



League of Women Voters
of Plano/Collin County
www.lwvcollin.org

Nonpartisan

Voters Guide

May 11, 2013, Local Election
Frisco City Council

Early voting: April 29 – May 7

Election Day: May 11 – Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

About This Voters Guide

This *Voters Guide* is published by the League of Women Voters of Plano/Collin County to help citizens prepare to cast an informed vote. The League of Women Voters encourages informed and active participation in government. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

This guide lists candidates for Frisco City Council as shown in the table of contents. Frisco Independent School District will not have an election this year, since none of its offices are contested.

This *Voters Guide* is available online at www.lwvcollin.org, along with separate guides for City Council and ISD in Allen, McKinney and Plano, and for Collin College. Candidate responses for all races are also available at www.VOTE411.org, including an "On Your Ballot" feature that allows voters to enter an address and review races specific to that address.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates who will appear on the ballot for the Frisco City Council Election, even those who are uncontested. Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification. If a candidate did not respond by the deadline, "No response received" is printed. Responses were limited to 600 characters.

Candidates were asked to avoid references to their opponents. Photos are included for candidates who provided them.

This *Voters Guide* is organized by office, with candidates listed as they appear on the ballot.

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Qualifications for Voting

To vote, you must be a U.S. citizen, registered to vote, a resident of the county, and at least 18 years old on Election Day. You must not have been declared mentally incapacitated by a court of law. If you have been convicted of a felony, you may register to vote only after you have completed the punishment phase of your conviction, including any terms of incarceration, parole, supervision, or period of probation ordered by the court.

Where to Vote

During **early voting April 29 – May 7**, you may vote at any early voting location. Early voting is open to all voters, no excuses necessary. On **Election Day May 11**, you must vote in the precinct in which you reside. Your precinct is listed on your voter registration card.

For polling locations and sample ballots, visit www.co.collin.tx.us/elections/index.jsp or call the Collin County Elections Office at 800-687-8546 (toll-free).

To enter your address and see all races for that address visit www.VOTE411.org.



The LWV never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

Frisco City Council

<p>Description</p> <p>3-year term, elected citywide. Must be at least 18 years old, a qualified voter, and a resident of the city. The City Council does strategic planning, approves annual budget, sets policy, enacts ordinances establishing municipal law, regulates zoning and development and appoints board and commission members.</p>
<p>Questions</p> <p>Budget: What are your priorities for the city’s budget?</p> <p>Growth: What challenges will the continuing growth of this city present, and how would you address them with respect to open space, commercial development and residential development, including affordable housing?</p> <p>Homelessness: Homelessness, including teenagers and families with children, continues to be a problem. What should the city do to address this issue?</p> <p>Water: Since the proposed state water plan emphasizes conserving water supplies, should this city do more to encourage conservation? If so, what specific measures would you support?</p> <p>Transportation: Do you see traffic congestion as a problem in this city? If so, what would you recommend to improve it?</p> <p>Health and Safety: What do you see as the primary health and safety concerns of this city and how would you address them?</p> <p>Other Issues: What are the most important issues you think will come before the City Council in the next few years? What are your views on these issues?</p>

Frisco City Council, Place 2 Candidates (1):

Jeff Cheney – Candidate for Frisco City Council, Place 2	
	<p>Contact Information Web Site: www.ChooseCheney.com Email: jeff@jeffcheney.com</p>
<p>Education: Graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with High Honors with a Bachelor of Business Administration and a Master in Professional Accounting. Certified Public Accountant, a Registered Investment Adviser, and a Licensed Real Estate Broker Experience: Elected to Frisco City Council in 2007, and re-elected in 2010 with nearly 80% of the vote. He has been chosen by his fellow Council Members to serve as Mayor Pro Tem three times. Budget and Audit Committee Chair, Governance Committee, among others</p>	
<p>Budget: We have been able to keep our tax rate low by being in the top 15 in the state in sales tax collections and total assessed value. Our plan is to continue to drive this growth by only approving quality developments, through tourism from our sports and other facilities as well as development of the next mall along 380. As Chair of the Budget and Audit Committee, we have started funding a capital reserve fund so future Councils will not have to always issue debt to replace infrastructure. This will allow us to continue to offer the high level of city services at such a low tax rate.</p>	
<p>Growth: Building permits are at their highest levels in years and recent new residential developments have been the fastest selling in Frisco's history. As growth continues, our goal is to only approve high quality development. Frisco has many companies looking to relocate here resulting in a shortage of Class A office</p>	

Jeff Cheney – Candidate for Frisco City Council, Place 2

space which we recently addressed with an incentive for a new building now under construction. We are close to finalizing the first phase of Grand Park which we hope to begin construction in the next 12-18 months. In my opinion, this park will become a major regional destination.

Homelessness: Frisco has long had a great working relationship with Frisco ISD developing many partnerships. This is a growing issue that we will continue to work with them as well as the public and private community organizations also working on this issue. Frisco will continue to explore ways the city can help address the issue and keep these families safe and cared for.

Water: Frisco already invests a great deal of resources to educate the public on the importance of water conservation. We are currently in stage 2 water restrictions, have made ET sprinkler controllers standard in new construction, provide free sprinkler audits, and through our weather station notify our residents of how much they should water each week. Educating the public on the importance of water conservation will be an ongoing priority for Frisco.

Transportation: Frisco has done a great job managing traffic flow largely by partnering with the state and counties to complete our major thoroughfares such as the DNT, Eldorado, and Preston. We continue to work with them to complete Main Street and Stonebrook. As the growth continues, it will be our job to stay in front of the needed roads so traffic flows easily around Frisco. We are also looking at creative solutions such as roundabouts. Completing our needed infrastructure is crucial to attracting residents as well as businesses to our community.

Health and Safety: Frisco has made public safety Priority #1. We recently opened Fire Station 7 and are planning #8. Frisco Fire has an ISO 1 rating and was recently rated as one of the safest communities in the nation. We partnered with the Fisd to develop the international renowned SAFER program. Lastly, our long term vision for Frisco did not include a lead smelter in the heart of the City. I am proud Frisco was able to find a solution that was a positive outcome for the City as well as a business that had been here 50 years.

Other Issues: We have dealt with many complex issues and a difficult economy. Frisco's balance sheet has been solidified and we are ready to grow. With the boom coming again, managing a long list of competing priorities will be our biggest task. For instance, the senior center, the library, many of our parks, road systems and all of our facilities are approaching capacity. In our last boom our debt service portion approached 50% of our total budget. Through this boom our challenge will be keeping that figure closer to 40% while keeping taxes low and choosing between our next set of priorities.

**Frisco City Council, Place 4
Candidates (2):****John Keating – Candidate for Frisco City Council, Place 4****Contact Information**

Campaign Phone: (214) 587-0827

Web Site: www.keating4frisco.com

Email: john@keating4frisco.com

Education: Bachelor of Science, Mass Communication, Towson University, Maryland; Associate in Applied Science, Criminal Justice, Central Texas College, Texas; Graduate of US Army Advanced Foreign Counterintelligence Training Course

Experience: Elected to Frisco City Council in 2010, currently serving on Frisco City Council Budget & Audit Committee.

Budget: Frisco's goal is to maintain a competitive tax rate while continuing to deliver quality services. As we like to say, "it's great to have the lowest tax rate around, as long as your city doesn't LOOK like it has the lowest tax rate around!" Over the past few years, Frisco City Council and taxpayers have asked City Hall to do more with less across all departments, and they have excelled. We do need to continue to plan for our growing city, keeping our roads and neighborhoods safe while developing new economic opportunities and continuing to invest in "win-win" public-private partnerships.

John Keating – Candidate for Frisco City Council, Place 4

Growth: Frisco is experiencing a boom in residential growth; now we must turn our attention to commercial development. We’ve recently had little availability in Class A office space, due to demand, developer concerns and the recession, but our Economic Development Corporation is working hard to cultivate opportunities to break new ground on projects attractive to both existing and new businesses. Our Community Development Corporation and Parks & Recreation Dept are continuing to successfully plan open space and parkland for our city, including Frisco’s “crown jewel,” our Grand Park project.

Homelessness: Frisco is fortunate to have several engaged community organizations, public and private, which are focused on understanding the extent of, and possible solutions to, homelessness in our area. Presently, there are non-profits in neighboring cities doing a great job at solving this social challenge, and we hope to continue to learn from the best practices of groups like My Friend’s Place and City House.

Water: Our Public Works and Environmental Services Departments do a fantastic job at managing our conservation and education programs. Frisco Parks & Recreation is pursuing irrigation wells at our primary recreation park areas, as the budget allows. As a member of the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD), Frisco is currently under Stage 2 water restrictions, and our residents are doing their part to use water smartly. I know we will continue to educate and inform residents and I support the city’s current efforts.

Transportation: Our Comprehensive Plan for developing infrastructure, including roads, has largely been a success. We have several existing roads scheduled for improvements and we are considering “roundabouts” at certain intersections in Frisco, as an alternative to traffic signal-controlled intersections, where traffic can get backed up. We do have pockets of congestion around areas of new construction, but our residents understand these are growing pains. What Frisco can do going forward is continue to work hard to bring professional jobs to the city, so that our residents don’t have to commute.

Health and Safety: I’m proud to say this council removed one of the greatest threats to our health and safety by closing the Exide lead smelter. After nearly 50 years of operation at the center of our city, we were able to negotiate a deal to close the smelter forever. We enjoy safe neighborhoods with low crime rates, and have a reputation for fire safety excellence with the top ISO Fire Rating of 1, creating lower insurance rates, healthy home sales and stable property values. We will continue to support our police and fire departments, Frisco’s finest and bravest, as they work to keep our residents safe.

Other Issues: Safe neighborhoods, great schools, a thriving business community, quality city services and low taxes bring people to Frisco! City Council must do what it can to keep these attraction factors strong. Our strategic planning processes are robust, but no one can predict every challenge, so council and staff must be prepared to handle whatever is thrown our way. We also rely on our public and private stakeholders to come together to help deliver solutions, and we must continue to be an attractive destination for future community leaders.

Harold (Hal) Colvin – Candidate for Frisco City Council, Place 4



Contact Information

Campaign Phone: (918) 557-7323

Email: halcolvin@sbcglobal.net

Education: BA West Virginia Wesleyan College MS West Virginia University **Experience:** Captain U. S. Army 1st Vice President Merrill Lynch (Retired) Serving on Housing Trust Authority Board, City of Frisco past 4 years.

Budget: My priorities for the city budget are to maintain excellence in creating and maintaining strong fiscal restraint on spending while insuring the welfare of all Frisco residents. This includes increasing a strong infrastructure and economic development.

Growth: We must continue to improve our infrastructure for continued economic growth. This has to be done with a balanced approach with a commercial and residential balance to include some high density development without harming the balance. Frisco is in the forefront with respect to open space for its citizens.

Harold (Hal) Colvin – Candidate for Frisco City Council, Place 4

Work should start within six months for the first phase of grand park for the entire Frisco community.

Homelessness: Homelessness is an increasing issue. Currently we are working with several social agencies on the situation. Plans are currently in place for two homes in Frisco for homeless children. The city has also worked closely with The Samaritan Inn for families faced with homelessness. As we grow this will continue to grow however we are currently working on this issue.

Water: Frisco and all of North Texas are aware of our water issue. We must continue to be proactive and encourage water conservation. Frisco has several initiatives in place for water conservation and is diligently working to maximize water conservation. A twenty five inch pipeline from Lake Texoma will not be available until 2014. For those who choose not to conserve water, a volume usage with higher prices for greater consumption will be of help.

Transportation: Currently we do not have a traffic problem with congestion. Being proactive we are starting to use turnabouts in congested areas. City engineers are insuring that new construction as well as older construction is being built to avoid this issue when possible.

Health and Safety: Public Health for our citizens is of vital importance. Frisco has to insure that the cleanup of the Exide Facilities is thorough, no stone left unturned. We must prevent any additional harm to the environment and our citizens. With regard to other safety issues Frisco is currently rated one of the safest cities in North Texas with regard to crime.

Other Issues: Important issues to me are water conservation, environmental health and economic growth. All of these are intertwined and as such I will concentrate my energies to promote these areas which express my on-going time and effort to see that the citizens are not shortchanged.

Frisco Bond Election

THE ISSUANCE OF \$8,000,000 TAX BONDS FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT FACILITIES, FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT AND FIRETRUCKS, AND WARNING SIRENS

You may bring this *Voters Guide* into the voting booth! In 1995, the Texas law prohibiting use of printed materials, such as this *Voters Guide*, in the polling place was ruled unconstitutional (*Texas Election Code, Section 61.011*)

This *Voters Guide* and guides for Allen, McKinney, Plano and Collin College are available on the League's website at www.lwvcollin.org and at www.VOTE411.org

Your vote is your voice. Be heard.