

CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL

Biographies and photos submitted by candidates. Council Members serve a four-year term.

Michael Bridges

Michael Bridges is a 27-year resident of Farmington Hills. He was first elected in 2008 and was reelected in 2009, 2013, 2017 and 2021. Michael served as mayor pro tem in 2010, 2016 and 2023. He is the Council liaison to the Farmington Area Commission on Aging and the Economic Development Corporation and is a board member for the Heritage Hills Homeowner Association.



Michael is running for reelection to ensure that Farmington Hills remains a premier city for all its residents, and an attractive city for new families and businesses.

Key Accomplishments:

- Led the charge to change the way the City funds local road improvements
- Maintained the City's AAA bond rating
- Maintained the City's safe city designation
- Passed new zoning text amendments to encourage redevelopment and preserve our strong and vibrant neighborhoods
- Proposed and outfitted all police officers with body worn cameras

Michael has a bachelor's degree from Spring Arbor University. He is married to Deborah and has two sons who both graduated from Farmington Public Schools. His son, Michael, is an orthopedic surgery resident at Corewell Health and his son, Chauncey, is an orthopedic surgery resident at Tulane University.

Farah Khan

Farah Khan, candidate for Farmington Hills City Council, is a passionate community advocate, mother, and public servant who has spent her life building bridges and fighting for equity, transparency, and inclusive progress. As a proud resident of Farmington Hills, Farah has dedicated herself to uplifting her neighbors, whether through civic engagement, interfaith outreach or grassroots organizing.



An experienced IT professional, Farah brings problem-solving skills and a practical, solutions-driven mindset to public service. She has championed local causes ranging from peace and public safety to affordable housing and community reinvestment, always advocating for transparency and accountability. Her leadership is grounded in compassion, integrity, and a firm belief that government should work for the people, not special interests.

Farah is especially passionate about empowering youth, protecting the environment, and ensuring that every resident of Farmington Hills, regardless of background, feels seen, heard, and valued.

As a City Councilmember, Farah will prioritize:

- Affordable housing and responsible development
- Fiscal transparency and reinvestment in neighborhoods
- Public safety with mental health support and community trust
- Environmental sustainability and clean energy
- Representation and inclusion for all communities

Farah Khan is running to bring people together and make local government more responsive, more just, and more hopeful for everyone. A Farmington Hills where every voice matters, every resident belongs.

Valerie Knol

Valerie Knol believes safety, affordable taxes, well-maintained neighborhoods, good roads, parks and facilities, and efficient city services are at the heart of a desirable community. During Valerie's service on the Farmington Hills Council, she's established a track record of support for these priorities, as well as responsible fiscal management to maintain the City's AAA bond rating.



Valerie has a strong background in planning, record of listening to the residents, and collaborating with stakeholders. This is critical to the City's management and redevelopment of properties and City facilities to maintain our quality of life, while investing in economic development that benefits all of our residents.

Valerie has served on the Council since 2013 and twice as mayor pro tem. She serves as the Council liaison to the Beautification Commission and the Historical District Commission. Prior to her election in Farmington Hills, Valerie served on the Farmington City Council for eight years, also serving as mayor.

A passionate community volunteer, Valerie has served on the boards of The Farmington Players theater, Farmington Family YMCA, Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce, American Association of University Women, and the Oakland County Zoological Authority.

Valerie works in the auto industry as a manager at Stellantis and previously as a senior staff member for the Michigan House of Representatives. Valerie received a B.S. from WMU and a master's degree from EMU.

Valerie's diversity of experience, practical leadership and long service to the community make her exceptionally qualified for reelection to City Council.

Angie Smith

Angie Smith is a dedicated public servant and advocate for education and community engagement. With experience in Detroit and Farmington Public Schools, she brings firsthand knowledge of the public education system. For 10 years, she has served on the Farmington Public Schools Board of Education, where she is a strong voice for students, families and educators.



A 28-year resident of Farmington/Farmington Hills, Angie has been deeply involved in volunteer efforts, supporting bond and millage campaigns, serving as a PTA member, band booster, and participant in the Multicultural Multiracial Community Council. She currently serves on the Citizens Police Advisory Committee and has worked closely with three police chiefs.

Angie studied mortuary science at Wayne County Community College and Wayne State University, with a minor in music. She is also a licensed minister and former Miss Michigan USA contestant. She made history as the first African American PTA council president in the district and co-organized the community's first Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration.

Her service includes donating annually to special education programs, providing food to families in need, and helping students cover graduation expenses. She has received the Master Boardmember Award, the African American Leadership Award in Education, and the CPAC Certificate of Graduation.

Angie currently serves on the executive boards of the Farmington/Farmington Hills Democratic Club and the 11th Congressional District Democrats. Now, she is running for Farmington Hills City Council to strengthen partnerships between schools, City departments, public safety agencies and the broader community.

Charlie Starkman

Charlie Starkman is a candidate for Farmington Hills City Council. He serves as the assistant director at the University of Michigan-Dearborn Counseling and Psychological Services Office and is the assistant director of Disability and Accessibility Services. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and his doctorate in clinical psychology (Psy.D.) from Adler University in Chicago. Charlie currently serves as the vice chair of the Farmington/Farmington Hills Commission on Community Health. He is also the vice chair of the Michigan Psychological Association's Early Career Psychologists Committee and a member of the Association's Advocacy Committee.



In 2022, Charlie was named one of The Detroit Jewish News' 36 Under 36, an award that recognizes the contributions of young Jewish adults to the metro Detroit community.

Charlie is running for office because he believes that local government fosters deeper connections with residents and leads to meaningful change. His background is suited uniquely for this moment, as his platform calls for expanded mental health awareness and resources and enhanced accessibility in parks and public spaces for people of all ages and abilities. Charlie recognizes that residents are looking for new, young faces, fresh perspectives, and transparent, fiscally responsible, compassionate governance. Charlie is particularly eager to play a role in making decisions that will determine Farmington Hills' future.

A resident since 2018, Charlie is proud to call Farmington Hills home. In his free time, he enjoys playing tennis, reading, listening to music, and spending time with family and friends.

Absent Voter Ballots

Absent Voter Ballots will be available to voters beginning September 25.

Early Voting

Early voting is open nine (9) consecutive days beginning two Saturdays before the election and ending the Sunday before the election: Oct 25-Nov 2. Sites are open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every day except Thursday, when hours are noon to 8 p.m.

Site Options

Regional Early Voting Site
Costick Activities Center
28600 W. Eleven Mile Rd.
Farmington Hills, MI 48336

Central Early Voting Site
Waterford Oaks Activity Center
2800 Watkins Lake Rd.
Waterford, MI 48326

Precinct Locations

For those going to the polls on Election Day, there is a map of voting precincts on the City's website at <https://www.fhgov.com/elections/precinct-locations/>

Polling locations are open on **Election Day from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

Drop Boxes

The City has secure drop boxes for election materials at these locations:

- Farmington Hills Police Department: 31655 West 11 Mile Road
- Costick Center: 28600 11 Mile Road
- Department of Public Works: 27245 Halsted Road
- Fire Station #1: 35725 9 Mile Road
- Fire Station #3: 29260 Grand River Ave.

VOTE ON OR BY NOVEMBER 4, 2025.

PROPOSALS

City of Farmington Hills Charter Amendment Public Safety Millage

Shall Section 7.02c of the Farmington Hills City Charter be amended to allow a renewal of the previous voter-approved additional special tax rate for purposes of the public safety functions of the Fire and Police Departments by authorizing the City to levy a millage in the amount of 1.4764 mills (being \$1.48 per \$1,000 of taxable value) for ten years, starting with the July 2026 levy (resulting in the authorization to collect an estimated \$7,269,000 in the first year if approved and levied), which taxes are to be used only for purposes of fire and police staffing and equipment?

Clarenceville School District Operating Millage Proposition Exempting Principal Residence and Other Homestead Property

This millage will allow the school district to levy not more than the statutory rate of 18.0000 mills on all property except homestead property and other property exempt by law as required for the school district to continue to receive its full per pupil foundation allowance.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all taxable property, except principal residence and other homestead property as defined by law, in Clarenceville School District, Counties of Oakland and Wayne, State of Michigan, be increased to 19.0000 mills (\$19.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) for ten (10) years, calendar years 2026 to 2035, inclusive, to provide in part the funds to operate and maintain the school system? It is estimated that the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and 18.0000 mills are levied in the 2026 calendar year will be approximately \$3,244,122 from the local taxes authorized in this proposal. Revenues will be disbursed to Clarenceville School District.

Clarenceville School District Building and Site Bond Proposal

Shall Clarenceville School District, Oakland and Wayne Counties, Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed Twenty-Nine Million Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$29,250,000) and issue its unlimited tax general obligation bonds therefore, for the purpose of defraying all or part of the cost of:

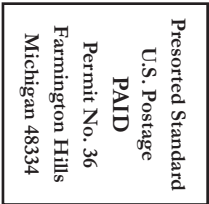
Erecting, remodeling, and equipping or reequipping school buildings, including structures, athletic fields, playgrounds, or other facilities, or parts of or additions to those facilities; furnishing or refurbishing new or remodeled school buildings; acquiring, preparing, developing, or improving sites, or parts of or additions to sites, for school buildings, including structures, athletic fields, playgrounds, or other facilities; acquiring, installing, or equipping or reequipping school buildings for technology?

The following is for informational purposes only:

Under current law, the estimated millage that will be levied for the proposed bonds in the year 2026, the first year that the levy will be authorized, is 3.68 mills (\$3.68 per \$1,000 of taxable valuation). The bonds may be issued in one or more series and may be outstanding for a maximum of twenty (20) years, exclusive of any refunding. The estimated simple average annual millage anticipated to be required to retire this bond debt is 3.36 mills (\$3.36 per \$1,000 of taxable valuation).

(Pursuant to State law, expenditures of bond proceeds must be audited, and the proceeds cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs, teacher, administrator or employee salaries, or other operating expenses.)

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025



31555 W. Eleven Mile Road | Farmington Hills, MI 48336



ELECTION NEWSLETTER 2025

CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR

Biographies and photos submitted by candidates. Mayor serves a two-year term.

Randy Bruce

Randy Bruce is a candidate for mayor, first elected to City Council in 2003 and re-elected four times for a total of 20 years on Council. He has also served as the mayor pro tem for four terms.



Estates, Saratoga Farms, and Colony Park II Homeowners Associations.

Randy graduated from Wayne State University in Detroit, with B.S., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees, and is a licensed neuropsychologist and board-certified rehabilitation psychologist. He has been a business owner for over 35 years.

During Randy's time on Council, the City has been consistently named one of the safest and most financially stable cities in the State. Randy's many accomplishments while on Council include the building of the water tower, which saves over three million dollars per year for the citizens, passing of a rental inspection ordinance, and eliminating the special assessment districts for local road paving.

Randy wants to continue to work on redevelopment issues so that Farmington Hills remains a competitive city that continues to attract residents and businesses. Randy is a 39-year resident of the City, and he and his wife Jill are proud to live and work in Farmington Hills.

Prior to City Council, he served on the Zoning Board of Appeals from 1995 to 2003, including two years as chairman. He has been a member of the Human Development Policy and Advocacy Committee of the National League of Cities, including as vice chair and chair. He has also been president of the Forestbrook Hills/Pebblebrook

Jimmy Lossia

Jimmy Lossia's first run for public office is driven by his belief that too many politicians put personal agendas above the people they are elected to serve. His journey is deeply



personal—after losing his fiancée, Alecia, to suicide, Jimmy vowed to honor her compassion for people and animals by dedicating his life to service. For the past 20 years, he has volunteered his time and resources to help seniors, single mothers, everyday residents and animal welfare—work that speaks louder than words to those who know and follow him on social media.

From the age of 14, Jimmy learned the value of hard work and accountability while helping run his family's businesses, including supermarkets, video stores, auto washes and retail centers. Later, he turned around a failing business with a poor reputation, tripling its customer base within four years. He has successfully hosted large community events, taken on corporate fraud and defended himself against corrupt billion-dollar corporations—always standing on principle.

As mayor, Jimmy's priorities include lowering taxes by rooting out city corruption, protecting small businesses, upgrading senior facilities, improving cable and mobile services, fixing our roads, and revitalizing vacant office buildings into residential housing while preserving Farmington Hills' last remaining woodlands.

A 20-year resident of Farmington Hills, Jimmy graduated from Brother Rice High School and went on to study at Schoolcraft College, OCC and the University of Michigan, making the honor roll while working 50-hour weeks. His experience, resilience and compassion make him ready to serve with integrity and vision.

Theresa Rich

Farmington Hills Mayor Theresa Rich is a mother, advocate, educator, entrepreneur and community leader who has dedicated her life to service above self.



Mike Ilitch School of Business and is an active American Federation of Teachers union member.

Theresa and her husband Brian have lived in Farmington Hills for over 30 years and own a local business, RichLaw, PLLC. They are proud to have raised their two children in our City.

Theresa is running for re-election to continue working hard for us and leading with joy, optimism, and resilience. She is committed to delivering impactful results for our community:

- Protecting senior rights and services
- Ensuring public safety for all
- Welcoming new businesses and job creators
- Supporting our veterans by paving the way for American Legion Post 346 to relocate to Farmington Hills
- Building community by diversifying City boards and commissions to bring new voices into local government
- Spurring growth by promoting public art and reimagining the long neglected Grand River Corridor
- Reenergizing Farmington Hills as a destination, including development of a medical mile on Northwestern Highway
- Securing free breakfast and lunch for 1.4 million Michigan children

Learn more at [ElectTheresaRich.com](https://www.electtheresarich.com).

Following a 30-year career in the automotive industry, where her roles ranged from tax lawyer to leading international seminars, Theresa has served our community on Farmington Hills City Council, the Oakland Schools Board of Education, and boards and commissions at the local, state, and national levels. Theresa is on the faculty of the Wayne State University

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE