

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT:

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## NC Sierra Club Endorses Climate Champions for Orange County Commissioner

The NC Sierra Club recognizes that the greatest environmental challenge of our time is climate change. The largest fraction of US greenhouse gases (GHG) comes from transportation, driven by vehicle miles traveled, which is exacerbated by land use (sprawl). As such, local decisions are critical to addressing climate issues and local actions must reflect both the scale and the urgency of this crisis. The NC Sierra Club seeks to endorse candidates at the county level who recognize those responsibilities and focus on both mitigating GHG emissions and seeking to make Orange County more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

The three incumbent Orange County Commissioners seeking re-election in contested races in 2020 – Mark Dorosin, Mark Marcoplos, and Penny Rich - have demonstrated records of environmental leadership. They have been visionary, proposing and leading the charge on climate, water quality, and other issues. For example, the 2019 Orange County climate action tax was an innovative first step to raise nearly \$500,000 for local climate action at a cost of only \$2.50 per \$100,000 of home value for Orange County homeowners. Marcoplos, Rich and Dorosin all supported this groundbreaking initiative. All three also have strong records of advocacy for environmental justice.

More information about these endorsed candidates can be found on the Orange-Chatham Group's website: <u>www.sierraclub.org/north-carolina/orange-chatham</u>.

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## About the North Carolina Sierra Club

The Sierra Club is the nation's oldest and largest grassroots environmental organization, working for safe and healthy communities in which to live, smart energy solutions to combat global warming, and an enduring legacy for America's wild places. For over 40 years, the North Carolina Chapter has advocated across the state and in our Capitol, from the mountains to the coast, for a clean, healthy North Carolina. The Orange-Chatham Group is one of 14 active Sierra Club groups across North Carolina.