

Which Candidate is Prepared to Serve as Travis County Judge?

Learn what the county judge does and decide for yourself who is ready for Travis County's top executive job.

Sarah Eckhardt's Experience

Andy Brown's Experience

Presides over the Commissioners Court

- Served 6.5 years on the Commissioners Court as Precinct 2 Commissioner

- Spoke at Commissioners Court two times, providing citizen communication on SH-45 and vote centers
- Presided over monthly meetings with volunteer Democratic precinct chairs

Sets the county's annual budget

- Negotiated 6 annual balanced budgets during her time on the court, up to \$814 million dollars
- Set the overall budget for all county departments and 48 elected officials

- Oversaw \$500,000 annual budget for the Travis County Democratic Party

Sets budget for civil and criminal county and district courts and jails

- Served 8 years as a prosecutor for the County Attorney
- Secured protective orders for family violence victims as a Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid attorney
- Supported creation of the Mental Health Public Defender's Office
- Supported expanded public defender services, including the Mental Health Public Defender's Office
- Supported specialized courts to reduce repeat offenses for DWI, public intoxication, drug use, and family violence

- Worked as a civil attorney in private practice for 10 years
- Briefly represented 1 person in criminal court but then passed him to another attorney

Builds and maintains county roads

- Chosen as Vice-Chair of Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) by elected officials from 5 Central Texas counties
- Wrote, passed, and defended Toll Road covenants at CAMPO to protect toll rate payers and secure more funding for transit and bike/ped improvements
- Advocated for local-option transportation funding at the Texas Legislature
- Voted to concentrate transportation funding to support existing communities instead of promoting further sprawl

- Served on the 2010 City of Austin Transportation Bond Oversight Committee

Protects natural resources, establishes parks and green spaces

- Negotiated \$3.5 million settlement from developers for fouling Hamilton Pool
- Implemented new stringent county water quality and stormwater regulations
- Prevented destructive use of the Balcones Canyonland Preserve
- Spearheaded the County's recently passed zero-waste initiative

- Donor to a large number of environmental organizations

Establishes the tax rate and exemptions, negotiates all tax rebates on behalf of the county

- Consistently opposed corporate tax giveaways, including \$20 million to Formula 1
- Advocated for transparent and performance-based budgeting and contract awards to achieve the best and most cost-effective government services
- Reduced property taxes for senior citizens and the disabled
- Adjusted the historic exemption to protect heritage homes without eroding our tax base
- Overhauled the economic development policy to focus on job creation for those most in need of opportunity

- No discernible tax policy experience
- Has not stated a clear position with regard to tax rebates and incentives, or if he would oppose future tax giveaways to Formula 1

Visit www.saraheckhardt.com to learn more about Sarah!