

# The Livonia Republican Club

**A Social Club for Republicans Since 2003**

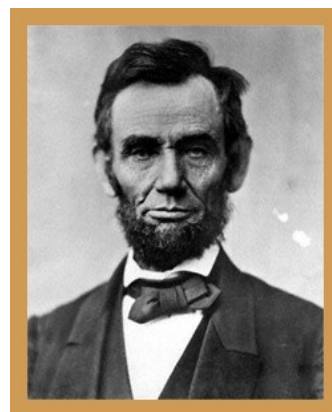
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## Candidate Survey

The Livonia Republican Club is proud to present our first candidate survey. All candidates for contested office in Livonia's 2019 municipal general elections were invited to participate, and all candidates responded with completed questionnaires.

Incumbent Mayor Dennis Wright is not seeking a second term, to which he was eligible to run. City Council Members Brandon Kritzman, and Brian Meakin are term limited, and are ineligible to run for re-election for a third consecutive term. Council Members Scott Bahr, and Kathleen E. McIntyre, who were first elected to 4-year terms in November 2015, are seeking re-election. City Clerk Susan Nash, and City Treasurer Lynda L. Scheel are running unopposed for their respective second 4-year terms, and are ineligible to seek re-election in 2023.



Based on the results of the August primary, the candidates are:

Mayor—vote for not more than 1 candidate (4-year term):

*Maureen Miller Brosnan, Laura Toy.*

City Council—vote for not more than 4 candidates (top three will receive 4-year terms, fourth place will receive a 2-year term):

*Scott Bahr, Gregory G. Coppola, Jim Davis, Rob Donovic, Brian Duggan, Brandon McCullough, Eileen McDonnell, Kathleen E. McIntyre.*

Please note that all municipal elections in Livonia are non-partisan, and no political party affiliation will appear on your ballot.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 5th. Polling locations will be open from 7:00 AM until 8:00 PM. To locate your polling location, or to view your sample ballot, please visit: [www.mvic.sos.state.mi.us](http://www.mvic.sos.state.mi.us)

Since the passage of Proposal 3 (2018), Michigan now allows same-day voter registration, and no reason absentee voting. To request an absentee ballot you may visit the City Clerk's Office located on the ground floor of City Hall at 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154, Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM-5:00 PM, or you can visit [www.ci.livonia.mi.us/departments/cityclerksoffice/votelivonia.aspx](http://www.ci.livonia.mi.us/departments/cityclerksoffice/votelivonia.aspx) to download an application, which must be returned by mail, or delivered in person to the City Clerk's Office. You may now also request the City Clerk place you on a permanent list to receive an absentee ballot application. Please note, if you opt to be added to this list, you must complete the absentee ballot application again for each election, prior to the actual absentee ballot being mailed to you.

The Livonia Republican Club does not make candidate endorsements or recommendations. The candidates were asked to respond to each question in 300 words or less, and are listed in alphabetical order.

Question 1: Please provide some biographical information and the reason why you are running for office.

Question 2: Livonia is known as a family friendly community with a legacy of good schools, and a climate that allows small businesses to flourish. How do you envision yourself working collaboratively with our schools, and small businesses to promote some of Livonia's best assets?

Question 3: There have been recent discussions about building multifamily/high density housing units such as apartments. What is your position on multifamily/high density housing being built in Livonia?

Question 4: In 2005 Livonia voters chose to opt out of the SMART bus system. What is your position on public transportation in Livonia?

# Mayoral Candidates



## Maureen Miller Brosnan

(1.) I am a lifelong Livonia resident. In fact, my parents still live in the house they built when they first moved to Livonia on Barbara Street. I am a former Livonia City Council President and was a member of the City Council for 17 years. While on City Council, I championed our first responders and public health, bringing advanced life support paramedics to our city and helping build coalitions to build the Rec Center. Professionally, I am an accomplished nonprofit executive, currently serving as the chairman of the board at St. Mary Mercy Hospital and recently serving as the CEO of Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan and as the executive director of the Michigan Venture Capital Association. In these roles, I built a track record of solving tough problems and delivering results, managing service organizations supporting thousands of

families across southeast Michigan and putting Michigan's \$3.5 billion venture capital and entrepreneurship industry on the map. I am running for mayor to put my 30 years of experience leading nonprofit organizations and boards to work for Livonia residents, addressing issues like our police and fire shortage and our crumbling roads, while ensuring Livonia becomes a city our children want to come home to.

(2.) Our city government needs to do more to build partnerships with our schools and business leaders to create opportunities for our students. We're fortunate to have a thriving manufacturing sector and many commercial enterprises in Livonia, alongside an incredible combination of hospitals, colleges, and other institutions. It's time we make the most of those assets and leverage them for our students' gain as they join the workforce. As the former executive director of the Michigan Venture Capital Association, I know just how competitive the job market and business landscape is today and will be tomorrow. We need a leader to forge partnerships to support job creation in our city. As Mayor, I will lead the creation of a workforce development program and guarantee the next generation of Livonia residents are prepared to fill those high-quality jobs.

(3.) Discussions about the future of housing development in Livonia should be focused on the needs of current Livonia residents and the competitive realities of our city's economic future. We have an opportunity to ensure Livonia's seniors looking to downsize but remain in our thriving community have the option to do so by prioritizing more accessible housing that works for them. And the market has spoken clearly when it comes to denser housing stock—today's home buyer is often looking for a denser, more walkable neighborhood to call home. Livonia's neighborhoods are among its greatest strengths, but we also need to do more to ensure that our housing stock continues to make us a destination for millennials and young families.

(4.) When we think about public transportation in Livonia, we have to take a broad approach that starts with understanding the needs of our residents and business community while also thinking outside the box when it comes to what we consider transportation. As a former member of the City Council, and as a member of the steering committee working with the community to develop our city's new master plan, I have prioritized walkability and bike connectivity, recognizing that these are not just recreational, but broader transportation networks. Additionally, we need to do more to expand senior transportation options to ensure residents have access to the care they need. I expect that as we continue to attract large businesses to Livonia, the need to provide transportation for a critical workforce will grow, which may indicate the need for Livonia to revisit the decision to participate with a public transportation system.







## Laura Toy

(1.) I am a lifelong Livonia resident. My mother was a schoolteacher and my father was badge number six on the Livonia Police Department. I started a small business in Livonia as a young woman. I went on to serve as a Schoolcraft College Trustee, Livonia City Council member and President, Livonia Treasurer, Livonia's State Representative, and Livonia's first female State Senator. I am running for mayor because I want Livonia to continue to be the best possible place to live for each and every person who chooses to call Livonia home. Among my priorities are: 1) Keeping Livonia affordable for families and seniors; 2) Funding budget priorities - including public safety and roads; 3) New development must consider the input of neighbors; 4) Maintain strong services for seniors and the disabled; 5) Partner with schools and universities in Livonia; and 6) Support small businesses and job providers.

(2.) Great schools are one of the very important reasons many people have chosen to move to Livonia over the years. We are also home to several institutions of higher learning, including Schoolcraft Community College (of which I am an alumni before going on to UM Dearborn) and also Madonna University. As I mentioned, one of my top priorities if elected mayor is to partner with our schools and universities to see where we can work together. One vision I have is to introduce internship opportunities within Livonia city government to students in our community. Another important area in this collaboration I believe is working together on city planning, much of the vacant land in our city is former school sites in neighborhoods. Finally, we can look for opportunities to host mutual community events, bringing people of all ages together.

Often we focus on the big successes – attracting large employers like Amazon or Masco – and we are certainly proud of this, but small businesses are the backbone of most new job creation and also part of the fabric of what makes our community unique. I started my small business in Livonia as a young woman and during my public service I have always made an extra effort to support entrepreneurs, sometimes when others didn't want to give them a chance. I think that is really key – don't stand in their way, don't put up too many roadblocks for people. Encourage opportunity and innovation, and support diverse business offerings in our community.

(3.) Again, this is one of my top priorities: that any new development must consider the input of neighbors. I'm not going to make a blanket statement about a particular type of development, but I will say that new development must be a good fit for existing neighbors and infrastructure. There may be opportunities for this type of development, but my position is that all of these types of decisions must be evaluated carefully on a case-by-case basis. You need to look at the site, what is around it, and what the developer is proposing. I've worked with so many neighbors on a multitude of new developments in our city to hear their feedback and then work with the developer to make design changes that respond to their concerns. You look for that win-win and try to be fair with everyone. I feel if it's good for the neighbors and it's good for the developer then it is going to be good for the city.

(4.) No, I do not support Livonia rejoining SMART. I think the Livonia Transit separation from SMART has been a very good thing for our community. We are much better able to serve our residents with these resources. Seniors can schedule rides to their doctors' appointments, we use smaller, fuel efficient buses - rather than huge buses that were consistently almost empty. I think overall it was a very wise decision and I would not recommend rejoining SMART.



# Council Candidates



## Scott Bahr

(1.) I was born in Livonia, educated in Livonia Public Schools, and have specifically chosen Livonia to raise my family. My wife and I have four children, ages 15-9. We are deeply involved in our church, where I serve as a Sunday School teacher and local relief coordinator. Professionally, I have an engineering background and recently left a senior management position at Fiat Chrysler to take a director position at Barton Malow. I believe that one of the profound ways we bear the image of God is the ability to create – to bring order out of disorder. That is what drives my desire to help improve things wherever He has planted me, and that includes my hometown. My service to this community began with Education Alliance in 2004, a partnership between the Chamber of Commerce and Livonia Public Schools (LPS). Around that same time,

I began a nearly decade-long run as president of Compton Village Civic Association, where I successfully led a large slate of neighborhood improvement efforts. I continued to serve on various committees with the Chamber and LPS until I was appointed to Planning Commission in 2011. Four years later, I decided to run for City Council at the urging of numerous city leaders and residents. My service on Council is a natural extension of a lifelong desire to serve, and I enjoy the work. Livonia has a long tradition of responsible, accountable government. It's important that we continue to elect leaders of integrity to keep our city running efficiently even as we enjoy a period of economic growth. My prayer is that I can continue to serve in a way that rewards the trust the voters have placed in me for the stewardship of their local government. For details of my council work, visit [ScottBahr.org](http://ScottBahr.org).

(2.) The strength of this community is its citizens. Livonia has been successful because its citizens take an active interest in the well-being of their hometown, and that includes holding their representatives accountable. As city leaders, it's important for us to remember that it is private citizens making private investments that drives the vibrancy of this community. Any actions we take must be focused on creating an environment that allows that activity to flourish. I have a strong working relationship with the Livonia Public School Board, and Livonia business owners have found me to be a willing listener and eager to work for solutions that are in the best interest of both the business and residential community. This spirit of cooperation, as the question notes, is indeed one of Livonia's greatest strengths. In many ways, to be family-friendly and business-friendly as a community requires the same things: safe neighborhoods, excellent services, and low taxes. That is my focus on Council, and I'm proud to live in a community where municipal, business, school, and volunteer groups work so well together to make that happen. This collaboration is full display each year with the Christmas parade, a Livonia tradition that I initiated and look forward to continuing for many years to come.

(3.) The recently adopted Vision21 Master Plan includes several areas designated for mixed-use development. I think this is an intriguing opportunity for our community, particularly as we think about how to repurpose retail spaces that may no longer be viable with changing economic models. I also frequently hear from senior citizens who want to stay in Livonia as they downsize but find a shortage of condo-style living in the city. One of the things that most impresses me about the Vision21 plan is how it stays true to Livonia's core identity even while envisioning some new types of developments. This city will remain predominantly neighborhoods of single-family homes with extensive acreage of parks and open space. That's the lifestyle that continues to entice young families to move here, and we should embrace that as our brand. However, in certain locations, I believe we can explore some higher-density options that complement our neighborhoods. One of the most exciting opportunities for this, in my opinion, is at our city center. I encourage residents to visit [LivoniaVision21.com](http://LivoniaVision21.com) to explore the concepts that have been developed with extensive input from Livonia residents. In my four years on City Council, I have often been complimented for my careful preparation, insightful questions, willingness to listen to citizen input, and a disciplined commitment to making decisions based on what is best for our community. In two of the most high-profile neighborhood development projects during my Council tenure, I have earned the trust of the neighbors even though we may not have agreed on every detail. That is the same approach I will take as we consider future developments for our city.

(4.) When Livonia was part of the SMART bus system, I lived two yards away from Middlebelt Road. I saw the buses drive by frequently, and I marveled at how often they were empty. "EmptySmartBus" almost became a singular noun in our house, because that's what they were. It did not make sense for Livonia taxpayers to continue paying for a service that virtually nobody appeared to be using. Therefore, I think Livonia was wise to opt out of that system and replace it with a system that costs half as much and is tailored to the needs of Livonia seniors who actually use the service. I understand the theoretical appeal of a transportation system that would enable us to get around without being dependent on a vehicle. I enjoy visiting large cities where I can experience that lifestyle. However, Livonia is not designed for that, and the observable patterns of our citizenry has already demonstrated that there is not a demand for it. I am always open to discussing ideas for how we can operate more efficiently as a city and improve the level of service for our citizens, but I do not believe the SMART system has demonstrated it can do that. No responsible investor would dedicate his capital to a service that doesn't get used, and it would be irresponsible for us to do that with our taxpayers' hard-earned dollars.





## Gregory G. Coppola

(1.) My family has been Livonia citizens for over 20 years. My wife and I chose to raise our four children in Livonia because of its safe streets, good schools, attractive housing, and great recreational opportunities. Over the years, I have been involved in the community - first by helping to run the co-op preschool our children attended, then leading a cub scout pack, to most recently as a Livonia Community Foundation board member and an appointee to the Livonia Economic Development Corporation and the Zoning Board Appeals, currently as its chairman. Over my 30+ years as a husband, father, banker, consultant, entrepreneur, small businessman and public official, I have gathered scores of “battle scars” and gained a wealth of knowledge. These experiences have provided me a perspective that is unique amongst the group of candidates running for city council, particularly the non-incumbents. I am running for Livonia City Council because the city needs experienced, knowledgeable and fair minded leaders at its helm to ensure it continues to be the desirable community so many worked so hard for so long to build. I believe my deep and diverse experience in both the private and public sector makes me the ideal candidate to meet the needs of the community.

(2.) Livonia Public School District is a separately governed entity with a distinct administration and source of funding. Nevertheless, the city's and school district's successes are inter-reliant – good schools attract citizens and businesses; good city services and reasonable taxes retain them. As a council member, I will only support those projects, programs and expenditures that maintain or improve city services and are fiscally responsible. Small businesses are the life blood of a community. They provide local jobs, buy goods and services from other local small businesses, pay taxes and support community civic causes. Local governments support small business by fostering an environment conducive to start up and growth. This environment includes reasonable regulations and taxes, and common-sense incentives. Being a small business owner, I understand this very well. As a council member, I will be a strident supporter of small businesses and will work hard to keep Livonia a business-friendly city.

(3.) The city recently completed phase 1 of a comprehensive study to update its master plan and zoning – Livonia Vision 21. Recommendations in the phase 1 report included a small portion of multi-family/high density housing including mixed-use development. The report cites a need for a diversity of housing to attract young residents and retain them throughout their lifetime. The city currently has a number of multi-family/high density housing units in the form of townhouses, condominiums and apartment buildings including new apartment developments on Farmington Road and Haggerty Road. The master plan suggest that a limited number of additional units could be supported, specifically citing potential mixed-use developments at Seven/Farmington, Seven/Middlebelt, Six/Newburgh & Plymouth/Middlebelt. My position on multifamily/high density housing being built in Livonia is I will support projects that make sense for the city and its citizens and are in harmony with the adjacent neighborhoods and businesses. That being said, I do believe these types of developments will be rare and likely will require redevelopment of currently distressed real estate.

(4.) Livonia voters opted out of the Smart Bus system as they deemed the cost was greater than the benefits received. The city was then able to lower the tax burden and provide better services more aligned with the needs of its citizens. I have not seen any new data that would support a change in this position. However, in the unlikely event that new supportive data is presented, I would be open to reconsidering Livonia rejoining the SMART bus system as I am always open to considering opportunities potentially beneficial to the city and citizens of Livonia.





## Jim Davis

(1.) I am running for City Council because I love my community. My wife and I raised our children here where they were able to attend some of the same schools she did. We lived a block from her parents where her grandparents lived across the street. That's the strength of Livonia neighborhoods! and it's a tradition I would like to preserve. I am running for City Council to bring my extensive experience to the Council, not use the Council for my experience! I have a strong broad base of skills earned over 30 years while serving as a police officer. I was responsible for many challenging assignments and positions promoted six times up to Deputy Chief through three political administrations. For years I have mentored and taught students in the Police Academy and at Wayne State University where I show students our Criminal Justice System from the view point of a practitioner and help them see how they can contribute in a future public service role. I am running for our non-partisan city government and Council to represent ALL LIVONIA CITIZENS, not a party or organization and the political rhetoric that it necessarily engenders. I am running to give all Livonia citizens a voice at the Council table!

(2.) Livonia is a great place to live and our neighborhoods are the best! We have world class schools, a low tax rate, and a desirable business location. The care and maintenance of our city's assets and strengths is a requirement for the next Council. We must pay attention, support and think innovatively about public safety issues in Livonia as this is a critical wrap-around service for business, schools and neighborhoods. These issues include safe neighborhoods and safe streets, school safety, security and target hardening of buildings providing a safe learning environment for our children. More complex internal issues for public safety in Livonia will require attention and support from Council. The national issue of public safety recruitment and retention has not left the City of Livonia immune to the desire and trend of young people to not select public safety (specifically police) as a first career choice and their desire to be mobile and portable moving from place to place. This national issue is affecting recruitment and retention in local agencies and across the country creating what can be described as a staffing crisis in some departments. These issues must be attended to and I have the knowledge, skills and ability to help.

(3.) Recently, the City of Livonia reviewed a proposal from a developer to build an apartment complex in the I-275 and 7 Mile Road area. After a critical look at the traffic challenges that exist in the area and input from the surrounding neighborhoods on the possible impact of the high-density development, it was determined that the stress and strain on the roadways and the additional traffic would possibly make the area more difficult to pass through at certain hours of the day. After considering the possible impacts of the development carefully the Council determined to not go forward with the proposal at this time and I agree. The City of Livonia has few open parcels for development and should be careful in approving and considering all proposals for development. We do have a guide to consult when new ideas are brought forward for vacant or infill lots in the city. The Livonia 21 Master Plan asked these questions in the study for land use. The report suggests that a mixed-use development that accounts for the existing neighborhood, new housing, including multi and single family, green space, as well as shops and business that consider walkability and connectedness may be the future for abandoned properties in the city, like the K-Mart store on 7 Mile Road. It is exciting to consider the possibilities for the future of these areas of the city and I would like to be a part of it.

(4.) After careful study and analysis of the SMART system as proposed for the City of Livonia the Council pointed out the fact that there was a tax liability and no direct benefit for citizens of the city. I am open to reviewing any transportation proposal that would work for Livonia including any future proposal from other systems that consider and show an expense / benefit balance for our citizens. I believe; however, that public transportation is and will be an important consideration for our future. We must look at ideas that serve our youthful population. Young adults may not be as interested in automobiles as we were, perhaps due to the high cost and often put off driving or are unable to drive. Another group of youth may prefer to use public transportation (if available) to intentionally leave the car at home. For them, this may be a way to save money on vehicle ownership, meet people and help keep the environment clean. It should be noted, and I believe, a critically important group of public transportation users is the growing senior population in Livonia. The seniors in our community may not have the luxury of choice regarding transportation and must rely on others. Through my church, Rosedale Gardens, and the wonderful seniors that rely on the Livonia Senior Center for fellowship and recreation I am told that independence is very important for them. Livonia has a bus system that citizens can use now for shopping and medical appointments and five years ago I started a bus ministry for our seniors where five teams of volunteers bus them to church. I think we need to pay attention to this significant and growing issue and maintain, build, and expand services and capacity to meet this growing need.



## Rob Donovic

(1.) My family immigrated to America in the 1980's from communist Albania. My parents came to this country with nothing and went on to start a family business. I was fortunate to be able to go to Livonia Public Schools, going to Johnson Elementary School, Frost Middle School, and Churchill High School. When I wasn't at school, or working at the family business, I was playing little league sports at Bentley field. I went on to join the police department as a Reserve Police Officer and enlist into the military as an Infantry Soldier. I am running for City Council because my family came to this country with nothing and now we have something, and this is my way of paying back the community that has given my family everything we have.

(2.) I am a small business owner and understand the difficulties of operating a small family business. Livonia can attract many innovative businesses because we have so much to offer, and we in government must work with these business owners to bring creative ideas to our city. As the only east side candidate running, something I am passionate about is the revitalization of the eastern corridor of Livonia where most of the cities vacancies exist. Incentivizing business owners to rehab existing building on the east side as opposed to building new on the west side is something we should work to do so that we do not "build out" every square mile of our city. As a LPS graduate with an 11 year old brother who currently goes to Johnson Elementary, investing in our education, both at LPS and Clarenceville, will help lead us into the future as one of the most competitive cities in that state.

(3.) I want more living space built in Livonia and less strip malls. Times are changing. People shop online. People don't necessarily want single family homes. As new generations purchase their first living space, we should be open minded to all developments that provide a variety of living space and less strip malls that will be vacant.

(4.) Voters choose to opt out of the SMART bus system and I support that. Livonia has a transportation system for seniors and residents who need help moving around but I do not want to participate in the SMART bus system. Livonia tax payers will foot the bill for an inefficient bus system that an overwhelmingly majority of residents will never use.



## Brian Duggan

(1.) I have always put Livonia first and have the desire to keep it as one of the best cities in Michigan. I have a history of service on council and believe that my experience would help kept Livonia moving forward. My government experience: Six years Livonia Council, Five years Livonia Housing Commission, Chairman Livonia Arts Commission, Council Parliamentarian, Chaired the Water, Sewer & Waste Committee, Chaired Streets, Roads & Plats Committee, Member Of Legislative Committee, Member City Council/ Schools Liaison Committee, Represented City On Spree Board Of Directors, and Alternate Representative To Michigan Municipal Risk Management Association. Volunteer involvement: President of BMD Charities, Brought the Vietnam Moving Wall to Livonia, Hosted a Groovy Fest and a Taste Fest to raise funds for

the Wall, Hosted a Taste Fest for the Livonia Arts, Named Livonia First Citizen, Recipient "The Spirit Of Achievement" Award From WJR Radio, Past President Livonia Jaycee's, Past Vice President Livonia Chamber Of Commerce, Creator and Producer of The First Step Charity Dance (A Shelter For Battered Women And Children), Karmanos Cancer Institute, and Make-A-Wish of Michigan, in which I raised over half of Million dollars, Chair / Vice Chair Various Madonna University Committees, and Chair / Vice Chair Golf Outing For The Livonia Family Y and many more.

(2.) Regarding the Schools: I was a member of the City Council/School liaison committee. I would continue to build on my experience to work with School Board. I would encourage them the next time they sell their properties to make it affordable detach condominiums for our seniors, which would free up the housing market for new families. Regarding Small Business: I think the City should cut some red tape to ensure our businesses flourish which would in turn allow them to reinvest in Livonia and employ our youth.

(3.) I am not in favor of multifamily/high density housing. I am however in favor to modernize/update the housing stock to attract younger families to bolster up the school system. I will work with developers to build affordable detach condominiums for our seniors. I would also look at creating 'gathering' spots in the city to help to create a downtown environment similar to other cities.

(4.) I am a strong believer in "We the People" and the people voted to opt out of the smart system. I believe our current system works fine. However, times do change and I have no problem putting it back on the ballot. I would like to see a high-speed rail connect in Detroit to Ann Arbor using our current railroad tracks, similar to Baltimore to Washington.





## Brandon McCullough

(1.) I spent my childhood roaming the streets of South Livonia on my 1992 GT Mach One BMX. I was a regular of Wonderland Mall, Cutting Corner, Daly, Bread Basket, Senate Coney Island, and too many more to name. I attended elementary school at Cleveland, middle school at Emerson, and high school at Franklin. Following my incredible Livonia Public Schools education, I attended Lawrence Tech and obtained a degree in Construction Engineering and graduated with honors. My professional career really took off in 2008 when I served as the Director of Construction for Habitat for Humanity. Currently, I serve as the Facilities Manager for the City of Novi. On top of these responsibilities, I also act as the City of Novi's owner's representative on capital projects including the ongoing Department of Public Work expansion project. Lastly, I

have trail blazed many of the sustainable initiatives that include LED lighting retro-fits, HVAC upgrades, solar projects, and promoted storm water management through installation of rain gardens. I am running to serve on the Livonia City Council to ensure that Livonia remains the premier destination suburb in Metro Detroit. I take a great deal of pride in being a lifelong Livonia resident and now feel it is my duty to use my knowledge and skills to be a true asset to the place that has given me so much. My local government management experience coupled with the passion I have to make our City the best it possibly can be is unmatched. As someone who is raising his family here, the City's motto of "Families First" couldn't be more important. Livonia is the very best place for families and I want to make sure it stays that way for years to come.

(2.) As a husband of a Livonia Public School special education teacher and a father of Livonia Public School student, I will always work to ensure our schools stay the best around. In the primary election, I was clear on my unwavering support for both mileages. Strong schools are the cornerstone of a strong community. As a member of City Council, I would look to create more collaboration between the City and the Schools. The opioid crisis is a perfect example of an opportunity to work together to create an awareness program that could help combat this terrible epidemic. Small business growth and development in Livonia has one of the best tools around in our Livonia Chamber of Commerce! I would recommend a resource allocation to assist the city's economic development department, giving staff more tools to tell Livonia's story and start filling these vacant box stores.

(3.) I have been a strong proponent of the right development and innovative planning to allow our city to grow into the future. Multifamily/high density housing can include options for young professions and older adults. Having these options are important to keep our city a lifelong destination. I would be open to different developments that could re-purpose some locations that have been eyesores for far too long. I will say that any high density development needs to be properly planned to include the increase in traffic and its effect on surrounding areas. Lastly, I believe in transparency and keeping our citizens informed of new developments in the planning phase. I would explore different ways to share projects before they hit City Council for final approval. This would allow public input at a stage that would allow concerns to be validated and remediated before it hits City Council.

(4.) I would be in favor of taking a closer look. I do believe inadequate public transportation negatively impacts economic growth. However, to create the right system we need to have the cooperation of neighboring communities. The solution needs to be right for the long term and right for Livonia. I would pledge to be at that table and work to find that solution.



## Eileen McDonnell

(1.) I am married, my husband Bob and I have lived in Livonia for 23 years. Both of our children Jeff and Allison attended Livonia Public Schools, graduated from Livonia Stevenson. Professionally I manage municipal contracts and proposal for my employer, PVS Chemicals Inc. PVS sells water and wastewater treatment chemicals throughout the United States and Canada. I am running for council to represent our citizens and their views. Also, I'm very concerned with our police and fire staffing issues that are at critical staffing levels. The rate of turnover is alarming; council and the mayor's office needs to address this as priority number one.

(2.) I envision myself working well with the schools. As a former board member, I know what a wonderful job our superintendent is doing along with her staff and the board. I am a former Livonia Chamber Member, and have the personality and understanding to work with our businesses to support and allow them to grow.

(3.) This would depend on where the multifamily/high density was being proposed. The property at Seven Mile and Victor Parkway was not a good fit for this type of project, as we know, council turned the proposal down. I know that this was the right thing to do.

(4.) I believe we need some sort of transportation system on limited terms. My husband works for Michigan Works and transportation for employees is a concern for some employers. Amazon learned quickly and after the fact that transportation was an issue. Some of their employees did not have access to public transportation.





## Kathleen E. McIntyre

(1.) I have lived in Livonia about 45 years: it was home for my first 22 years and 23 years ago my husband Brian and I chose to make our home here. We have loved raising our two sons, David (21) and Patrick (16) in this wonderful city. I hold a B.A. and M.B.A. from Michigan State University and spent over 30 years as a senior leader in the IT and automotive industries. My decision to run for City Council was spurred by the desire to use my education, professional experience in finance and strategy, civic service on the Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Commission and Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, and passion for our great city and its wonderful people to contribute to Livonia's continued strength and brilliant future. I was both proud and humbled to have been elected City Council president four years ago and have loved every aspect of serving on Council – even more than

I imagined I would. Livonia has a long history of leaders who have put the city first, an outstanding city workforce and a spirit of collaboration and compromise that gets things accomplished. We have had a few tough decisions and difficult votes during the past four years; and when facing difficult decisions I work hard to gather as much information as possible and listen to all points of view. I am proud of my leadership and hard work, and I never forget that I work for the people of Livonia.

(2.) I don't just envision doing this: I have worked collaboratively with our business community through my service on the Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Commission, Brownfield Redevelopment Authority and active involvement with the Livonia Chamber of Commerce. Additionally through many years of volunteer work with the PTA, St. Aidan Catholic Church and the Livonia Community Foundation, I have collaborated extensively with Livonia's wonderful non-profit community. While Livonia Public Schools (LPS) is a separate legal entity from the city, our residents benefit from a collaborative relationship between the City of Livonia and LPS. During my tenure as City Council President I established an annual, informal "meet and greet" for our city and LPS leaders. I know our School Board Trustees, superintendent, and many administrators and educators personally and support the LPS Foundation, which provides funding for innovative programs that directly benefit teachers, students and families. Livonia is home to over 6,000 businesses and the Livonia Chamber of Commerce is one of the largest single-city chambers in Michigan with over 1,000 members. Livonia's robust and diversified business sector is the result of a business-friendly climate and successful marketing of Livonia's many benefits such as central location, proximity to Detroit Metro Airport and Downtown Detroit, dedicated economic development team, skilled workforce, and very low tax and crime rates. My participation on our Livonia 2020 Master Plan steering committee has allowed me to ensure that Livonia is addressing the changing needs of businesses and the importance of creating a sense of place for our commercial districts. One of the first areas of focus is the east Plymouth Road corridor between Middlebelt and Inkster, and improving the walkability between the small commercial buildings and creating an attractive and welcoming streetscape as people drive west across Inkster Road into Livonia.

(3.) The majority of Livonia's existing housing stock is in single family homes, which reflects what people wanted when Livonia was a new and rapidly growing city. Then and now, developers want to build the types of housing for which there is high demand. During the past few years developers have sought approval for numerous new housing projects in Livonia including single family homes, ranch style condos, and luxury apartments. It is Council's responsibility to consider many factors when reviewing any new construction project (whether it is residential, commercial or industrial). During my Council tenure we have approved several new single-family home developments and approved rezoning and site plans for a mixed-use development on Haggerty Road, between Costco and AMC, on the site of the long-vacant Haggerty Tech Center. The development includes retail, dining and 200 upscale apartment units. The new apartments are an excellent fit for this location and I am excited about seeing new housing options in our city, adding new residents and increasing Livonia's tax base and economic activity. Recently I joined my Council Colleagues in denying a zoning change that would have allowed construction of multi-story, luxury apartments. While the project offered benefits to the city, Council denied the rezoning based on overwhelming objections from nearby residents, lack of harmony with existing buildings and concerns about overtaxing an already congested stretch of road near the Seven Mile and I275 interchange. I support new housing developments that increase options for those who seek to live in our wonderful community, bring new residents and increase our tax base, but I study each new project individually and carefully to ensure that it will benefit the city and our residents.

(4.) SMART didn't meet our residents' needs and they didn't believe the millage was a good use of their tax dollars. They instead voted for a slightly smaller millage to fund local transportation program services and capital projects. In response the city created Livonia Community Transit, which provides Livonia seniors and residents with disabilities with door-to-door transportation between their homes and the places in Livonia that they need and want to go such as medical appointments, shopping, hair salons, recreational facilities and restaurants. Community Transit also provides limited services outside of Livonia for qualified veterans. Livonia also has a "To Work" program to help workers get to their Livonia places of employment from several DDOT stops within the city. There is much talk about how lack of public transportation prevents people from getting good jobs. I am an advocate for increasing employment opportunities and am also data-driven. When Amazon announced plans for a 1-million square foot, Livonia fulfillment center, Mayor Wright, Economic Development Director Mark Taormina and I worked with Amazon and state employment and transportation agencies to ensure that transportation issues wouldn't prevent Amazon from hiring the 1,000 workers needed for the new facility. We created an optional survey for job applicants to identify transportation barriers: out of thousands of applicants only a handful indicated interest in or a need for public transportation. I believe there are opportunities to expand Livonia Community Transit and support investigating new, technology-enabled models for rides-on-demand. In 2015 City Council examined the question of re-joining SMART and saw no reason to do so. There have been no drastic improvements in SMART's service or cost-efficiency that would compel me to promote rejoining. However, I am always open minded about the city's participation in any program that delivers cost-effective services to our residents and business community.

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