



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF COLLIN COUNTY  
[www.lwvcollin.org](http://www.lwvcollin.org)

Nonpartisan

# VOTERS GUIDE

March 25, 2017

Special Election Runoff

Frisco City Council Place 1

Early voting: Mar 8 – Mar 21

Election Day: March 25 – Polls open 7 am to 7 pm

## About This Voters Guide

This *Voters Guide* is published by the League of Women Voters of 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.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates who will appear on the ballot. Candidates' replies were subject to a character limit and are printed without editing or verification. If a candidate did not respond by the Voters Guide deadline, then "No response received" is printed. Later responses may appear at [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org). Candidates were asked to avoid references to their opponents. Photos are included for candidates who provided them.

This guide is available online at [www.LWVCollin.org](http://www.LWVCollin.org).



To see all races for your address, visit [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org).

## When & Where to Vote

For Collin County voting locations, hours, and a sample ballot, visit [http://www.collincountytx.gov/elections/election\\_information](http://www.collincountytx.gov/elections/election_information) or call 972-547-1990 (McKinney).

## Frisco City Council, Place 1

3-year term, elected citywide. Must be at least 18 years old, a qualified voter, and a resident of the city. The City Council establishes city policy through ordinances and resolutions.

### QUESTIONS

**Infrastructure:** What measures do you support to meet the city's infrastructure needs, including transportation and water, given the expected population changes?

**Housing:** What should the city council do, if anything, to ensure that appropriate housing is available for all demographics, including seniors and low income residents?

**Budget:** What concerns you the most about the city's finances, and what changes would you like to see in the budget?

**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?

League of Women Voters is a Nonpartisan Organization

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.

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## Brandon Burden

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**Website:** [www.brandon4frisco.com](http://www.brandon4frisco.com)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/BrandonBurdenBuildFriscoforGenerations](http://www.facebook.com/BrandonBurdenBuildFriscoforGenerations)

**Email:** [brandonburden@gmail.com](mailto:brandonburden@gmail.com)

**Campaign Phone:** (214) 649-0623

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/blburden](https://twitter.com/blburden)

**Education:** Bachelor of Business Studies (May 2017) -Leadership Frisco Class XVI (June 2013)

**Experience:** Business Strategist for Fortune 5000 and Small Businesses - Strategic Business Development for EpicPay -CFO of Basco Group, LLC -Member of the Frisco Chamber of Commerce -Member of the Board of Directors of KingdomLife International

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**Infrastructure:** I support reducing the projected urban density in the 2015 Comprehensive Plan city by at least 25%. I do not believe we have the infrastructure in place to support the 375,000 population the plan calls for. Plano, which is almost at maximum residential build out, is leveling off at around 280,000 residents. With slightly less land mass than Plano, I believe Frisco must do the same. I support the widening of 380 as much as possible to alleviate traffic on our northern boundary, and I also support the widening of 423. I also support opening up new avenues for water beyond Lake Lavon.

**Housing:** I believe Frisco can do more to serve seniors and low income residents. Creating more developments like Frisco Lakes and Parkview would be a blessing to our seniors. Unfortunately, there's not a lot of choice for low income residents, even though Frisco has multitudes of mixed use developments going in all over the place. The starting rent on some of these new units is \$2,000, which is not only out of range for some seniors and low income families; it is also out of range for our younger population as well. I think Frisco needs to offer more affordable housing than it is currently doing.

**Budget:** What concerns me the most about the city's finances is the amount of financial incentives the EDC keeps giving out. The EDC gave out over \$600 million in incentives to the \$5 billion mile project. My feeling is that these businesses would have come here and developed anyway. Why are we giving away all this money? Why isn't this money going into more infrastructure to support the 375,000 population that the city is predicting? My main concern is with the lack of infrastructure in the budget to support our continuing rate of growth.

**Other Issues:** I think that water will continue to be one of the most important issues that will continue to come before Council. I also think that relieving traffic congestion will become a major issue. I also think we're going to have a fight on our hands as to what the remaining 50% of Frisco's build out is supposed to look like. Some are advocating for a Dallas-type city. Others are advocating for a Suburban-type city. We're in a tug of war because the 2015 Comprehensive Plan calls for a half urban/half suburban city. I think Council has its work cut out for it deciding what the future will look like.

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## John Keating

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**Website:** [www.keatingfrisco.com](http://www.keatingfrisco.com)  
**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/KeatingFrisco](http://www.facebook.com/KeatingFrisco)  
**Email:** [john@keatingfrisco.com](mailto:john@keatingfrisco.com)  
**Campaign Phone:** (214) 587-0827  
**Twitter:** [twitter.com/keatingfrisco](https://twitter.com/keatingfrisco)

**Education :** Bachelor of Science, Mass Communication, 1997 -- Towson University, Towson, Maryland; Associate in Applied Science, Criminal Justice, 1990 -- Central Texas College, Killeen, Texas

**Experience:** 1982-1995, US Army Senior Counterintelligence Agent, Desert Shield/Desert Storm veteran; 1990-2006, Registered Principal, Keating Financial Services; 2010, Elected to Frisco City Council; 2013, Re-elected; 2015, Elected Mayor Pro Tem by City Council

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**Infrastructure:** The City of Frisco has done well developing a quality road system. We have established thoroughfares to ease traffic, and we expand sidewalks and hike/bike trails as part of our master plan. We must look 3-5 years "down the road" as development expands in our northern area, as to how it will impact our resources. We should continue to sell our voter-approved road bonds before others, while construction costs remain competitive. I also support recent efforts by Frisco (as a member city of North Texas Municipal Water District) to expedite progress of the Bois D'Arc reservoir in Fannin County.

**Housing:** Over the last ten years, Frisco has grown from a quiet farm town to a city of thousands of young families. We also have thriving populations of retirees, teens, empty nesters, and young professionals. City leadership must allow the free market to work, while remaining focused on the needs and interests of all of those demographic clusters. We must ensure we are providing relevant services, jobs and consumer opportunities. This will lead to different price points and diversity of housing product, to naturally meet the demand of Frisco residents.

**Budget:** I am most concerned with continuing to keep Frisco's amenities high, while keeping our tax rate low. In every endeavor, I serve the hardworking Frisco taxpayers who fund all levels of city government. As Collin and Denton Counties continue to grow, our fiscal responsibility will become increasingly important to Texas as a whole. It is critical Frisco stands steadfast against reckless and irresponsible fiscal policies. Working with the Mayor, my fellow Council members, our city staff, and our residents, I will continue to promote long-term responsible leadership to keep our city strong.

**Other Issues:** We need to protect our economic development tools! While any city would love to boost about \$1 billion dollars in development, Frisco has over \$5 billion in projects underway. Our city is fortunate to have state-authorized 4A/4B Economic Development (EDC) and Community Development Corporations (CDC), which allow us to reinvest sales tax revenue into city development. These entities have been a strong source of public funding for our growth, while allowing us to keep our tax rates competitive. Frisco's EDC and CDC provide the foundation for our successful public-private partnerships.

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*)

**Your vote is your voice. Be heard.**