

2019 NC Sierra Club Candidate Endorsements for Orange and Chatham Counties:

The climate crisis is the defining issue of our time. Although teams of fossil fuel lobbyists in DC are working hard to undo previous federal progress, meaningful local action can be taken to help avert climate catastrophe. Indeed, there are critical actions that can only be taken by local governments, especially when it comes to land use and transportation policies.

Most local candidates have learned the basics and know the buzzwords, including prioritizing livability, bus rapid transit, and bike-pedestrian projects. In making 2019 candidate endorsements, the Orange-Chatham Group of the NC Sierra Club carefully selected candidates to whom a focus on climate change mitigation is a top priority, including candidates who: (1) truly understand how climate and environmental quality intersect with local land use, transportation, and housing policy, and (2) have reality-based solutions and the skills and determination to get them accomplished.

The Club believes that its slate of endorsed candidates in the Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Hillsborough, and Pittsboro elections are the best leaders to accomplish the challenging work ahead in fulfilling our local governments' obligations to act quickly to combat climate change and protect our environment for this and future generations.

The NC Sierra Club's Orange-Chatham Group is proud to endorse candidates in 2019 municipal races.

CARRBORO ENDORSED CANDIDATES:

Mayor, Town of Carrboro

- **Lydia Lavelle** – Mayor, 2013-present; Board of Aldermen, 2007-2013 -
Website: lydialavelle.com

Carrboro Board of Aldermen

- **Sammy Slade** – Board of Aldermen, 2009-present; Member, Orange County Food Council; Orange County Climate Change Committee; Member, Environmental Advisory Board; Member, Economic Sustainability Commission –
Website: <https://sammyslade.org/>
- **Damon Seils** – Alderman since 2013; chair, Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization; Greenways Commission; Chapel Hill Public Transit Committee; Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness; former chair, Carrboro Planning Board and Orange County Human Relations Commission - **Website:** damonseils.org

CHAPEL HILL ENDORSED CANDIDATES:

Mayor, Town of Chapel Hill

- **Pam Hemminger** – Chapel Hill mayor, 2015-present; Orange County commissioner, 2008-12; Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education, 2004-08 - **Website:** <https://www.facebook.com/mayorpamhemminger>

Chapel Hill Town Council

- **Michael Parker** – Town Council member since 2015; former member of the Planning Board, chair of the Transportation Advisory Board, and co-chair of the Central West Steering Committee - **Website:** parker4ch.com
- **Sue Hunter** – Member, Orange County Planning Board; Member, Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP Housing Committee; Member, Orange County Transit Advocates; Member, Durham and Orange County Transit work group – Website: www.hunter4chapelhill.com
- **Amy Ryan** - Council candidate in 2013, 2015; 16 years of service on Chapel Hill advisory boards and committees, including Planning Commission and Community Design Commission - **Website:** AmyRyan.org
- **Tai Huynh** - Chapel Hill Housing Advisory Board; Chapel Hill Committee for Civic Engagement; founding member, UNC Institute of Politics; N.C. Comprehensive Community College Student Government Association - **Website:** taiforchapelhill.com

HILLSBOROUGH ENDORSED CANDIDATES:

MAYOR, TOWN OF HILLSBOROUGH

- **Jennifer (Jenn) Weaver** (Mayor pro tem): Town Commissioner, 2013-present; Upper Neuse River Basin Association; Family Success Alliance board; Orange County Food Council; Orange County Climate Advisory Board; Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization - **Website:** facebook.com/JennWeaverForTownBoard

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, TOWN OF HILLSBOROUGH

- **Mark Bell** – Town commissioner since 2015; former chair, Historic District Commission - **Website:** facebook.com/MarkBellForTownBoard
- **Matt Hughes** – Town Board member since 2018; Orange County Board of Adjustment; Orange County Human Relations Commission; former chair, Orange County Democratic Party; second vice chair for the N.C. Democratic Party; N.C. Human Relations Commission; Orange County Partnership for Young Children; Hillsborough Tourism Board; Hillsborough Tourism Development Authority; Kidscope Advisory Council; Orange County Historical Museum Board of Directors - **Website:** matthugheshsbo.com

- **Evelyn Lloyd** – Town Commissioner since 1991; Historic Hillsborough Commission member for 41 years; former member, Orange County Health Board, Orange County Human Relations Commission, Orange County Board of Elections and N.C. Pharmaceutical Association board; former member and president, N.C. Board of Pharmacy -
Website: [facebook.com/EvelynLloydforHillsboroughTownBoard](https://www.facebook.com/EvelynLloydforHillsboroughTownBoard)

PITTSBORO ENDORSED CANDIDATES:

PITTSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- **John Bonitz** – Pittsboro Town Board since 2015; member, Chatham Marketplace co-op board since 2012 - **Website:** [facebook.com/Bonitz4Pittsboro](https://www.facebook.com/Bonitz4Pittsboro)
- **Bridget Perry** – Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- **Kyle Shipp** – Pittsboro Planning Board; Chatham County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee; senior vice commander, Pittsboro VFW Post 7313; senior vice commander, VFW NC District 9 - **Website:** kyleforpittsboro.org

VOTING INFORMATION

Early Voting runs from October 16 – November 1, and Election Day is November 5. The deadline to register to vote in the local elections is October 11. For Early Voting Schedules and more Election Day information, visit your county's board of elections website.

- Chatham County Board of Elections:
<https://www.chathamnc.org/government/departments-programs/board-of-elections>
- Orange County Board of Elections:
<https://www.orangecountync.gov/1099/Election-Information>