were found when neighbors and Alhuda leadership communicated with one another. In addition, I encourage Fishers residents to learn about Ramadan and visit MOTW Coffee, for example. You can count on me to encourage Fishers residents to welcome their neighbors who are members of the Muslim community and learn from them.

Development - Only 9% of our city land is undeveloped. As our city matures, redevelopment will become more prevalent. Redevelopment requires improving or replacing older buildings and preparing land use for new opportunities. I am eager for redevelopment of older Fishers areas that have not gotten much attention lately. I support the vision for the Allisonville Road corridor.

Diversity - Our community is very diverse. For example, one of every four HSE Schools students is a student of color. I feel that the biggest need today is for community leaders to push back against current efforts that devalue diversity. Recent decisions made by HSE School Board and Public Library Board devalue the experiences of persons of color and the LGBTQ+ community, specifically. I raise my voice for ALL members of our community and call out decision-making that does not represent the diversity of Fishers. In addition, I celebrate the diverse experiences, cultures and opportunities that makes up Fishers.

Diversity and Inclusion - Before each city council meeting, I post a blog that details each agenda item. My hope is that if I can make it easier for citizens to know about what is happening in their local government, they will find it easier to then get involved in it.

For three years now, I have been championing diversity on our city boards and commissions. These citizen appointments to decision-making/advisory bodies of local government should prioritize a cross-section of our community. Instead, the

same small group of people serve year after year, with no term limits. Dozens of applications are received each year from citizens who are interested in serving on boards and commissions. These citizen applications are not reviewed or even acknowledged by the city leaders! I continue to encourage a new open approach to these appointments. Unfortunately, I haven't been successful yet. But the community is taking notice and more citizens apply each year. I'll keep raising my voice on behalf of our diverse community.

What are some things Fishers is doing well?

Economic development is tremendously successful in Fishers! Using incentives as an effective tool, Fishers has recently announced \$1.1 billion in economic and entertainment investments.

What are some things Fishers can improve on?

I would like to see a new priority for locally-owned small businesses and the creation of an environment for them to sprout and flourish. Small businesses make a community special. But in Fishers' downtown area in particular, these small businesses have been challenged - while new large businesses have been the city administration's priority. I am especially motivated to encourage minority, women and veteran-owned businesses to find a home in Fishers.

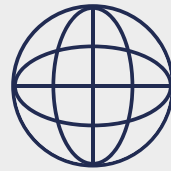
In addition, I believe in a long-term, sustainable approach and Fishers can improve upon this. For example, a tourism destination is being created in Fishers. However, without affordable housing and mass transit, can this destination develop the sustainable workforce that it requires? In addition, a careful analysis of incentives and long-term infrastructure is needed. The speed in which Fishers developed is incredible but I know that City Council can improve upon careful discernment as we move into the next phase of our community. It's time to evaluate the return on investments to become a leading Indiana city for decades to come.

Website: <https://www.jocelynvareforfishers.com/>



Indiana Muslim Advocacy Network urges all Muslim registered voters to vote early or on Tuesday, May 2nd, 2023.

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.



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