

# Countywide – Council Residency District 1

4 Year Term – San Juan  
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**Ryan T. Palmateer**

Information

## Candidate Statement

### Elected Experience

This is my first time seeking elected office. I've been appointed Executive Board Secretary to the San Juan County Democratic Committee.

### Other Professional Experience

10+ years of community organization experience with such organizations as the San Juan Islands Conservation District and the Northwest Eco Builders Guild. 10 years' experience in IT and telecommunications industry. Currently Vice President, Washington Association of District Employees; President, San Juan Islands Electric Vehicle Association.

### Education

South Puget Sound Community College

### Community Service

Energy Roundtable, Chairman; Transition San Juan, Co-Founder; Transition Orcas, Co-Founder; Transition Lopez, Steering Committee member; Citizens Climate Lobby, Group Leader; SJI Stewardship Network; SJI Grange #966.

### Statement

As your representative on the San Juan County Council, I will work tirelessly to restore our local economy, helping to create jobs that get islanders back on their feet in the wake of the global pandemic. As part of that effort, I will work toward innovative solutions to the affordable housing crisis and a fair and balanced approach to vacation rental permitting. I believe these goals can, and must, be achieved in an ecologically sustainable manner that enhances the rural character of these islands.

I commit to providing fair and just governance that faithfully serves the public. I bring with me many years of experience in amplifying the voices of our residents, increasing trust in local government through direct accountability. I believe that together we can build the foundation for a bright future. Thank you for your support!

## Contact

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# Countywide – Council Residency District 1

4 Year Term – San Juan



**Steve Wehrly**

Information

## Candidate Statement

### Elected Experience

I have never been elected to public office.

### Other Professional Experience

My professional life has been in law and government relations in Olympia and Washington, D.C. From 1980 to 2008, I was a lobbyist, first for Safeco Corporation in their Legal Department, and then for clients such as Miller Brewing Company, Washington Chiropractic Association, MCI Telecommunications, the Muckleshoot Tribe and Casino, and Washington Boys & Girls Clubs.

### Education

My education was at Jesuit High School, Portland, Oregon; Seattle University Honors Program; University of Washington, Chinese Language, History, and Politics; Columbia University Law School.

### Community Service

I have volunteered for Compassion & Choices and Pacific Environment.

### Statement

Every day of my term of office I will work to help San Juan County recover from the devastation of Coronavirus. For thirty years, I worked to get things done for my clients in Olympia, including planning and passing state budgets and policy ideas. One example: I proposed, planned, and assisted legislators in passing a multimillion dollar multiyear appropriation for Boys & Girls Clubs. San Juan County will need to substantially modify the county budget to survive the coming economic crisis, and we'll need the help of the State Government – Governor, Legislature, and Courts – to plan, manage and fund that budget.

For jobs and economic development in San Juan County, I propose designating as a State Route (SR) the road from American Camp to the ferry dock to English Camp – including a separated bicycle lane. San Juan County is the only county in the State without a State Route.

## Contact

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# Countywide – Council Residency District 1

4 Year Term – San Juan



**Christine Minney**

Information

## Candidate Statement

### Elected Experience

First Time Candidate

### Other Professional Experience

I have owned and operated a successful small business for the past 10 years. I currently serve the San Juan Historical Society Board on the Executive committee as treasurer.

### Education

North Kitsap High School  
Community college courses

### Community Service

San Juan Historical Society 5 years; San Juan Community Theater stage manager; Relay for life volunteer Chair; Boy Scout troop 4090 volunteer; San Juan Island Farmers Market past board member; San Juan County Fair; Roche Harbor Disc Golf Club board member and event organizer; HOA board President/Treasurer 11 years; Chair/volunteer for local fundraisers; Parent volunteer FHES, FHMS & FHHS

### Statement

I've lived on San Juan Island for over 20 years and am fully committed to our community. The choices I made while living here have allowed me to successfully raise a family, build my home and to create a strong, small business in our unique economy. My experiences have taught me how to identify and utilize opportunities. They've also taught me perseverance, attention to detail, organization, intention, principles of finance and diplomacy. I've learned to set and achieve goals. I consider multiple points of view and know when, and how to make decisions. If you elect me, I will continue working to create space for the working-class families that are the heart and soul of our vibrant existence. I will diligently support the county and partner organizations that work every day to offer programs and resources that enrich the lives of us all.

## Contact

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# Countywide – Council Residency District 1

4 Year Term – San Juan



**Sharon Kivisto**

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## Candidate Statement

### Elected Experience

San Juan Island School District Board 1995-1999

### Other Professional Experience

Resort manager 1991-1999

Journalist 1999-present

Program Coordinator for Frederic Whitaker and Eileen Monaghan Whitaker Foundation 2018-present

### Education

Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources from University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Two-year degree in Photography from Palomar College in Vista, California

### Community Service

Served on the Fair Board. Volunteered in the schools. Hosted Ms Church's sixth-grade tide pool class trip. Volunteered at San Juan Community Theatre as an assistant stage manager, tech crew, set builder, and as a member of CATS. Provided publicity and photos for a wide range of community fundraisers.

### Statement

I've lived on San Juan Island for 29 years, and raised two daughters on this family-friendly island.

Today, the islands are in danger of losing its middle-class and becoming a retirement/tourism community with workers ferried in from the mainland.

If we want a vibrant community with a wide range of ages and income levels, a diversified economy with living-wage jobs, surrounded by a healthy environment, the county's actions, policies and goals need to be in sync.

For instance, while tourism is a vital part of our economy, the *proliferation* of vacation rentals undermines neighborhoods. A discussion of potential limits on the number or location of vacation rentals is long overdue.

As a journalist I've learned plenty about the county government and have met thousands of people.

I'd like to use my knowledge to help San Juan County move toward a bright future.

I'd appreciate your vote. Thank you.

## Contact

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# Countywide – Council Residency District 1

4 Year Term – San Juan



**Daniel Miller**

Information

## Candidate Statement

### Elected Experience

Primary winner, for State Representative.

### Other Professional Experience

worked with Public Policy. Former Owner of New England Collectibles in Friday Harbor.

### Education

B.A Evergreen State College, Olympia Washington.

Attended the University of Washington, Seattle.

### Community Service

helped with Relay for life, Community Dinners and Community Theater.

### Statement

"In today's society, especially with the Corona virus pandemic we need to work to maintain freedom and liberty". Some of Daniels goals include working for good policy and a good local economy, including strategies to help small businesses here in the San Juan islands impacted by the Corona virus!

Also good land use policy, keeping taxes from sky rocketing, road safety, on going Community discussion's about important issues here in the islands, including 5G wireless. work on keeping the San Juan islands a great place to live, work and play!

## Contact

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# Countywide – Council Residency District 2

4 Year Term – San Juan



**Cindy Wolf**

Information

## Candidate Statement

### Elected Experience

Precinct Committee Officer (D), Orcas West.

### Other Professional Experience

Customer Service & Shipping Manager, MindPlace.com, Eastsound; Wine Director, Inn at Ship Bay, Orcas Island; Northwest District Sales Manager, Kobrand Corporation, Seattle.

### Education

B.A., Occidental College

### Community Service

Children's House, Board of Directors; Orcas Women's Coalition, Steering Committee member, Political Action and Civic Engagement co-lead; Funhouse, stakeholders advisory group; Salmonberry School, Parent Volunteer; Eastsound Mayoral Campaign candidate sponsor; Foul Weather Shelter, volunteer; Roller Skating Nights, parent volunteer; PTSA; Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Sunday school, other volunteer activities; Community Civics educator, Orcas Island Library, San Juan Grange; USO Puget Sound Region, Fundraising Gala, wine auction coordinator.

### Statement

The current council is planning for a significant revenue reduction this year. The problem is likely to extend into 2021. We should focus on: 1) *Restoring our local economy* – county government must do everything it can to keep restoring our local economy while protecting public health. This is critical. 2) *Planning for a new reality* - if we haven't had a healthy tourist season in 2020 the county budget will shrink even more and the economic drivers in our county will need to change significantly to create jobs. We need to be thinking ahead. 3) *The lack of affordable rental housing* - this is an urgent issue that is damaging our local economy. Coupled with this is *the impact of vacation rentals*. We will be facing some old problems and several new ones but we'll have fewer resources to deal with them. Leadership and creativity are going to be essential.

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# Countywide – Council Residency District 2

4 Year Term – San Juan



**Rick Hughes**

Information

## Candidate Statement

### Elected Experience

San Juan County Council, District #2 (7+ years)  
San Juan County Board of Health (7+ years)  
Lodging Tax Chair (Seven years)  
Ferry Advisory Committee (7+ Years)

### Professional Experience

President – Ray's Pharmacy (Fourteen Years)  
President – Con's Pit Stop (two years)  
ESPN.com – Sales/Ad Director (Nine Years)  
Media/Account Advertising Agency (Seven Years)

### Education 20

Southern Methodist University, 1990  
BBA-Marketing, Cox School of Business  
BA-Advertising Meadows School of Arts  
Minor in American History

### Community Service

Vice President Opportunity Council Board  
Orcas Island Family Connections Board  
San Juan County Drug-Take-Back creator  
PTSA Roller Skating  
Little League Rookie Coach  
EPRC  
Outward Bound Wilderness

### Statement

I asked you to support me eight years ago, San Juan County was changing government and I felt I had the skills to lead our community. SJC spent the last years building infrastructure, supporting accessible housing, diversifying the economy and preparing for a recession. Debt was paid off, operational efficiencies improved and money saved.

Never did I imagine the world would stop, friends would get sick, we couldn't visit neighbors and the community I love would struggle and question the future.

I care deeply for San Juan County. The harder this gets, the more I will dig deep to find a path to move community forward. While there are no perfect answers, I pledge to keep our community safe and preserve our economy.

Thank you for the honor to serve San Juan County as the Councilmember from District #2. Times are hard, but we will get through this together!

## Contact

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# Countywide – Council Residency District 2

4 Year Term – San Juan



**Michael Durland**

Information

## Candidate Statement

### Elected Experience

No information submitted

### Other Professional Experience

Small business owner

### Education

Bachelor of Science University of Idaho

### Community Service

Marine Resources Committee member, Island Oil Spill Association member and first responder, Deer Harbor Plan Review Committee, co-founder of Deer Harbor Wooden Boat Society and Deer Harbor Wooden Boat Rendezvous and co-founder of Deer Harbor Yacht Club.

### Statement

I am running for Council as I see changes happening that are at odds with the reasons we all live here.

The last few months have been a wake up call for us all. We cannot continue to expand our tourist based economy without regard for the consequences. San Juan County needs strong leadership who will listen to the citizens and act responsibly to preserve our environment at the same time safeguard our local economy for future generations.

My goal is to aid in developing a more diverse and sustainable year around economy by creating a more consistent and stable governmental regulatory platform which allows people to invest in and build their futures here. I will work to protect San Juan County's economic assets —the shoreline and farmland with its fragile biodiversity and will work to ensure the fair and equal treatment of this County's greatest assets, it's residents.

## Contact

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# Orcas Island School Dist #137 - Proposition No. 1 Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy

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Arguments For and Against

## Measure Text

The Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2020-05 concerning educational funding. This proposition authorizes the District to levy the following excess taxes, to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, to support the District's educational programs and operations which are not funded or not fully funded by the State:

Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2021	\$0.87	\$2,225,000
2022	\$0.87	\$2,225,000
2023	\$0.89	\$2,350,000
2024	\$0.89	\$2,350,000

all as provided in District Resolution No. 2020-05. Should this proposition be approved?

Yes

No

San Juan

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# Orcas Island School Dist #137 - Proposition No. 1 Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy

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## Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of \$2,225,000 in property taxes within Orcas Island School District No. 137 for collection in 2021, the levy of \$2,225,000 for collection in 2022, the levy of \$2,350,000 for collection in 2023, and the levy of \$2,350,000 for collection in 2024 to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, to support the District's educational programs and operations which are not funded or not fully funded by the State. In accordance with Resolution No. 2020-05 approving this proposition, these taxes would be collected over four years and deposited in the District's General Fund to pay for necessary programs and operations and to properly meet the educational needs of the students attending District schools. If authorized by the voters, and based on projected assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$0.87 (2021 collection); \$0.87 (2022 collection); \$0.89 (2023 collection), and \$0.89 (2024 collection). The exact levy rate shall be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of the property within the District at the time of the levy.

Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, call the San Juan County Assessor at (360) 378-2172.

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# Orcas Island School Dist #137 - Proposition No. 1 Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy

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## Arguments For and Against

### Argument For

The 4-year levy before you is critical to the operation of our school district. It replaces a levy which expires this year.

The OI School District relies on this essential funding for nearly 20% of its budget. This means that it pays for 1 in 5 of our teaching staff and 1 in 5 of our office staff, bus drivers, maintenance and cafeteria staff, principals, custodians, and para educators. The levy funds what the state does not provide for basic education.

The expiring levy (2020) was estimated at 88 cents per \$1000 of assessed property value, and the tax rate in the first year of the replacement levy (2021) is estimated at 87 cents per \$1000 of assessed property value. So, on a property with an assessed value of \$500,000, the cost of the replacement levy is estimated at no more than \$435 per year.

Passage of this levy is vital to our school district and will help us retain our outstanding programs and class offerings. Try to imagine our public schools with 1 out of 5 of the high school, middle school, elementary, Waldron, and OASIS staff gone and you will understand why a YES for this levy is necessary.

### Argument Against

No statement submitted.

### Rebuttal of Argument Against

No rebuttals allowed.

### Rebuttal of Argument For

No rebuttals allowed.

### Argument Prepared By

Yes For Schools Committee

Janet Brownell

Kate Long

John Fleming

### Argument Prepared By

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# Lopez Island School District #144 - Proposition No. 1 - Technology Capital Projects Levy

Information

Explanatory Statement

Arguments For and Against

## Measure Text

The Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 7 concerning a technology modernization levy. The proposition authorizes the modernization of District facilities by implementing technology facilities and projects and the application and modernization of technology systems of operations and instruction; and authorizes the following excess levies for such purposes on all taxable property within the District:

Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000	Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2021	\$0.19		\$275,000
2022	\$0.19		\$275,000
2023	\$0.19		\$275,000
2024	\$0.19		\$275,000

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Should this proposition be approved?

Yes

No

San Juan

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# Lopez Island School District #144 - Proposition No. 1 - Technology Capital Projects Levy

Information

Explanatory Statement

Arguments For and Against

## Explanatory Statement

The Board of Directors of the Lopez Island School District seeks voter approval of a Technology and Capital Projects Levy for each of the next four years in the amount of \$275,000 per year. The funding will keep Lopez school technology facilities up to date to meet the current and future educational needs of students and will also cover salaries of technology staff at Lopez Island school, freeing up the general fund budget for essential expenses including non-tech related salaries and programs.

“Technology facilities” includes acquiring hardware, software licenses, and on-line applications and training related to the installation for operations and educational instruction. The new equipment and applications may be available for students, teachers, and staff.

“Technology staff” includes technology support for necessary function and upkeep of technology resources, training and professional development for staff regarding instructional technology, digital citizenship development for students, advisors for technology-related programs such as robotics, and any other technology related positions for student enrichment.

If the levy is approved, taxable property within the District would be charged an estimated rate of nineteen cents (\$0.19) per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024. The levy is expected to generate funding in the amount of \$275,000 for each year of the levy.

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# Lopez Island School District #144 - Proposition No. 1 - Technology Capital Projects Levy

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## Arguments For and Against

### Argument For

In 2016, Lopez voters approved the four year recurring Lopez Island School District Technology Levy with overwhelming support. This levy provided essential learning tools for all students at Lopez School including computers, software, network infrastructure, digital citizenship enrichment, and support staff. During the COVID19 school closure, Lopez students were well prepared to transition into virtual learning thanks to the 1:1 device initiative funded by this technology levy. All students currently have access to their teachers' virtual classrooms, educational technology, and online resources from home. The purpose of this renewal levy is to continue to support technology in education at Lopez School and to fund technology positions and programs. In prior years, technology purchases and personnel have been funded with both the technology levy and the school's general fund. By renewing and expanding this levy, the District will be able to cover all tech-related expenses with these funds.

In light of the recent levy lid that has greatly impacted the District's general fund dollars, this tech levy will absorb all tech-related expenses from the Lopez School budget, thus freeing up valuable dollars for other important school expenditures. In order to keep students prepared with 21st century skills and safe while using these tools, we need recurring funding for technology at Lopez Island School District.

The Technology Capital Projects Levy Advocacy Committee, Lopez Island School Technology Committee, the Board of Directors, students, and staff encourage the Lopez community to vote yes on Technology Capital Projects Levy, Resolution #7.

### Argument Against

No statement submitted.

### Rebuttal of Argument Against

No rebuttals allowed.

### Rebuttal of Argument For

No rebuttals allowed.

### Argument Prepared By

Technology Capital Projects Levy Advocacy Committee

Chris Greacen, LISD School Board Member  
Dixie Budke, former LISD School Board member  
Jesse Hammond, Technology Support Specialist

### Argument Prepared By