

Thank you for participating in the 2023 Activist Toolkit Voter Guide to the River Forest consolidated election. This year's guide will collect articles, videos, relevant web links, and contact information and post them online at [activisttoolkit.org](http://activisttoolkit.org) for easy access by voters. It will be published on or before March 20, 2023 and updated periodically through election day. The guide is non-partisan and will not include endorsements.

We hope you will complete the attached questionnaire and return your responses to [activisttoolkitop@gmail.com](mailto:activisttoolkitop@gmail.com), along with a digital headshot, by March 15, 2023. Late submissions will not be included at launch but may be published late at our convenience. You are also welcome to include links to any online material you would like to have appear in the guide.

Activist Toolkit ([activisttoolkit.org](http://activisttoolkit.org)) is a resource for progressive activists in and around the near west suburbs of Chicago. The site was created in early 2017 by Paul Goyette and Carollina Song, Oak Park activists looking for ways to help people connect with local political initiatives and facilitate connections between progressive organizations.

**RIVER FOREST PARK DISTRICT BOARD  
2023 ACTIVIST TOOLKIT CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

Please limit answers to 200 words.

- 1) Why do you want to serve on the River Forest Park District Board? What makes you qualified to serve? What metrics of success do you plan on holding yourself accountable to?
- 2) How do you make decisions?
- 3) What are the three biggest challenges or opportunities facing the River Forest Park District in the next three, five, and ten years and how should the board address them over the next four years?
- 4) How would you approach the budgeting process?
- 5) What would you say to voters who are worried about the tax burden?
- 6) What do you believe has been the most significant action taken by the Park District in recent years, and why? Do you believe the Board acted appropriately?
- 7) How do you define racial equity? Have recent events and discussions in the larger community informed or changed your thinking?
- 8) How do you plan to solicit feedback from people who may be experiencing the community in a different way than you? What barriers do you believe may exist in this process?
- 9) How should the Park District balance the needs of all residents versus facilities and resource use by more organized groups such as sports leagues?
- 10) Park districts make use of many different sources of funding, including property tax revenues, fees, and grants. Do you feel the Park District maintains the right balance for financial sustainability and equity? What do you see as the tradeoffs?
- 11) The Park District has many part-time employees. How will you balance the need for fiscal stewardship with the responsibility to pay employees a living wage?
- 12) Do you have any ideas or plans for collaboration with neighboring communities? If so, what are they?
- 13) What are your ideas for creating/preserving green or natural space in River Forest?

14) What are the opportunities and limitations of the Park District coordinating with the River Forest Community Center?

15) What is your favorite Park District program/special event?

16) For those who are currently serving or have previously served on the Library Board:  
What vote are you most proud of, and what vote do you most regret? Why?