



South Lyon Area Democrats: Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire

Application for recommendation by the SLAD to voters in support of your campaign.

City of South Lyon, Lyon Township, and Green Oak Township.

Please email to SLAD candidate endorsement committee: SLADemocrats@gmail.com

- Candidate Name (as it will appear on the ballot): Sue Shink
- Candidate email address: votesueshink@gmail.com
- Candidate phone number: (734) 709-6223
- Campaign mailing address (if applicable): P.O. Box 185, Dexter, MI 48130
- Campaign website: www.votesueshink@gmail.com
- Campaign social media (identify platform, i.e. Facebook, Twitter, etc.):
 - Facebook: /VoteSueShink
 - Instagram: VoteSueShink
 - Twitter: @ShinkSue
- Campaign contact name and title (manager / assistant): Ricky Gonzalez, Campaign Manager
- Campaign contact phone number: (734) 709-6223
- Campaign contact email address: votesueshink@gmail.com

Office/Position running for (including district number of applicable): 14th District Michigan State Senate

Please answer the following to the best of your ability. Use as much space as necessary to provide your response:

Please share a brief biography and personal background:

Sue Shink is a community advocate, public servant, and mother who has dedicated her adult life to building healthier, more resilient communities. She is running for State Senate because our communities deserve bold, principled leadership with the experience to bring people together and get results.

Hailing from a proud union family, Sue learned the importance of community, service above self, and treating others with respect growing up in Southeastern Michigan.

Driven to improve lives and make a tangible difference in her community, Sue pursued a career in advocacy and public service. From successfully leading land conservation efforts against big



developers, to leading the charge against harmful pollutants in her neighborhood, to providing legal services to our community's most vulnerable residents, Sue effectively gives voice to concerns and brings people together to solve problems.

Active in the community for nearly two decades, Sue currently serves as Chair of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners and has served as a Northfield Township Trustee, chair of the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Committee (ALPAC), on the Huron River Watershed Council and on the Washtenaw County Food Policy Council.

Since 2019, Sue has served on the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners and gotten results to move the community forward, including **championing the expansion of high-speed broadband to every resident to close the digital divide and expanding physical and mental health services for community members regardless of zip code.**

Recognized for her leadership in the region, Sue serves on Ann Arbor SPARK, SEMCOG, Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission, Michigan Works! Southeast Consortium, the Washtenaw County Employees Retirement Commission, the Brownfields Authority, the Environmental Council, the Agricultural Lands Preservation Advisory Committee, and Coalition for Action on Remediation of Dioxane (CARD).

Sue and her husband, Tom, are proud to have raised their three daughters alongside several llamas, horses, goats, sheep, ducks, and dogs on their small Northfield Township farm where they produced most of their meat, milk and eggs for many years. Their family spent many hours at 4-H and sports and now enjoys biking the community's beautiful trails in their free time.

Today, Sue is running for State Senate to help every Michigan family, worker, professional, senior, small business, and child get a fair shot to get ahead. From economic opportunity to public education to mental health to water quality to sustainable development, Sue has the drive, experience, and forward-focused vision needed to bridge the divides between neighbors, build pathways to opportunity, and be a relentless, solutions-oriented voice for the people of our communities.

What are your qualifications for running (i.e., previous appointed or elected public office positions personal/professional experience you can bring to the position)

EDUCATION

University of Michigan School of Natural Resources
Environment (SEAS)

Center of Science - Resource Policy and Analysis

Research Focus: Sustainability

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CONTINUING EDUCATION

Institute for Public Policy and Social Research,
Michigan State University

Michigan Political Leadership Program

2021

ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability/Compact
of Mayors

(2019-2020)

Greenhouse Gas Target-Setting, Forecasting and
Planning Cohort and Sustainability Cohort



University of Michigan Law School

Ph.D. Doctor 1994

University of Michigan

Ph.D. Bachelor of Arts - Political Science 1989

EXPERIENCE

Washtenaw County Commissioner, 2019 – Present

- Chair, Board of Commissioners, 2021-2022
- Chair, Working Session, 2019-2020
- Work with township supervisors and elected officials to serve constituents.
- Allocate \$135 million budget for 1400 employee organization as part of Board of Commissioners.
- Maintain AAA bond rating while providing excellent service
- Lead climate action work, with goal of county-wide carbon neutrality by 2035

BOC liaison to, and active participant in, the following Boards and Committees:

- SEMCOG Executive Committee
- Vice Chair, SEMCOG Transportation Coordinating Committee
- Washtenaw County Brownfield Authority
- Agricultural Lands Preservation Advisory Committee, Chair 2014-2021, Founding member since 2007
- Coalition for the Remediation of Dioxane (CARD)
- Environmental Council (Climate Action Planning)
- Vice Chair, Michigan Works! Southeast
- Ann Arbor SPARK!
- Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) Environmental and Agricultural Committees
- Washtenaw County Road Commission
- Washtenaw Policy Food Council (2019-2020)
- MSU Extension (2019-2020)
- Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
- Violence Prevention Ad Hoc Committee
- Washtenaw Urban County (2021-present)

Farmer, North Wind Farm, 2003-present

- Entrepreneur: Sustainably raised livestock, created value-added products, sold online and at farmer's market.

Northfield Township Trustee, 2004-2008

- Developed and brought to approval ordinances and policies, including Transfer of Development Rights and Dark Sky Ordinance
- Participant in SEMCOG planning and education sessions
- Revised Northfield Township Master Plan
- Board liaison to and active participant in
 - Zoning Board of Appeals
 - Recreation Committee



Northfield Neighbors, Northfield Township, MI, Pro Bono Legal Counsel and President, 2002-2004

- Successfully led development and implementation of grass-roots campaign to preserve rural nature of Northfield Township through legal challenge and referendum and support of land preservation programs.

Stidson, Staiger & Hill, PC, Port Huron, MI, Attorney, 1996-1997

- Conducted client intake, drafted motions and briefs, conducted discovery, negotiated settlements and appeared before the circuit and district courts for full-service law firm.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Washtenaw County Democratic Party, Executive Board, 2019-present
- Workgroup Participant and Scribe, Michigan Council on Climate Solutions, 2021
- Climate Reality Leadership Corps, August 2020-present
- Pilar's Foundation, Board Member, 2019-present
 - Founding board member of foundation supporting immigrants and those in need
- Michigan Immigrant Rights Center, Volunteer Attorney, 2017-2020
 - Represent pro-bono clients in immigration cases
- Northfield Township Land Preservation Committee, 2017-present
- Huron River Watershed Council, Board Member, 2005-2015
- Northfield Township Historical Society Board Member, 2010-present
- Binational Public Advisory Committee, St. Clair River Remedial Action Plan, 1995-1998
- Grosse Pointe League of Women Voters, 1991-2001

List requirements you have completed for the office (# signatures collected, date filed, fees paid):

Fees paid

Amount of money raised as of date of submission:

\$45,000

What do you consider the principal duties of the office you are running for?

Listening to residents, understanding the needs of the community and then working hard with everyone who will work with me to pass legislation and procure resources to meet those needs. To proactively work to address the future so that our community is healthy and resilient into the future. To spend time in the community and to be deeply a part of it. To remain honest and forthright in all that I do and to further the best interests of the community in all that I do.



If elected (or re-elected), what will be your top priorities for this community?

Supporting local governments, preserving local control (no preemption of local zoning laws for gravel pits), funding for schools, autonomy of women, civil rights for all, resources for conservation, regulating pfas as a class of chemicals, funding for roads, creating opportunities for education and employment, support for entrepreneurship and the arts, workers rights, supporting a just transition to a renewable-powered economy and mitigating the effects of catastrophic weather events, broadband for all. I will listen to the community and work on issues as they come up.

How will you communicate with constituents once elected?

Email newsletter, virtual and in-person townhalls, attending community events and meetings, making my phone number and email available, inviting residents to Lansing

What are your primary sources for information/news?

CNN, MLive, Bridge, Newsletters

Local Issues

Indicate your position on the following topics, including solutions. Please indicate "NA" for any issues which are applicable to your prospective office

City / Township / County's Master Plan:

N/A

Tax Abatement & Business Development:

Some may be appropriate. In favor of them on a case by case basis. I am very much in favor of brownfield redevelopment and serve on the Washtenaw County Brownfield Development Authority.

Local Environmental Policies:

Local governments need more resources to clean up contaminated sites.

Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services:

Parks and culture (arts, crafts, music, theater, history) are important in every community and I will support financial resources



What do you see as the role of the city / township / county in the school system?

I am a county commissioner now and see our role as supportive of the schools. We work closely with the schools. The state's role is to make sure they are adequately funded.

Public Safety:

I work closely with the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office to support mental health response in policing, addressing root causes of crime and deflection and diversion where possible. Public Safety is a public good that must serve the residents of the community.

Public Transportation:

I am in support of robust public transportation options.

Other comments:

Which planks of the Michigan Democratic Party do you feel most strongly about on a local level (select all that apply)?

- x Education: Improving Public Education for Children and Adults**
- x Economy: Using Aggressive & Comprehensive Economic Development Policies**
- x Job Training: Improving the Skills of our Workforce**
- x Trade: Using an Approach Based on a Level Playing Field**
- x Economic Development: Improving Depressed Communities**
- x Agriculture: Protecting our Farms and Rural Communities**
- x Transportation: Providing Access to Opportunities**
- x Information Technology: Expanding Access to Information**
- x Small Business: Nurturing Entrepreneurship and Self-employment**
- x Income: Rewarding Work**
- x Taxes: Providing a Sufficient, Stable and Fair Tax System**
- x Health Care: Providing Health Security for Families and Individuals**
- x Children and Families: Providing Help for Working Parents with Children**
- x Coping With Misfortune: Bankruptcy, Foreclosure and Homelessness**
- x The Environment: Protecting Our Land, Water, Air and Open Space**
- x Social Justice: Achieving Equal and Humane Treatment Under the Law**
- x Women: Protecting the Rights of Women**



- Veterans: Respect and Help for Those Who Serve Our Country**
- Youth: Building Citizens Who Will Brighten our Future**
- Seniors: Providing Retirement Security and Needed Services**
- Voting: Nurturing Democracy and Promoting Civic Participation**
- Faith: Connecting Our Party with People of Faith**
- Public Safety: Creating Safer Communities for All**
- Energy: Providing Power to the People**
- Judicial System: Serving the People, not Special Interests**
- Government: Freeing Politics from Money Influence and Special Interests**
- Corporations: Insisting on Corporate Accountability**
- Consumer Protection: Protecting People in the Marketplace**
- Financial Services: Protecting People in Credit and Banking Transactions**
- Providing Proper Oversight of Our Financial System**
- Local Government: Defending Our Democracy**

*Thank you for submitting your candidate info to SLAD. By submitting this information, you agree that all information submitted, except for the **starred items (candidate preferred email address, phone number, and street address), can be made public and shared on SLAD online platforms and physical documents.*