



**I BIKE, I WALK,
I VOTE!**

Election 2015

**Bicyclists Guide to Voting
in Clark, Greene, Miami &
Montgomery Counties**

VOTER INFORMATION

November 3, 2015 General Election polls are open from 6:30AM until 7:30pm.

How Bicyclists Guide to Voting is compiled: The Bike Miami Valley Regional Advocacy Committee has published the first Voters Guide this year to provide a forum for candidates to discuss issues of walking, bicycling, and street or trail use. Bicycling is a legal form of transportation in Ohio and has the same rules and rights to the roads. This Guide also highlights information that can help an everyday recreational bicyclists, a dedicated multi-modal user or a daily cycling commuter get insight to candidates' political viewpoints, opinions, and personal experiences with bicycling/ walking. Letters with six questions were mailed to candidates in races within the Miami Valley area (counties that are represented in Bike Miami Valley's regional membership base). Candidate responses have been printed to fit formatting. If a candidate did not respond, NO REPLY indicates the candidate either did not respond or did not meet the stated deadline. Asterisks (*) notes the incumbent candidates only in the first question, underneath how many candidates a voter can select at the polls. Bike Miami Valley does not endorse or support views of any candidate or political party. Nor does Bike Miami Valley assume responsibility for the content of any candidate's reply.



Mission: To advocate, promote, and create opportunities for all forms of bicycling in the Miami Valley. For more information, visit www.bikemiamivalley.org

Bike Miami Valley, a 501(c)(3), does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

Kettering Council District 1 Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Rob Scott* - No reply

Kettering Council District 2 Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Michael Barnett - No reply

Joseph Wanamaker* - No reply

Kettering Council District 3 Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Tony Klepacz* - No reply

Kettering Council District 4 Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

QUESTION 1: What is your favorite personal experience riding a bicycle?

Bruce Duke* – My childhood and mid years when I could ride. Health issues prevent that now. I miss the freedom, the wind I my face, the fun of racing with friends and great times with my wife and children.

Patricia Higgins – Teaching my children how to ride their bikes and then going for rides on the bike trail in Yellow Springs.

Bryan Suddith – No reply

QUESTION 2: If you are elected, what will you do to ensure that your city streets are safe and accommodating so they serve ALL users (e.g. pedestrians, bicyclists, public transit, driver, etc.)?

Duke – I served on the Kettering Bike Committee when we initially began the program. We are moving forward with our plan to become a Bike America Community. I currently serve on the National League of Cities Transported and Infrastructure Committee with responsibility for nationwide policy regarding all forms of transportation. I am an advocate for walkable communities, bike-able communities, public transit, and bike lanes on roadways.

Higgins – During my campaign, I have discussed the need to attract the next generation to Kettering. To do that, we need to make sure we have safe bike routes, sidewalks along our major thoroughfares and more information on how to take an RTA bus from Kettering to a variety of destinations. If elected I would work to have sidewalks installed on major thoroughfares without the adjacent properties being responsible for the full cost, encourage promotion of the bike routes and how they can be used to reach Kettering’s many assets conveniently and safely. I would also encourage staff to work with the RTA to have “a take a bus” day where Kettering residents could experience the bus system.

Suddith – No reply

QUESTION 3: Do you feel comfortable bicycling on your city streets? If not, why not? What specific actions would you support to improve your comfort level for riding a bicycle on your city streets?

Duke – Yes. Through the bike committee in Kettering we have identified various levels of riding based on rider skill. We have just completed street signage for all bike routes through town.

Higgins – I am comfortable riding my bike in my neighborhood and taking neighborhood streets to connect to the trail on Shroyer. If elected I will encourage additional connections to trails.

Suddith – No reply

QUESTION 4: Our region has the Nation’s Largest Paved Trail NetworkSM, which has already demonstrated a strong annual economic impact of approximately \$14 million to the region, with over one million trail visits (source: Miami Valley Trail User Survey Report 2009, MVRPC). How do you plan to use the Miami Valley trails as an economic driver for your community?

Duke – We are currently looking at the feasibility of placing a bike rest stop along our route through Kettering which will drive economic activity in the area. The more we build, the more bikers will come.

Higgins – I would support all efforts to make sure our residents are aware of the bike routes to our many assets, Recreation center, Frazee, and Rosewood. I would also encourage staff to continue to develop programs that include bike or walking tours to our assets to encourage the community to walk or ride throughout our community.

Suddith – No reply

QUESTION 5: The Surgeon General has posted a call to action to get more American’s active and moving. What can you do as an elected official to ensure future generations have opportunities for a healthy and active lifestyle? For example, what would you do to support the local Safe Routes to School initiative?

Duke – I have been a strong advocate of the Safe Routes to Schools program. We have received a number of federal matching grant projects. Through the National League of Cities I have been a vocal advocate to Congress to continue funding in new transportation bills.

Higgins – To encourage a healthy community, we need to examine where we are missing sidewalks on major thoroughfares and busy connector streets and install the sidewalks to provide a safe route for all. To further promote a healthy community, the city needs to work with the schools to have educational programs to encourage children to stay healthy by getting outside to play, walking to stores instead of jumping in the car, etc. Possibly PTA’s could work with the Parks and

Recreation staff to have joint programs to encourage events outside that include walking or riding a bike or walking to a community asset.

Suddith – No reply

QUESTION 6: In conclusion, why do you think people who care about bicycling and walking issues should vote for you?

Duke – All of the above. I am perhaps the strongest voice for biking and walking on our City Council.

Higgins – I have supported the construction of sidewalks and walking and bike trails throughout my planning career. Actually, years before bike trails and walking programs were started, I worked with volunteers to clear the path behind the apartments in southeast Kettering which led to the development of the beautiful bike trail – Iron Horse trail - between Kettering and Centerville.

Suddith – No reply

Oakwood Council Candidates

Vote for 3

*Indicates incumbent

QUESTION 1: What is your favorite personal experience riding a bicycle?

Steven Byington* – No reply

William Duncan* – No reply

Christopher Epley* – I enjoy endurance, rather than speed, riding. Favorite rides for me include trips to Yellow Springs (48 miles), Tipp City (42 miles) and Miamisburg + Linden hill (25 miles). Or, a country ride through Preble County (36 miles). When practicable, I like to ride to my kids' soccer games (i.e. Fairborn, Beavercreek, Vandalia, Huber Heights).

QUESTION 2: If you are elected, what will you do to ensure that your city streets are safe and accommodating so they serve ALL users (e.g. pedestrians, bicyclists, public transit, driver, etc.)?

Byington – No reply

Duncan – No reply

Epley – We are a small, sidewalked, community (a little over 2 miles square). The maximum automobile speed limit is 35 mph on the main thoroughfares. The side

streets are 25 mph and controlled by stop signs at most blocks. It is important to review traffic patterns and accident areas from time to time to insure and verify the safety of the city and its denizens.

QUESTION 3: Do you feel comfortable bicycling on your city streets? If not, why not? What specific actions would you support to improve your comfort level for riding a bicycle on your city streets?

Byington – No reply

Duncan – No reply

Epley – Yes. I always use a front and back light on my bike while riding city streets (in addition to my helmet, of course).

QUESTION 4: Our region has the Nation's Largest Paved Trail NetworkSM, which has already demonstrated a strong annual economic impact of approximately \$14 million to the region, with over one million trail visits (source: Miami Valley Trail User Survey Report 2009, MVRPC). How do you plan to use the Miami Valley trails as an economic driver for your community?

Byington – No reply

Duncan – No reply

Epley – The bike path is a short bike or car ride away from the city limits. It is great that citizens know this and use the bike paths. I'm not sure the Miami Valley trails can economically drive my particular city but I like to enjoy some coffee after a ride at an Oakwood coffee shop.

QUESTION 5: The Surgeon General has posted a call to action to get more American's active and moving. What can you do as an elected official to ensure future generations have opportunities for a healthy and active lifestyle? For example, what would you do to support the local Safe Routes to School initiative?

Byington – No reply

Duncan – No reply

Epley – Oakwood is a walkable and friendly community. The streets are patrolled regularly by public safety officers. The city and schools recently added a

crosswalk guard at a busy intersection; stop and street signs are well-marked.

QUESTION 6: In conclusion, why do you think people who care about bicycling and walking issues should vote for you?

Byington – No reply

Duncan – No reply

Epley – I am a cyclist and walker. I enjoy the health benefits of being outside and being mobile. Our streets and sidewalks are well kept and suitable for outdoor activities and adventure. My wife recently reminded me "four wheels move the body – two wheels move the soul."

Piqua Mayor Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

QUESTION 1: What is your favorite personal experience riding a bicycle?

Kathryn Hinds – The first thought that is brought to mind for me is when I was a small child and finally allowed to ride my bike to school. We lived 10 blocks from my school, and I can remember the wonderful feeling I had as I left the house each morning to make my way to school. The warm breeze on my face and the sun on my back. It was the best feeling as a young child...to ride and be free...even though I was headed to school. The next that is brought to mind was when I lived in North Carolina and did a week long bike tour through the Outer Banks. Everything we needed was on our bikes. We rode in the early morning when it was cool, usually around 50 miles, set up camp at a campground, and then explored. All this was done on bikes, and it was a wonderful way to see that part of our country. I could smell the salt air, hear and see the birds overhead, and enjoy nature all while riding my bike.

Gary Michael Koenig – No reply

QUESTION 2: If you are elected, what will you do to ensure that your city streets are safe and accommodating so they serve ALL users (e.g. pedestrians, bicyclists, public transit, driver, etc.)?

Hinds – I am a founding member of Bike Piqua, and we have already been working on this through our local advocacy group. At this time we have an application in to be recognized as a Bike Friendly Community, and Bike Piqua is doing everything we can to make this a reality. I have been an advocate for safe streets prior to running for public office, and I promise to continue to ensure that Piqua's city streets are safe and accommodating to all users. This is of the utmost importance to me because our city streets must be safe for ALL who use them no matter whether they are walking, riding a bike, or used for public transit and drivers of cars.

Koenig – No reply

QUESTION 3: Do you feel comfortable bicycling on your city streets? If not, why not? What specific actions would you support to improve your comfort level for riding a bicycle on your city streets?

Hinds – In most places here in Piqua I feel very comfortable riding my bike on the city streets. We are a relatively small city, and I find that riding a bike is easy and enjoyable in most places here. There is one area I would not feel comfortable riding this is the bridge over the Miami River on Highway 36. Through Bike Piqua we are currently addressing this with our local government. There is a resolution that the city is seeking to adopt that would put a multi-use path that would connect Scott Drive to Looney Road on the north side of U.S. 36. This is important and needed because it connects the west and east parts of our city. In the east part of our city we have Edison Community College, Upper Valley Career Center, Piqua Jr. & Sr. High Schools, and many businesses such as Walmart, Home Depot, the Miami Centre Mall. This is desperately needed and I already have been advocating for this with our city leaders.

Koenig – No reply

QUESTION 4: Our region has the Nation's Largest Paved Trail NetworkSM, which has already demonstrated a strong annual economic impact of approximately \$14 million to the region, with over one million trail visits (source: Miami Valley Trail User Survey Report 2009, MVRPC). How do you plan to use the Miami Valley trails as an economic driver for your community?

Hinds – I feel that we already are doing a good job of this with our local running and biking events. I plan to continue to find more ways to invite folks to come out not only from our community but from the surrounding communities as well to use and enjoy our wonderful trail system. I do want to point out my true dedication to this because I, along with other like-minded citizens, worked hard this past year to seek the "Trail Town" designation, and a year ago this month we celebrated this when the Buckeye Trail Association and North Country Trail Association designated our city as a "Trail Town."

Koenig – No reply

QUESTION 5: The Surgeon General has posted a call to action to get more American's active and moving. What can you do as an elected official to ensure future generations have opportunities for a healthy and active lifestyle? For example, what would you do to support the local Safe Routes to School initiative?

Hinds – I been doing this already here in Piqua as the Site Director and Coach of our local "Girls on the Run" chapter. Over the past 5 years, we have had numerous young girls complete in this national program that encourages healthy lifestyles and being active through running. Once elected, I plan to continue this and find even more similar types of programs to get our community moving. In the recent Cycling Summit held here in Piqua this past Spring [sic], I heard of a similar program involving Bikes called "Girls and Gears." We need programs like these here in our community, because they not only get the girls moving, but I know families who are now more physically active because their daughters completed "Girls on the Run." I am a founding member

of Active Piqua, which supports and encourages local events that are active in nature such as the past 2 Cyclovias we have had here in our community. I am on the planning committee for our Cyclovias, which have been very well received here in Piqua. As a local pastor, for the past two years during our May "Bike to Work" community event I have given a Bike Blessing for the entire community. This past year, at the request of our local running store, I gave a blessing for runners as well on a Saturday morning before one of their group runs. I am already a huge supporter of "Safe Routes to Schools", and it is an important part of the platform in my campaign.

Koenig – No reply

QUESTION 6: In conclusion, why do you think people who care about bicycling and walking issues should vote for you?

Hinds – Because, I am one of them! I see them out on the path, because I too am out there enjoying our path - whether I am riding my bike, running, or walking. The same issues that are important to them are important to me. I also know that our path system is one of the great assets we have here in Piqua, and we must find more ways to share this truth and celebrate it. Just as we did when we received Trail Town designation last year! A vote for Kathryn Hinds for 5th Ward Commissioner and Mayor of Piqua, is a vote that will be for all of you who hold near and dear to your hearts the love of human powered movement on the wonderful path system we have here in our community!

Koenig – No reply

Piqua Commission Ward 1 **Candidates**

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

QUESTION 1: What is your favorite personal experience riding a bicycle?

Nicholas Alexander - My favorite experience riding my bike is a tough thing to pick. Hitting the 40 MPH downhill near Covington, completing a Mum Festival bike tour with my dad as a teenager, doing a time trial on the Kentucky Speedway, and pulling my sons in a trailer to drop the oldest off for Kindergarten every day

because one of his classmates demanded it all come to mind.

John Martin* – No reply

QUESTION 2: If you are elected, what will you do to ensure that your city streets are safe and accommodating so they serve ALL users (e.g. pedestrians, bicyclists, public transit, driver, etc.)?

Alexander – This is actually a difficult issue from a cyclist POV compared to many people. We have a great bike route system in Piqua, and it is still expanding. The local schools participate in Bike to School week during Bike to Work week, and the new intermediate school has lots of bike parking. At this point, what may be the largest hurdle is actually the condition of the roads, including parallel sewer grates. Better roads will be better for both cyclist and driver.

Martin – No reply

QUESTION 3: Do you feel comfortable bicycling on your city streets? If not, why not? What specific actions would you support to improve your comfort level for riding a bicycle on your city streets?

Alexander – Looking at my Strava heatmap, I have ridden on almost every street in town, with only a few blocks missed here or there. I have used every road in and out of this town, not counting the interstate. Seriously, the only road I don't like riding in town is the road I live on, though I really don't like driving on it either. It is narrow, and really isn't wide enough for two way traffic.

Martin – No reply

QUESTION 4: Our region has the Nation's Largest Paved Trail NetworkSM, which has already demonstrated a strong annual economic impact of approximately \$14 million to the region, with over one million trail visits (source: Miami Valley Trail User Survey Report 2009, MVRPC). How do you plan to use the Miami Valley trails as an economic driver for your community?

Alexander – The trails are already an economic driver for Piqua, and will continue to grow as such. We already have bicycle tourism, with people using Piqua as a staging area and as a destination. We have unique dining along the path, with decent access to many restaurants in town from the bike path. With a future State project, the access to additional food service and the mall will be enhanced. Numerous 5k and 10k races, as well as three half marathons, have been held on our bike path in the last 2 years. With two bike shops and a BMX track, Piqua is well poised to make a name for itself in Bicycle Tourism as well as fitness in general.

Martin – No reply

QUESTION 5: The Surgeon General has posted a call to action to get more American's active and moving. What can you do as an elected official to ensure future generations have opportunities for a healthy and active lifestyle? For example, what would you do to support the local Safe Routes to School initiative?

Alexander – The safe routes to school is a problematic thing in Piqua at the moment. With 3 new buildings all on the same side of town, it is only something that benefits a small subset of the town. That being said, Piqua host numerous bicycle events each year, and helping to foster these events will benefit the health of the town as a whole.

Martin – No reply

QUESTION 6: In conclusion, why do you think people who care about bicycling and walking issues should vote for you?

Alexander – I am a natural choice for those that prefer to walk or ride a bike to get to different places in town, as I do exactly that most days. I am out walking or riding around town almost every day, checking to make sure other cyclist are ok when they are stopped along the path. On top of that, and what may be important to the general public, I have an undergraduate degree from Eastern Michigan in Geography, and a Masters in Organizational Leadership from Southern New Hampshire. I have an understanding of many different situations in many different departments, and understand how many systems can combine to work better.

Martin – No reply

Piqua Commission Ward 2 Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Bill Vogt* – No reply

Beavercreek Council Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Julie S. Vann – No reply

Harold Lewis – No reply

Bob Stone – No reply

Melissa Litteral* – No reply

Ryan A. Rushing – No reply

Zach Upton* – No reply

Miamisburg Mayor Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Dick Church Jr.* – No reply

Sarah Clark – No reply

Miamisburg Council Candidates

Vote for 3

*Indicates incumbent

Charlie Case* – No reply

Michelle Collins – No reply

Ryan Colvin* – No reply

Greg Thompson* – No reply

Springfield Mayor Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Warren Copeland* – No reply

Fredrick Stegner – No reply

Springfield Commissioner Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Kevin O'Neill* – No reply

Troy Mayor Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Michael Beamish* – No reply

Troy Council At-Large Candidates

Vote for 3

*Indicates incumbent

Robin Oda* – No reply

Lynne Snee* – No reply

John Terwilliger – No reply

Troy Council 1st Ward Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Thomas M. Kendall* – No reply

Troy Council 2nd Ward Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Cynthia F. Schaefer – No reply

Douglas W. Tremblay* – No reply

Troy Council 3rd Ward Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

John W. Schweser* – No reply

Troy Council 4th Ward Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Bobby W. Phillips* – No reply

Troy Council 5th Ward Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

William Twiss* – No reply

Troy Council 6th Ward Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Brock A. Heath* – No reply

Vandalia Mayor Candidates

Vote for 1

*Indicates incumbent

Arlene J. Setzer* – No reply

Vandalia Council Candidates

Vote for 3

*Indicates incumbent

Bob Ahlers* – No reply

David M. Gerhard* – No reply

Richard Herbst – No reply



What We Do:

- Lobby for Bicycle Amenities
- Bike Parking Consultation
- Education Courses
- Outreach at Events
- Link: Dayton Bike Share
- Biennial Miami Valley Cycling Summit
- Regional Events Calendar
- And more!

For more information, visit
www.bikemiamivalley.org

Bike Miami Valley drafted one of the nation's first regional bikeway plans, which was adopted by Dayton's regional planning commission in 1973. This proved instrumental in the development of much of the recreational trail system you might be familiar with today - The Nation's Largest Paved Trail NetworkSM.

After being officially incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit in 1979, Bike Miami Valley was diligently focused on the region's cycling trends over the next twenty years. In 2008, Bike Miami Valley resurfaced from a dormant period and is now refocused on current cycling trends and the region's growing cycling community, which is dramatically different today. We are the founding organization of the Miami Valley Cycling Summit, an event held biennially around the region.

The latest accomplishment to our record is hiring 3 full-time staff and launching Miami Valley's first bike share program, Link, in May of 2015.

Bike Miami Valley is recognized as a Gold Level Bicycle Friendly BusinessSM by the League of American Bicyclists.

Become a Bike Advocate

Join Today

Please consider joining Bike Miami Valley and help us write the next 30 years of our history.

Your investment makes you a card-carrying member of Bike Miami Valley - and **strengthens our voice to work for a more bike-friendly region.** If we want to get the attention of our elected officials, we need to show them our numbers - by becoming a member, we can **count you** as part of the regional cycling force.

Annual Membership

Options:

\$25.00 - Individual

\$50.00 - Family

Chapters in Springfield & Piqua
 (Zip code of Clark or Miami County)

What's in it for you:

Businesses that support Bike Miami Valley and offer discounts for card-carrying members:

Un Mundo Cafe - 10% discount on all food and drink to cardholders (packaged teas and coffees excluded)

K&G Bike Stores - 10% off parts and accessories and \$10 off tune ups at all 3 of their locations

Black Pug Bike Repair - 10% off parts and accessories, \$49 tune ups, and \$99 complete overhauls

Boston Stoker - 10% off at all locations

Village Cyclery - 10% off parts and accessories and \$10 off tune ups

Bada Bing! Pizzeria - 10% discount off total food and drink order (excludes alcohol).

Bicycle Revival - 10% off all services, parts, and products. Look for them on Wheel in Wednesday's from 4:00-8:00pm at Young's Jersey Dairy

Tipp Cyclery - 10% off parts and accessories in stock

Third Perk Coffeehouse & Wine Bar - 10% off all food and drink

Be sure to show your Bike Miami Valley membership card at check-out. We thank these businesses for their support in the Miami Valley!

 Cut here

Mail-in Form with check made out to: *Bike Miami Valley*

**10 N. Ludlow Street
 Ste. 727
 Dayton, OH 45402**

_____ \$25.00 Individual Membership

_____ \$50.00 Family Membership

Name(s) (first & last):

Mailing Address:

(We mail you a welcome letter & membership card(s))

City: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

(We send a monthly newsletter with regional bicycling oriented activities, rides, events, and volunteer opportunities.)

 Staff use only:

Springfield _____ Dayton _____

Piqua _____