

## CANDIDATES FOR RTM DISTRICT ONE - VOTE FOR ANY FOUR

**LWV Question: How will you use the 2007 Plan of Conservation and Development of Westport to address the critical needs of your district and the Town as a whole?**



**DIANE D. CADY**

Continued work to preserve and protect Long Island Sound, beaches, Saugatuck River, streams, brooks and wetlands, particularly by rewriting and strengthening the ordinance called Waterway Protection Lines. Support maintaining and adding to open space and trees. Continue to work for the protection of the threatened Saugatuck area, particularly by improved and enforced zoning standards. Support limitation of home size to fit the scale and proportion of the neighborhood. Vote for diversity and affordability of housing: town workforce, singles, seniors. Encourage an overall and coordinated plan for downtown Westport plus sidewalks and bike lanes across town. Fiscal responsibility, particularly with regard to increased debt.

Background: Chair, RTM Environment Committee. 47 year Westport resident. Raised 3 children who went through Westport schools. Former President, Westport Young Woman's League. Led initial campaign for flood control, Compo Beach; found assistance for elevating houses over flood levels.



**JUDITH STARR**

28-year resident; served on PTA Board of children's schools; serving third term on RTM, member RTM Planning & Zoning, Public Protection, Environment, Rules Committees, Chair, Public Works Committee.

The "Top Three" values identified by residents at the planning forums are: preserving open space, maintaining our community's character, and controlling traffic. These should be the guideposts as we navigate land use demands. The plan recognizes the longstanding goal to sewer Saugatuck Shores, crucial to protect the health of Long Island Sound and our beaches.

District 1 is a microcosm of Westport: open space (including Compo Beach and Long Island Sound), single family neighborhoods, a commercial area, and traffic. What happens here reflects what happens throughout town, and vice versa. The "Top Three" are preservation-oriented goals that residents have clearly articulated. Any land use decisions that might be appealed to the RTM, I would evaluate within these citizen-given guidelines.



**ROSE ANN PRESTON**

Two years on the RTM has doubled my awareness of the importance of Town Planning and its implementation to Westport's future. Faced with intense pressure from developer "teardowns" and proposed increased densities in family neighborhoods, we must strive to preserve single family, affordable, workforce, and historic housing or lose the character of the Westport we know. Saugatuck, with its RR station and I-95 ramps, is in imminent danger of becoming a motorist's nightmare that could negatively impact traffic patterns throughout town.

These problems need our attention now. As chair of the RTM Transit Committee and a member of both the RTM Public Works and P&Z Committees, I'm in a unique position to ensure that recommendations in the new Town Plan can become a reality. Hard work and close attention to detail will preserve Westport's character and diversity.



**MATTHEW MANDELL**

The first two philosophies of the Town Plan are "Conserve and protect natural resources" and "Protect residential neighborhoods." These form the foundation of my dedication to the residents of our community for the past seven years. Westport and specifically the Saugatuck area are at a critical juncture as the intent to develop, at a higher density, places pressure on our quality of life in terms of traffic, school enrollment and recreation. Increased taxes ensue, affecting all, especially our seniors.

We must protect open space, promote smart growth and act on behalf of Westporters first. As an advocate for maintaining and enhancing the character of our neighborhoods and town, I will continue to work successfully with my constituents, other residents and Town bodies to achieve these goals.

I'm Director of the Partrick Wetlands Preservation Fund, an Executive Trustee of Earthplace, formed the Neighborhood Groups Gathering and enjoy coaching soccer and softball.



**PETER CHELICO**

The Plan lists all the important issues that we face and should serve as our BLUEPRINT for the future. As a member of the RTM, I will use the Plan as my guide, and will urge departments and commissions in town to do the same.

I believe that our most important priority is to take the Plan and translate it into achievable goals, with targets for meeting such goals, including a time line to do so. We need to have the discipline to reach our goals and not get bogged down in endless debates and disputes. I encourage town residents to actively participate in this process.

I hope that I can act as a catalyst in this effort. I believe in bringing people together and creating the consensus that we need to maintain the special nature of our town.

I would be honored to represent District 1 on the RTM.



**BROCK HOTALING**

Westport's Development and Conservation Plan accurately reflects the town's culture and character. Its tenets, however, come in wholesale conflict with the state's 8-30g affordable housing statute (10% "deed-restricted" target against our current 1.3% reality), increasing the potential for budget-draining lawsuits against town taxpayers and destruction of ambience and property values. The Plan's usefulness as an outline of objectives can only be realized by proactively and innovatively addressing the increasing pressures of state law, already witnessed in recent development plans put before P&Z. District 1 must not bear the entire burden, but should work with other district representatives to create a comprehensive Westport Action Plan that roadmaps our incentives for cooperative developers to maintain the Plan's principles (and Westport values) while avoiding a downward spiral of conflict with the state.

My skills in conflict resolution, innovation and results-oriented planning, drawn from business and non-profit executive leadership, are needed for what's coming.

## CANDIDATES FOR RTM DISTRICT TWO - VOTE FOR ANY FOUR

**LWV Question: How will you use the 2007 Plan of Conservation and Development of Westport to address the critical needs of your district and the town as a whole?**



**SEAN TIMMINS**

The Town Plan addresses many different subjects, several of which are relevant to District 2. I will continually reference the plan when appropriate to reinforce our towns ongoing commitment to the preservation of open space for the prevention of urban sprawl. I will also continue to represent the interests of our constituents and their children with regard to schools, finance and public safety.

Sean and his wife Mary Alice moved to Westport in 1994. They have twin 8 yr old daughters named Madison and Victoria who are in 3rd grade at Kings Highway Elementary School. Sean and his wife recently restored the historic Lewis Partrick home c.1823.

Sean is a member of the Westport Volunteer Fire Department, Board Member of Earthplace, Director of the Partrick Wetlands Preservation Fund and Member of the Kings Highway Tools for Schools Committee.



**JAY KEENAN**

Staples School Building Committee, KHS Maintenance Study Committee, Trustee Earthplace, Selectman's Maintenance Committee Partner; Delgado Gilbride & Keenan Architects Married; Caroline, Father, Conor, Callie, Carrick

The Town Plan is a useful guide in the decision making process, for issues brought before the RTM. The plan looks into the future and contains many ideas, wants, and needs for the Town. The RTM's role is to evaluate these ideas in a fiscally responsible way while considering the views of various competing interests. Common sense is most important in the decision making process. More important is the need to strengthen our zoning regulations to protect residential neighborhoods from multi-family developments disguised as affordable housing projects (8-30g). These applications left unchecked will have a cascading effect on our school system, taxes and infrastructure. WE must decide how the Town will be developed, not developers or legislators in Hartford.



**DOROTHY S. HARRIS**

The Plan will be very useful to demonstrate what my District 2 constituents and fellow Westporters would like to have happen in Westport; it is, after all, the voice of the people. On the whole I am delighted with the document as it can be used to support many items which I believe, i.e., not moving/modifying the "blue" (sewer) line, building a strong downtown (inclusive of a community center, YMCA and other sense-of-community-building items), preservation of open space, increase of good environmental stewardship and acknowledgement that we have to address our housing requirements (relative to 8-30g, senior housing & "McMansions").

Background: 38 year District 2 native, EMT with Westport Volunteer Emergency Medical Services for past 16 years, RTM since 7/07 (filled vacancy) - on Public Works and Information Technology Committees; Founding President/current Board Member - The Alliance In Limiting Strays (TAILS), a Westport-based spay/neuter nonprofit founded in 2001.



**MICHAEL GUTHMAN**

We are fortunate to live in a town like Westport that has so much going for it. We have a fine school system, excellent parks and recreation areas, and have been largely successful in preserving the residential character of our town. However, as is pointed out in the 2007 Plan, we are faced with challenges and opportunities that impact District 2 and the entire town. These include: traffic, parking, and the prevention of overdevelopment. But we also have exciting opportunities. I am particularly interested in working to increase the vitality and relevance of downtown in residents' day-to-day lives. There are many decisions to be made in the next few years about the library, the police department, the Barons properties, etc.

I want to be sure that the decisions are well thought-out and appropriately implemented. Background - You can read about me and why I'm running at [www.guthman4rtm.com](http://www.guthman4rtm.com).



**LINDA BRUCE**

The actions we take today will lay the groundwork for realizing the goals of the ten year plan. Prioritizing our needs and wants across the town is critical to the good stewardship of our natural, physical, and financial resources.

Conservation and development is important in how it will affect our infrastructure and our quality of life. Effective use of our financial resources must be considered. The RTM's responsibility for the town budget is integral to the town plan.

Westporter since 1989. Community involvement with leadership positions on numerous boards and committees. Married; two children at Staples. Professional experience in investment banking and venture capital in the biotech industry. MBA University of Chicago.

**The 2007 ballot has 2 sides  
Make sure to mark your VOTES  
on both sides of the ballot**