



**I BIKE, I WALK,
I VOTE!
Dayton
Election 2015**

Bicyclists Guide to Voting

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.

Dayton City Commission Candidates

Vote for 2

*Indicates incumbent

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

Darryl Fairchild – I've been an avid cyclist my whole life. Even though I had a tragic accident on a bicycle when I was 26 where I broke my back and became paralyzed, I still cycle on a hand-cycle. My favorite accomplishment on my hand-cycle is completing the 6 day, 420 mile "Ride the Rockies" in 1996.

Matt Joseph* – My favorite memory of riding a bike is riding with my brothers and cousins when we were kids. At that point riding a bike meant freedom, and we took full advantage of it, riding to the creek to look for fish, to the store to buy baseball cards, and other adventures.

Chris Shaw – It has been several years, but I would have to say that mountain biking at Caesars Creek Park with my friends would have to be the highlight of my biking experience. Although I sprained my ankle after wiping out from plunging down a very steep hill, it was so fun that I continued to ride and finished the course. What a way to spend a beautiful Sunday morning!

Scott Sliver – When I was a kid, I had a Roadrunner bicycle with a banana seat. I could ride a wheelie on that thing for a hundred yards! Now as an adult, I enjoy riding one of the Link DYT green bikes from our apartment downtown to the Oregon District or RiverScape, or across

the river to the Wright Dunbar or Grafton Hill neighborhoods. One of my favorite things to do is laps around Fifth Third Field when the Dragons are playing a home game, taking in the sights, sounds and smells. It's invigorating to me!

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 riders, drivers, etc.)?

Fairchild – The first thing I would do to ensure our streets are safe for all users is to lead by example. I think being a safe and courteous cyclist helps to demonstrate to others how to responsibly share the road. Additionally, I would work to help educate our citizens about sharing the roads and to put in place the required infrastructure so that our streets are safe for everyone. As one who regularly uses streets and the bike paths, it is important to have an integrated system.

Joseph – I will continue to support our Complete Streets strategy, which guides our design of transportation projects to take into account the needs of folks using different modes of transportation. I'm proud to say that I worked with the mayor and my other Commission colleagues to put this strategy in place, and that we are a regional leader in implementing it.

Shaw – I will continue to support designated bicycle lanes throughout the city. I would also encourage educational programming to teach motorists about bicycle awareness.

Sliver – There are a couple of issues raised in that question. One is the need to make sure that our well maintained and not pitted with potholes. Citizens all across our city have complaints that the streets in their neighborhoods are in bad shape. The second issue to be addressed is safety from a crime perspective. The Community Police Council (CPC) serves the Dayton community by ensuring mutual responsibility for public safety and by addressing the concerns of all residents. Also, Dayton Police officer Terry Perdue's "The UNIT" is an amazing grassroots organization building police/community relations. These and other efforts in cooperation with the DPD and Montgomery County Sheriff's Dept. will help to ensure safe streets for all of our citizens.

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?

Fairchild – Yes, I feel comfortable. In 2013 and 2014 I rode over 1000 miles each year.

Joseph – Yes, I'm comfortable. But I will continue to work to create more dedicated bike lanes and sharrows to enlarge the formal bike lane network. I have consistently voted in favor of increasing the number of trails and lanes we have, and to improve our existing ones, and will continue to do so.

Shaw – I do feel comfortable bicycling on the streets. However I would continue to support efforts to protect cyclist and be open to any new ideas aimed at increasing safety.

Sliver – Most of my cycling is limited to downtown and the surrounding neighborhoods. One has to be cautious when riding downtown as I'm pretty sure that our motorists are not yet accustomed to having cyclists sharing the roads on a regular basis. When I invite friends downtown, they will often complain about the complexity of all the one-way streets and how difficult it is to get around. When you are on a bike, at times you may have to "take the long way around" to get to where you're going. (But that's ok by me, as I need the exercise anyway!) I am very comfortable riding our city streets. I think the Link DYT program has been a great addition to our city! My wife Bonnie runs marathons and trains by running several times per week, starting downtown. She is always cautious, but feels comfortable as she trains. (Her most recent run was from downtown Dayton straight-down 48 to Centerville and back!)

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?

Fairchild – I would look at all three categories (hard goods, soft goods and accommodations) to find ways to increase the economic impact of the network.

Promoting the area to attract recreational tourists and supporting events would be smart strategies. One of my priorities is to increase local owned businesses. I would explore ways to capture some of the “hard good” dollars by encouraging local businesses in this sector.

Joseph – When I speak with people thinking about moving to Dayton, whether they are business owners or potential WPAFB employees, I always mention our trails. Many employers are doing everything they can to attract and retain good employees, and our network is a huge advantage for our region.

Shaw – The Dayton region has many natural resources that act as an economic driver. The Miami Valley Trails are certainly a huge gem in our community. I will continue to talk about our abundant wealth of natural resources, and encourage everyone to experience our bike trails for themselves.

Sliver – As Dayton follows in the footsteps of other metropolitan areas such as San Francisco, Miami and Phoenix that are more cycling friendly, this should help attract people to Dayton. When you speak with folks who have moved here from other parts of the county, they are often pleasantly surprised at all that Dayton has to offer. Our arts community is amazing and we have a lot of great restaurants. Granted, the weather in Ohio may not be favorable for cycling year ‘round as some other regions, (Minneapolis has worse weather than Dayton and it sits atop the list of best cycling cities!) but I still get excited when I see someone riding one of our green bikes. (Even Batman was spotted cycling around Dayton on a Link bike recently!) The fact that our region has the nation’s largest paved trail network is just another feather in Dayton’s cap!

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?

Fairchild – My other two top priorities support this goal of getting our next generation active. I will work to fund quality youth programs across the city, some of which will be recreational/athletic in nature. My other priority is comprehensive neighborhood development that begins with our schools. I will work to prioritize the blocks around our school so that we create safe, stable neighborhoods around our schools. I will also work in partnership with the Dayton Public Schools to increase attendance at neighborhood schools. In addition, we need to work with social service providers to locate these services at the schools. This comprehensive approach is required to recreate our neighborhoods and to make the Safe Routes to School initiative a reality.

Joseph – The first thing I can do is lead by example. I lead an active lifestyle and will continue to do so. Regarding Safe Routes to School, I was proud to vote for the start of our local efforts to get federal funds for the program, and I have been a consistent proponent. We have been successful using both federal and local funds, and have made some good progress, but there is still a lot of work to be done.

Shaw – Honestly, I don’t know a lot about the Safe Routes to School initiative. However, I am in full support of any effort to encourage people in general, but specifically our youth to become more active. I believe that cycling is one of the best ways to exercise and maintain physical fitness.

Sliver – With bussing still being such a hot issue in our city, the Safe Routes to School initiative could be a great alternative for families whose children attend school in the neighborhood in which they live. However, this is not often the case in Dayton (which is my primary concern as a candidate for Dayton City Commission.) Our children are transported all across the city to attend school. You can have kids living on the same block that attend several different schools in different parts of town. I’m always up for attending meetings and calling attention to worthwhile causes. I’m pretty good at calling attention to organizations and events that are important to me and to our city. (I have an extensive background in advertising and marketing, having worked on major accounts such as Merrill Lynch, Holiday Inn and Kings Island. I was also recently named one of the Top 25 Dayton-centric accounts to follow on Twitter by the Dayton

Business Journal.) Additionally, our city needs to bring back into balance the funding for our youth programs and to get our city parks back in shape.

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

Fairchild – Foremost is the fact that I am an avid cyclist and understand the issues from first hand experience. My cycling accident, which occurred on a bike path, makes me a strong proponent of safety and road sharing education I will be an ally of cyclists and walkers.

Joseph – I have been an active member of the City Commission team that has brought Dayton into prominence as a regional and even national leader in providing opportunities for bicyclists and pedestrians. Due to our efforts, we are rated a Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists. I am a proven and experienced supporter of rider- and walker-friendly policies. Going forward, I will continue to work with my colleagues to improve our policies and infrastructure to accommodate the needs of bicyclists and pedestrians.

Shaw – People who care about bicycling and walking issues should vote for me because I am one of you. I was out on my bike this past weekend at the MoMBA Trail behind my house. I will continue to support the issues that are important to you.

Sliver – Beyond the issues that directly relate to bicycling and walking issues, my background in the non-profit sector as Executive Director of The Hope Foundation of Greater Dayton, providing groceries to nearly 1,000 households every month in Montgomery and Greene counties, and as Associate Lead Pastor at Vineyard Church demonstrates my ability to lead and care for people. The one thing I hear over and over from people all across our city is that they feel as though no one cares about their parts of town (and trust me, it’s wide-spread) or more specifically, no one cares about them and their concerns. I will change that. Additionally, my background in advertising, marketing and social media will really benefit our city as we attempt to attract new business and a skilled work force to our region.



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 _____