



2017 LUCAS COUNTY VOTERS' GUIDE

CITY OF TOLEDO

Toledo City Council at-Large

Term of Office: 4 years

To be elected: 6

- Q1. In the position you seek, what do you consider are the most important issues to be addressed, and what would you do about them?*
- Q2. What do you bring to the position that another candidate cannot?*

Cecelia M. Adams

Education: Doctor of Philosophy Degree (Ph.D.), University of Toledo; Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.), University of Toledo; Master of Education Degree (M.Ed.), University of Toledo; Bachelor of Science Degree (B.S.), Mary Manse College.

Current Occupation: Councilwoman–At Large; Educator–Assistant Superintendent, Retired.

Qualifications: Currently, Toledo City Councilwoman – At Large, Elected in 2015; Elected to the Toledo Board of Education in 2011 – served as President, Vice President, Chair of the Finance and Business Operations Committee, Chair of the Curriculum and Academic Excellence Committee, Co-Chair of the Policy Committee, Co-Chair of the Head Start Committee, Co-Chair of the Ohio School Facilities Commission and Disposition Committee, Convenor of the Board Business Advisory Council, and Convenor of the Performance Audit Advisory Panel; my knowledge and understanding of issues facing the City of Toledo; my work experience as an assistant superintendent, science teacher and leadership as a Toledo Federation of Teachers Building Representative and Toledo Association of Administrative Personnel member; my educational preparation and training that has been applied to service as an elected official – Ph.D., Ed.S., M.Ed. and B.S. Degrees; and my Civic and Community Participation in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, YMCA, Greater NW Ohio YWCA, African American Legacy Project, Family Service of Northwest Ohio, Downtown Kiwanis, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, Pi Lambda Theta Education Honorary, and New Hope Porter’s Grove Church. My work with business and labor groups has always been collaborative both as a former School Board Member and on City Council. Diligently working to keep Toledo progressive now and in the future; maintaining an open, responsive dialogue with constituents and other city officials; pursuing confidence and trust in city government; building conditions for job creation and restoration; strengthening the partnership between the City of Toledo, Toledo Public Schools, other education institutions and Higher Education are also areas that add to my qualifications for this office; and my experience.

Questions:

1) The most important issues to be addressed, in my opinion, are education, water, public safety, employment, streets/infrastructure, recreation and poverty. I believe that education is the number one issue of importance because it is the solution to most of our problems and the pathway to better jobs, higher salaries, finer homes and even good health. As Chair of Toledo City Council’s Education, Recreation and Employment Committee, I am already in the process of strengthening our partnership and collaborating with Toledo Public Schools on several initiatives as well as our higher education institutions; and planning to work with other public, nonpublic and private schools to raise the achievement levels of our students and ultimately the educational status of all our residents. My goal is to establish mentoring and tutoring opportunities for young people that involve pairing them up with volunteer city workers and other successful individuals in our community for insight into good careers It is my intention to continue my efforts to upgrade our 125 neighborhood parks and offer sponsored activities and improved amenities in them, re-establish city-wide Little League Baseball (starting with Tee-Ball), partner with organizations and local leaders to create a Joint Recreational District; and continue working with Ohio Means Jobs – Lucas County to provide awareness of and guidance in securing positions for those seeking employment in one of the thousands of job opportunities available in our region. Higher paying jobs means people can pay higher income taxes and afford their bills. I intend to monitor the Payday Lending legislation that I sponsored which restricts proliferation of payday lenders and continue offering alternative resources. More cohorts like the police and fire EMT academy we developed with TPS will be created. Starting in 2018, these students will get college credit and be eligible to take the test for certification. A highly educated municipality can pull its citizens out of poverty and into prosperity. We have to educate to elevate.

2) I bring a comprehensive approach to the position with the knowledge, experience, educational background, qualifications and time to commit fully to solving the problems facing the City of Toledo. As a former science teacher, school administrator, curriculum specialist, school improvement leader, assistant superintendent, and School Board President; I am uniquely qualified to lead City Council's efforts to engage meaningfully in support of our local schools. For example, it will be imperative that we have someone who understands why we must implement universal Pre-K so all of our city's children are better prepared for Kindergarten, how to accomplish it and why city government needs to do what it can to assist in that effort. I have demonstrated Responsible Leadership while serving our citizens and getting Toledo back to work. Another candidate cannot tackle the issues around education, recreation and employment as effectively as I shall and have already begun to do. No one else will be able to bring the passion for lifting up our city by placing a laser beam focus on education and getting the weight of the city's influence to help our children and adults learn to the best of their abilities. This area has been ignored too long. It is the rising tide that will lift our city out of the throes of addiction, poverty and provide that ounce of prevention that will be worth a pound of cure.

Gary Johnson

Education: Bachelors Degree in Business, Minor, Political Science, Associates in Criminal Justice

Current Occupation: Owner, Construction

Qualifications: 30 years business, 5 years as a member of the Lucas County Board of Elections

Website: www.garyjohnsonfortoledo.com

Questions:

1) Crime, Water, Jobs

(1) Raise tax dollars to increase resources for Police and Fire.

(2) Work with State and Federal to clean the lake.

(3) Bring new business to create jobs.

2) My business skills and negotiating skill make me uniquely qualified.

Nick Komives

No Response Received

Rob Ludeman

Education: 1971 Graduate of E. L. Bowsher High School, Toledo, Ohio

1975 Graduate of Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio-BA in Political Science

Attended The University of Toledo School of Law-1975-1976

Davis College-Real Estate Division -1976-1977

Current Occupation: Realtor

Qualifications: 22 years on Toledo City Council-14 as the District 2 Representative and 8 At Large. Also as a Realtor and independent business person I understand the Toledo neighborhoods and suburban areas very well.

Website: www.robludemanfortoledo.com

1) Most important issues - Public Safety, paving streets and roads, and jobs/economic development.

2) As a business person and also Chair of the Council Regional Growth and Development Committee I am most familiar with house business runs, development runs, and how construction runs to help promote jobs in our area. My 22 years of City Council experience help in most issues we deal with on a regular basis.

Sam Melden

Education: Graduate of Lake High School, Attended Owens CC & Spring Arbor University.

Current Occupation: Organizational Development in Non-Profit Industry

Qualifications: In addition to leadership roles in local non-profit organizations, I have been involved in community organizations working at the neighborhood level as well as other groups working to address city-wide issues.

Website: www.sammelden.com

Questions:

- 1) - My top issues are water safety and quality and safe, family friendly neighborhoods.
 - We need to guarantee that our water is clean, safe and affordable for all of Toledo's water customers. This means we must form the regional water authority. Also, we have to raise our voice in this region to address the long term health of Lake Erie. We need to declare the Western Basin of Lake Erie and Impaired Watershed and then continue to put the pressure on for the proper regulations required to solve the problem.
 - As an at-large council member I plan on working across districts to strengthen neighborhoods so that every neighborhood is safe and family friendly. This includes coming up with a strategic plan for paving our roads that is well thought out and explained to every neighborhood. We also need to encourage more small business development in our neighborhoods as well.

2) When elected I will bring a fresh perspective to city government. As one of youngest candidates running I will bring a forward thinking decision making thought process that is more about vision and the future than simply looking to the past. We need new ideas and fresh energy. That's me.

Alfonso R Narvaez

No Response Received

Clyde F. Phillips Jr.

Education: High School Diploma, Vocational Training , 8 years U.S. Army

Current Occupation: Retire

Questions:

1) Wasteful spending and miss handling of tax payer money, the lack of summer jobs and youth program, drugs, and the lack of development or growth of the City as a whole. To cut back on the number state own building within our city and paying of rent with tax payer money for those property, returning garbage to the city of Toledo, to use youth within our City for summer jobs , step up efforts on drugs prevention, get back to promoting small business within community and being accessible to our citizens.

2) I bring a renewed mind set and willingness to work for the people, with the people, to ensure longevity and continued success for Toledo like our ancestors before us as God as my witness.

Patricia Robinson

Education: Certified/Assoc.

Occupation: Retired

Qualifications:

Website: Patricia@Robinson4Toledo.com

Qualifications: Community Activist 40 years

Questions:

- 1) Opioid use which affects the user, families and the community at large.
- 2) Experience and connection to citizens.

Harvey Savage, Jr.

Education: Attended University of Toledo

Current Occupation: Executive Director

Qualifications:

I have extensive human resource experience in manufacturing in a corporate setting. I have been a facilitator for corporate substance abuse and sexual harassment programs. I have a good understanding of the current opioid crisis in this country. I have also been involved in organizational development and trained in participative management. I am a former president of MLKC Kitchen for the Poor and Community Shares. I have won awards for community service and I am currently involved with several community organizations: The Junction Project, TMACOG, and the City to Toledo storm sewer project.

Questions:

1) As a Toledo city councilman at-large, I will focus on:

- Safety of our citizens
- Improving the condition of the streets
- Current opioid crisis
- High quality jobs for our citizens
- Improving the relationship between city and county governments
- Investing in the youth of our city

2) I am not sure of what the other candidates will bring to the position, but I will bring a passion for the people, proven commitment to the community, accountability, an open- door policy with the willingness to listen, and a devotion to build a better future for Toledo. My desire is to bring out the best in Toledo.

Sandy Spang

Education: Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bowling Green State University, Magna cum Laude

Occupation: Commercial and Residential Property Manager, Coffee Shop Owner

Qualifications: National League of Cities University Bronze Level Certificate, earned by taking courses on topics regarding municipal governance. The NLC University Program for Elected Officials focuses on four proficiency areas: Leadership, Management, Engagement and Expertise.

Website: spangfortoledo.com

Questions:

1) Toledo's fiscal health over the next decade will determine its ability to rebuild its infrastructure as well as its capacity for innovation. In my first term, I advocated for the implementation of Priority Based Budgeting, now I will work to assure that the data it has produced will align City of Toledo resources with citizen's priorities.

The creation of a Regional Water Authority will bring long-term rate stability and a stronger voice of advocacy for the health of Lake Erie. It will be the responsibility of the Members of Toledo City Council to approve an agreement that will be effective and equitable.

2) I draw from my experience as a small business owner and property manager in my work on Council, and I hope that voters recognize that the decisions I make as their representative are researched, principled, and truly independent.

Larry J. Sykes

No Response Received

Kurt Young

Education: JD - Case Western Reserve University 1993

Current occupation: Attorney

Website: kurtyoungfortoledo.org

Qualifications:

Leadership Toledo Graduate & Nathan Hale Award Winner

Servant Leadership Graduate

GLU Friend of the Community Award Winner

20 Under 40 finalist

Chair of Toledo City Council Public Safety & Criminal Justice Reform Committee & Vice Chair, Toledo City Council Water Quality, Streets & Infrastructure Committee.

Questions:

1) First, we need to grow our economy by development of new, small businesses, grow our existing businesses larger and redevelop all of Toledo. I will use the skills of 13 years of being a successful small business owner, and work with the Chamber of Commerce & Realtors to create new businesses and fill our vacant retail.

Second, we need fix our infrastructure. Using the experience of the Toledo Waterways Initiative, which I have worked with on Council, we create a systematic, ten year program to upgrade all of our roads. While finishing two projects, totaling over a Billion Dollars, and both nearing completion on time and on budget, to protect our water.

Third, make all of our neighborhoods safer. As chair of the Public Safety Committee I am working to ensure all of Toledo's neighborhoods have a thriving neighborhood association and a Block Watch. And work from the Downtown boom outward to make this happen.

2) 24 years of experience as a professional problem solver for my clients and many non-profits I have served.