



VOTER GUIDE

DC DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY 2016

ENDORSEMENTS

Ward 4: **Leon Andrews**

Ward 8: **Trayon White**

At Large: **Robert White**

The Jews United For Justice Campaign Fund mobilizes the Jewish community of Greater Washington to advance grassroots campaigns for social justice and support progressive candidates for office.

Our criteria for endorsement:

Social and Economic Justice Agenda
High Ethical Standards
Electability

Learn more about the JUFJ Campaign Fund and our endorsements process at www.jufjcampaignfund.org.

DC elections are decided by razor-thin margins:
your vote really matters.

The District of Columbia offers absentee & early voting.

Find your polling place:
vote4dc.com/

INTRODUCTION

The Jews United for Justice Campaign Fund mobilizes the Jewish community of Greater Washington to advance campaigns for social justice and support progressive candidates for office.

For the June 2016 primary election, we undertook an extensive process that allowed our organization leaders to examine where the leading candidates stand on a social justice agenda.

We convened an endorsement committee of seven representatives from our membership, board, and community partners. Rubie Coles, Seth Johnson, Abby Levine, Daniel Solomon and Ericka Taylor reviewed detailed questionnaires, conducted lengthy candidate interviews, and consulted with a variety of local progressive advocacy partners and allies.

We made no endorsement in Ward 2, where the incumbent Jack Evans is running unopposed, or in Ward 7, where neither of the leading candidates Vincent Gray or Yvette Alexander returned candidate questionnaires.

We created the JUFJ Campaign Fund to help smart, strategic, and progressive candidates cut through the noise and get elected - and to make it clear to our elected leaders that we expect them to fight for affordable housing, living wage jobs with decent benefits, and the issues that matter most. We used three core criteria to guide our decision process: the candidates had to closely align with our agenda for social and economic justice, show high ethical standards, and have a real chance of winning.

This voter guide seeks to help voters make a difference at the ballot box this month, and to put real progressive policy on the DC Council's agenda.

Ward 4: Leon Andrews



andrews4dc.com

A third-generation Washingtonian and Howard University alum, [Leon Andrews](#) brings a decade of experience working with mayors and other municipal leaders around the country to address their most pressing challenges through smart, values-driven policy.

During his time at the national nonprofits League of Cities (which networks and lobbies for cities and towns nationwide at the federal level) and the Forum for Youth Investment (which supports a wide variety of youth development projects at the local, state, and national level), Leon has worked in

depth on issues facing young people and led efforts to address the historical, systemic and structural barriers that further inequity and racism. We are excited for him to bring this expertise and passion for social change to the Council.

Leon Andrews ran as a first-time candidate last year in the Ward 4 special election. In that very crowded race, he came in an impressive third place. Leon has used the year since to deepen his knowledge on the details of local issues, and to continue to speak out on key issues such as affordable housing and paid family leave. His is a thoughtful, values-driven candidacy. This year he has won the support of nearly all the other challengers from last year's race.

Incumbent Councilmember Brandon Todd, did not respond to our candidate questionnaire or request for an interview.

Ward 8: Trayon White



trayonwhite8.com

[Trayon White](#) is a grassroots leader and activist who has dedicated his life to serving and fighting for his community.

For more than a decade, Trayon has organized in Ward 8 to bring opportunities for a better future to all, particularly our city's most struggling people. He founded and led Helping Inner City Kids Succeed, which supports at-risk young people whose lives have been touched by drugs, crime, or violence. He also served as the Ward 8 School Board member, and led community outreach for the Office of the Attorney General.

We are confident that, as Ward 8 Councilmember, Trayon will work every day to hold central the interests of the most marginalized people in our city: to help struggling people find good jobs, to protect residents of public and low-cost housing from being pushed out of their neighborhoods, and to support people returning from prison as they reintegrate into their communities. Trayon's energy and commitment to this work is immediately evident to anyone who meets him. He's a determined campaigner with broad grassroots support: in 2011 he beat four more established competitors in a special election for school board, and in 2015's Ward 8 special election, he shocked local politics-watchers by coming just 100 votes short of beating LaRuby May despite being outraised 15-1.

In this election, Trayon White has won the endorsement of nearly all of his former competitors. In May, he won the Ward 8 Democrats straw poll with 135 votes, almost three times more than incumbent LaRuby May. While we appreciate the support that Councilmember May has offered for Paid Family Leave and increased investment in quality, affordable childcare in the District, we believe Trayon White will be a stronger leader in the push forward for progressive change.

Council At Large: **Robert White**



[Robert White](#) has the professional experience and the personal drive to be a progressive champion on the Council.

A fifth-generation Washingtonian, he has a strong local record of public service and policy experience, and is an experienced civil servant who has worked for Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton and Attorney General Karl Racine.

robertwhiteatlarge.com

In our conversations with him, we found Robert to be thoughtful, energetic, and committed to the cause of making this city a place in which everyone - including those who now struggle to make ends meet - can work, live and raise a family. We were particularly impressed with his insider knowledge of the Council process and insight into what levers of power the Council holds: he made a point of calling out the current Council for not using their agency oversight powers to implement some of the progressive laws they have passed. He has also built an impressive list of campaign supporters from around the city, including former citywide candidates Khalid Pitts, Edward "Smitty" Smith, and Matthew Frumin; this is further testament to the confidence he inspires.

We are enthusiastic about the role Robert White will play on the Council, but this was not an easy choice. While David Garber, a one-time blogger and ANC commissioner, has a thin record of progressive action, incumbent At-Large Councilmember Vincent Orange offers twelve years of experience and achievement. As we noted during his mayoral bid in 2014, Councilmember Orange has used his decade-plus on the Council to serve as a committed and effective advocate for a living wage, paid sick leave and health care access. We have little doubt that he could continue to play that role for years to come. We simply believe that Robert White brings a stronger commitment to advancing real change on the basic issues of equity and justice that are most critical to the daily lives of vulnerable DC residents.

Vote early at any Early Voting Center

Ward 1: Columbia Heights Community Center
June 4 - June 11, 8:30 am to 7:00pm

Ward 2: One Judiciary Square
May 31 - June 11, 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Ward 3: Chevy Chase Community Center
June 4 - June 11, 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Ward 4: Takoma Park Recreation Center
June 4 - June 11, 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Ward 5: Turkey Thicket Recreation Center
June 4 - June 11, 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Ward 6: Sherwood Recreation Center
June 4 - June 11, 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Ward 6: King Greenleaf Recreation Center
June 4 - June 11, 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Ward 7: Dorothy I. Height/Benning Library
June 4 - June 11, 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Ward 8: Malcolm X Elementary School
June 4 - June 11 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

PRIMARY DAY IS TUESDAY, JUNE 14.

www.jufjcampaignfund.org

Paid for by JUFJ Campaign Fund, 1100 H St, NW, Suite 630,
Washington, DC 20005. Joe Sandler, Treasurer.

A copy of our report is filed with the Director of Campaign
Finance of the District of Columbia Board of Elections.

