



**Como Community  
Council  
District 10  
Election Guide**

**April 17, 2018  
7 p.m.  
Como Park  
Streetcar Station**

## **Introduction**

Each year, the Como Community Council holds elections so community members in District 10 can elect officers and directors to the district board. Each year, half the seats on the board are up for election. All terms are two years. Board members elected this year officially take office on April 24, 2018, and serve until April 28, 2020. The procedures for nominations, elections, candidate eligibility, and voter eligibility are governed by the Bylaws of the District 10 Como Community Council. The complete Bylaws can be found on our website at: [www.district10comopark.org/By\\_Laws.html](http://www.district10comopark.org/By_Laws.html)

## **Elections**

Elections take place by secret ballot during the Como Community Council's Annual Meeting.

**When:** Tuesday April 17, 2017, beginning at 7 p.m.

**Where:** Como Park Streetcar Station, 1224 Lexington Parkway N (at the northeast corner of Lexington and Horton)

Below is the list of neighborhood residents who will be on the April 17 ballot. These candidates submitted their names by the April 10 deadline. Additional candidates may be nominated from the floor during the Annual Meeting; they will be considered write-in candidates. Elections will be held in the following order:

- Vice-Chair
- Treasurer
- Sub-Districts 1-4
- At-Large (2 seats)

## **Voting**

All renters, homeowners, and other residents age 18 or older who live in District 10 are eligible to vote. So are authorized representatives from a business or nonprofit organization located in District 10. Community members must vote in person; there is no absentee or proxy voting.

All eligible community members may cast ballots for officers and for At-Large positions. (Officers on this year's ballot are the Vice-Chair and Treasurer). For positions representing the four Sub-Districts, only sitting board members and community members residing in that Sub-District may cast ballots.

## **Candidate Statements**

Candidates submit their own statements for the positions they are seeking. These statements are reprinted below, with only minimal editing for clarity and consistency. Candidates are listed first by the office they are seeking, then in alphabetical order.

If you have questions about voting or the elections, contact the District 10 office at 651-644-2889 or [district10@district10comopark.org](mailto:district10@district10comopark.org).

# Candidate Statements

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## Office: Vice Chair (vote for 1)

### Amy Perna

I have been an enthusiastic Como Park resident since 2012. My husband, daughter and I live in Sub-District 1 near the west entrance to the park. I feel incredibly fortunate to live among wonderful neighbors who have become friends, and near a beautiful park full of green space and trails. I am motivated to serve on the board so that I can help give back to a neighborhood that means so much to me.

After serving for three years as the Treasurer, I am seeking re-election to the Board as Vice Chair. I am particularly interested in increasing citizen participation by making sure that D10 is a useful resource and tool for all residents of our district. If elected, I will use my background in development to create a fundraising campaign so that the Board can be more financially nimble when addressing issues that matter to all residents, especially to those folks who aren't always at the table.

I have an academic background in anthropology, African history and public policy. I am a former Citizenship AmeriCorps member who served in Saint Paul for the US Committee of Refugees and Immigrants. I am an active member of the League of Women Voters Saint Paul and I have my master's degree from the Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

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## Office: Treasurer (vote for 1)

### Glenys Buckingham

I am a Saint Paul native, University of Minnesota graduate, and a new resident to the Como neighborhood. I work as a human services professional for the State of Minnesota. I take pride in doing work that advances access and well-being in our communities.

I am seeking a position on the District 10 Community Council because I would like to take an active role in my new community, which I am thrilled to call home. I believe my ability to produce concise, accurate, and organized content in documents, records, and correspondence would be valuable to this role. If elected, I look forward to supporting and promoting the Council's mission.

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## *Office: Treasurer (continued)*

### **Anne Hartman**

My husband and I (along with our 3 dogs) have been residents in the Como Park area for over 12 years, and plan on being here for many, many more. During our time here, we have enjoyed all the area has to offer: the lake, walking / biking paths, Como Dockside (so looking forward to Spring Cafe opening!), the cross-country course, compost drop-off, the zoo, conservatory and our great neighbors! This area has so much to offer, and I am running for the Treasurer position to help support the Council's strategic plan and make sure our community has a voice within our Beautiful St. Paul.

I currently work at Infor (fka Lawson Software) as a Senior Customer Success Manager, and formerly was a Controller at a manufacturing company. During tax season, I volunteer with Prepare + Prosper as a tax preparer / reviewer and truly enjoy getting to know our clients, and advising them on how they can enhance their tax refunds in the upcoming years. In addition to being a tax nerd, I am passionate about reducing, reusing, and recycling in order to help conserve our natural resources. And knitting. Lots of knitting.

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## **Office: Sub-District 1 (vote for 1)**

*Sub-District 1 is the part of our neighborhood roughly west of Hamline between Hoyt on the north and the BNSF tracks south of Jessamine on the south.*

### **Rebecca Calvo**

Hello! My name is Rebecca and I am interested in serving as a board member on the District 10 Community Council. I moved to D10 from Bloomington, Indiana, in 2015 and work as a PhD microbiologist research associate at the University of Minnesota. I am interested in leveraging my research, presentation, and organizational skills to help the D10 Community Council carry out its strategic plan and find creative solutions to issues within the community. I am particularly passionate about conserving and promoting responsible use of Como Park. Thanks for your consideration!

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## **Office: Sub-District 2 (vote for 1)**

*Sub-District 2 is the part of our neighborhood roughly between Hamline on the west, Larpeur on the north, Victoria on the east, and the BNSF tracks south of Jessamine on the south.*

### **Annie Huidekoper**

Hello all, I have lived in Como Park for 25 years with my partner, Joanne Swanson. Most of those years I worked crazy hours as the VP of Community Partnerships & Customer Service for the St. Paul Saints. During that time, especially during our Lowertown Ballpark effort, it became clear to me the vital role our District Councils play in our city. I have tremendous respect for the amazing grassroots work being done by smart and passionate people throughout Saint Paul.

Now that have left the Saints, I hope to contribute more to our local community. The skills I would bring to the board include: an ability to read a room of people with differing points of view; a knack for inviting others to speak up; a desire to explore options and best practices; optimism, thoughtfulness and civility; good instincts and common sense; and a genuine focus on future generations -- leaving things better than we find them.

I believe in relationship building and representative democracy, and volunteered (long ago) as a non-voting member of the Environment Committee (when I was a District 6 person and didn't know it!); then as a member of the Neighborhood Relations & Safety Committee. Currently, I am the Board Secretary for the Saint Paul Parks Conservancy and help run a family business out east. It would be honor for me to have the opportunity to serve as a D10 board member to do my part for our wonderful neighborhood.

### **Michelle Mennicke**

I have been a resident of St. Paul for 17 years and a member of the Como neighborhood since 2009. My husband, daughter and I love Como Park and the many recreational and cultural amenities it offers. We have fantastic neighbors that we enjoy spending time with regularly.

Since graduating with my Master of Nonprofit Administration degree in December of last year, I have been searching for a way to give back to the community and utilize my skills and experience. This opportunity seems like a perfect fit and I would be pleased to serve as a member of the District 10 Board. As a former Realtor, I am particularly interested in housing and land use topics.

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## *Office: Sub-District 2 (continued)*

### **Marika Staloch**

I have lived in the South Como neighborhood for 11 years and have worked for the city at the Saint Paul Public Library for 15. I have been involved in social justice my whole life and I'm interested in finding ways to be more civically engaged in my community.

My professional career has been centered around providing educational, safe, enriching spaces for youth and their families, both as an educator and in my current role as youth services manager of SPPL. I work toward racial justice, economic equality, and equal opportunities for residents. I am a leader, work well in collaborative situations, and bring energy and passion to my work.

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## **Office: Sub-District 3 (vote for 1)**

*Sub-District 3 is the part of our neighborhood roughly between Victoria on the west, Larpenteur on the north, Dale on the east, and the BNSF tracks south of Jessamine on the south.*

### **Thomas Coburn**

I have lived in the Como neighborhood for about 7 years; previously in Houston, TX and Seattle, WA. I believe Government should inspire people to create a better environment in which they live. This is done through community involvement, education, and communication. I also believe strong communities are built through food and food production; encouraging people to use their land for food gets people outside. Neighbors start seeing each other and maybe share an apple or tomato and start talking to each other.

### **Robert Hale**

I'm a 5<sup>th</sup>-generation resident of Como and can be found on my daily trek around the lake. My digital marketing business is also in the district. I would like to utilize my skills to help in planning for the future. Issues of particular interest to me are traffic management, environment and public safety. I have previously worked on the environmental committee and seen the wonders of citizen involvement.

### **Laurence Mack**

I have been involved in community activities, participating in various DFL Senate Districts from roughly 1998 to 2014. My last senate district was SD 65, where I was on the Central Committee as well as being a Board member. I also was on the Central Committee of CD4. I had to resign when I moved out of that district in 2014. In addition to my DFL participation, I have been actively concerned with the safety and well-being of members of the senior center where I live, as well as the  
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### *Office: Sub-District 3 (continued)*

community, regarding the safety and better control of traffic on Como Blvd East, which presently lacks marked crosswalks and stop signs at the intersection with Nagasaki that could help to slow traffic down. Crossing Como Blvd East can be a challenge for both those who are handicapped as well as those who are able bodies. I am currently forming an ad hoc committee to further address these concerns.

I have strong organizational and communication skills. My communication skills include past telephone support, primarily in desktop support at such companies as Dyneon/3M, Comcast, and Thompson-Reuters. At Dyneon/3M, I was responsible for the Y2K project, which had to conform with the same with 3M at the national level.

My goals include further participation by members of Como by the Lake's Senior Center as well as the community in both concerns, needs and improvement.

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### **Office: Sub-District 4 (vote for 1)**

*Sub-District 4 is the part of our neighborhood roughly between Snelling on the west, Dale on the east, and between the two sets of BNSF tracks (near Jessamine on the north and between Front Ave. and Energy Park Drive on the south).*

#### **Cody Zwiefelhofer**

I have lived in the Twin Cities at various locations for about 10 years, the last two in Sub-District 4, where my wife and I are raising our first child. When I think about the neighborhood, I think about how great it has been to us, and how I can help give back and make this neighborhood a better and more equitable one, not just for my family, but for everyone who wishes to live or visit.

Currently, I am a software engineer at Amazon in Minneapolis, where I have been for about four years. My educational background is in journalism and computer science from the U of M. I also represent Ward 5 as a St. Paul Neighborhood STAR board member, am part of the Como Pathways committee to improve signage in and around Como Park, and am currently the DFL Precinct Chair for Ward 5, Precinct 3. I really, really enjoy volunteering my time for neighborhood projects, and would be honored to be considered to volunteer for an open board seat. (Specifically, I would love to join the Land Use Committee.)

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## Office: At Large (vote for 2)

### **Mary Doran**

My family and I have lived in the Como neighborhood since 2003. During that time, I had the honor of serving on the St. Paul Board of Education as a member and as the Chair. In my short 4 years on the SPPS board I was able to accomplish the following milestones:

- Implemented Board listening sessions with all Parent Advisory Committees
- Co-authored a revised Anti-Bullying policy to contain cyber-bullying measures.
- Co-authored a revised Rights and Responsibility handbook
- Initiated and authored the Gender Inclusion policy.
- Advocated for the passage of the Racial Equity policy

Prior to my time on the SPPS board I worked for several years as an architectural drafter. I believe my education and experience would be an asset to the Land Use Committee or the Neighborhood Relations and Safety Committee.

### **Andrew King-Scribbins**

My wife and I bought our house and moved into the neighborhood in March 2017. We've moved several times in the last 10 years, but we've never felt as welcome as we did in our first days in Como. I'd like offer my knowledge and experience in any way that might be useful, and give back to the neighborhood that is now our permanent home. Serving on this council is of particular interest to me because of the unique combination of issues the neighborhood is involved in: environmental with rain gardens and protecting the lake; proximity to the fairgrounds and the challenges that brings; schools, businesses, transit, and more.

I have a bachelor's degree in Geography and a master's degree in Geographic Information Science (GIS). I have been employed as a GIS professional for more than 10 years in a wide variety of positions for public and private employers. I currently work for Hennepin County managing the county's fiber optic network. I served for several years on statewide GIS advisory boards including the MN Geospatial Advisory Council (<http://www.mngeo.state.mn.us/councils/statewide>) and the MN GIS/LIS Consortium board (<http://www.mngislis.org/>), but now I want to turn my focus to my local community.

### **Melissa Liu**

My family and I have lived on the east side of the lake for 4 years and love it. I am running for my second term as an at-large representative. For the past year and a half, I have served as the chair of D10's Neighborhood Relations, Safety and Outreach Committee. I see my role as facilitating discussions and providing support and encouragement for committee members so we can implement positive change in the neighborhood. *(continued on next page)*



## *Office: At-Large (continued)*

For example, this year the committee installed pedestrian safety crossing kits throughout the neighborhood. In 2018 the committee is focusing on youth involvement in civic conversations and reaching the under-represented neighbors in our community. I'd be honored to serve for another two years as an at-large representative for you.

### **Olivia Mulvey Morawiecki**

I moved to Como with my husband three years ago. I work at the North End South Como Block nurse program as a volunteer and service coordinator. Much of my interest in this position stems from my experience working with Como's aging population. I love connecting people with local resources and engaging community members! My educational background is in art and marketing, and I also own my own small business.

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