

AUSTIN WORKS

AFSCME Local 1624 | 1812 CENTRE CREEK DR., #310, AUSTIN, TX 78754
(512) 477-5544 | afscme1624.org

NOVEMBER 2020

CITY COUNCIL RUNOFF ELECTION 2020

District 6



District 10



Early Vote
December 3 - 11

Election Day
December 15

Let's Get Out the Vote - Again

By Krissy O'Brien, Local 1624 Organizer

This historic election cycle is not over yet for some City Council races! I want to thank union members who made calls, sent texts, put out yard signs and helped spread the word about voting. The work paid off. We saw record-breaking turnout among Texans, especially among young voters.

Locally, we were able to hold on to our incumbent Texas House and Senate seats, reelect City Council members Greg Casar and Leslie Pool, and we gained two union supporters on the Commissioners Court. Congratulations County Judge-elect Andy Brown and County Commissioner-elect for Precinct 3 Ann Howard.

City Council members Jimmy Flannigan for District 6 and

Alison Alter for District 10 are in a runoff. Flannigan finished on election night with 40.22% of the vote! That shows he has a lot of support in the district, but with so many candidates in the race he is facing the second runner up, Mackenzie Kelly, in a runoff. Kelly is a far-right conservative who is likely not going to support our pro-worker agenda for City employees, and we don't want to take that risk.

We need to reelect Flannigan to keep union votes on the Council. Flannigan has shown us that he supports the City's workforce, and we know he will prioritize our needs.

Alter finished election night with 34.20% of the vote. With seven candidates running for this seat, that is a great finish! Alter has

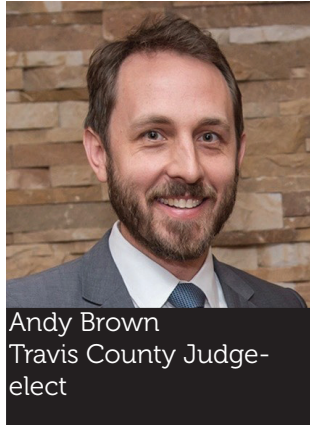
been a strong voice for us on the Council, and we cannot afford to lose her advocacy for City employees.

Alter's opponent, Jennifer Virden, has no experience in local government. With tight budgets coming up and as the pandemic continues to create safety concerns, we need Council Member Alter to see us through the next few years.

If you live in City Council districts 6 and 10, please vote union by supporting Local 1624 members Jimmy Flannigan and Alison Alter! If you are interested in helping your union get out the vote for these candidates, give us a call at (512) 477-5544. Otherwise, spread the word about this important runoff election!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ENDORSED CANDIDATES!

On November 3, the following AFSCME-endorsed candidates were elected to serve on the Travis County Commissioners Court and reelected to serve on the Austin City Council. We look forward to working with them!



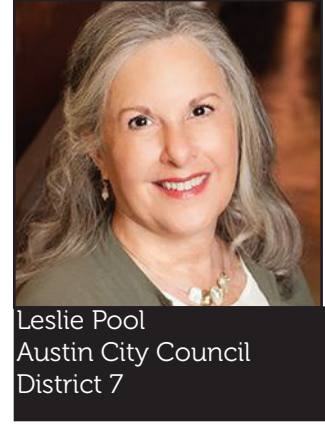
Andy Brown
Travis County Judge-
elect



Ann Howard
Commissioner-elect,
Precinct 3



Greg Casar
Austin City Council
District 4



Leslie Pool
Austin City Council
District 7

Vote Union to Protect Your Pension

Two AFSCME Local 1624 members are running in the Special Election for Place 6 on the City of Austin Employees Retirement System (COAERS) Board of Trustees.

Please plan to vote by Tuesday, December 1, for Kaz Wojtewicz or Jay Heinrich for COAERS Active Member Place 6. You may vote online or mail your ballot. Ballots were mailed to active City employees in late October.

The COAERS Board of Trustees oversees the retirement program and sets policy. It is comprised of four elected active City of Austin employees, two retired employees, two City Council appointed citizens, one Board appointed citizen, one City Manager designee, and one

City Council member.

City of Austin employees have a voice in deciding who oversees their pension by electing peers to serve as Active Member Trustees. Trustees play an important role in protecting the pension that City employees depend on in retirement. Your vote can ensure union representation in this crucial role.

Kaz Wojtewicz is a Capital Improvement Program Manager for the Austin Transportation Department, and Jay Heinrich is a Recreation Program Specialist for the Austin Parks and Recreation Department. You can find their candidate statements and voting information at Coaers.org. If you need help

voting online or submitting ballots by mail, please call (866) 384-9978.

Update on Covid Pay

We are hopeful that the Commissioners Court will soon approve a plan to provide additional compensation to County frontline and essential employees who have had to report to their worksites in person during the pandemic.

Eligibility for compensation may be determined by the average number of hours an employee worked onsite during the first peak of the pandemic. The Court is expected to consider the proposal on December 15, and we will provide an update at that time.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Nickie Mangold
Emergency Medical Services

"I made a mistake leaving the Union once, and I don't intend to make it twice."

"What Carol has done for me is give me a voice and make it heard. I finally have someone who will see things for what they are and stand up for me when it's needed. I feel safe, secure, and properly represented by an outside unbiased party.

Whether I am in the right or wrong I can trust her to be honest and steer me in the right direction to help me make better choices that will benefit me in the long run. That may not seem like much to some people, but for me it means everything because I can keep my job and not lose everything else trying to fight for my rights on my own. She makes it so I'm not alone, and that is empowering.

She works hard for me, and I appreciate her and her sacrifices so much. I made a mistake leaving the Union once, and I don't intend to make it twice. Being with the Union is insurance - you hope you'll never need it, but you'll be glad it's there when you do!"



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1812 Centre Creek Dr., #310
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Austin City Council Runoff Election 2020

Tuesday, December 15

Early Voting: December 3 – 11

Find polling locations at traviscountyclerk.org/eclerk.