

# *Arnold for Alder*

## *Fitchburg District 4, Seat 7*

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March 25, 2013

Dear Fitchburg District 4 Voter:

On Tuesday, April 2, you will go to the polls to select a Common Council and Mayor. I hope that you have had an opportunity to meet me, **Steve Arnold**, in person and to learn about my record and plans at <http://Arnold.US> or on Facebook. I ask that you re-elect me as your Alder for District 4, Seat 7.

Because of redistricting in August 2011, residents of Lacy Heights, Seminole Forest, and Wildwood South are now helping to elect District 4 alders for the first time. Because 41% of my constituents are new to the district, I am reaching out to you by mail, in person, and on line so we can get to know each other better. Your opinions are important to me!

In this "platform letter", I try to lay out some key Fitchburg issues, and my positions on them. This is my fifth such letter. All five can be read on my website. I hope that you will elect alders that would govern as you would, if you had time to dig into the details. This letter can help you make a better choice. Please read on to see where I stand on the issues facing Fitchburg.

### **I will work to make Fitchburg ever more beautiful, livable, and sustainable for all residents, now and in the future.**

I have practiced this credo for eight years. For me, "sustainability" is what "works best in the long run". This includes having enough healthy food, clean water, and breathable air, but also quality-of-life issues like enough income, quality education, affordable health care, decent housing, and even-handed justice. I pursue this vision by working on urban planning, transportation, agricultural and environmental protection, and social justice through our city government.

**State relations and finance:** Careful financial planning and a robust tax base have protected Fitchburg taxpayers from the worst effects of the state policy of filling budget holes and financing tax cuts on the backs of public employees, but we must do more to help our friends and neighbors that work for all of us. I will work to **prevent staff turnover** and restore fair compensation. Hiring and retaining the best benefits us all.

### **Development and land use:**

Taxpayers and existing businesses could be badly hurt by a Fitchburg development free-for-all. I will work to **focus development** on just two new neighborhoods, including our Uptown urban center, and vacant land

already approved for urban services. I will propose ideas for the North Stoner Prairie planning area that will enhance pedestrian safety, reduce flooding, protect home values, and direct new traffic away from congested corridors.

**Emergency services:** An ambulance at Fire Station No. 2 west of the Verona Road now serves all of Fitchburg, and significant parts of our urban area cannot be reached by fire crews within five minutes of an alarm. I will work with our emergency services to bring **five-minute EMS and fire response** to our entire urban service area and to explore consolidation ideas to improve service and lower costs.

**Transportation:** To accommodate soaring gas prices and an aging population, I will work to extend **Metro Transit service**, get new transportation options like rail and shared-ride taxi onto the table, and improve **bicycle and pedestrian facilities**.

**Open government:** I am proud to disclose the sources and uses of my campaign funds at <http://Arnold.US/finance>.

**Fitchburg city government:**

- Common Council since 2005
- Common Council Public Safety and Human Services Committee
- Transportation and Transit Commission
- Resource Conservation Commission
- Chair, Zoning Code Reform Committee
- Chair, Northeast Neighborhood Land Use Committee

**Memberships:**

- 1000 Friends of Wisconsin
- Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals
- Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin
- Congress for the New Urbanism
- United Way of Dane County Key Club
- United Faculty and Academic Staff, American Federation of Teachers Local No. 223, AFL-CIO

**Selected Endorsements:**

- State Senator Mark Miller
- State Senator Jon Erpenbach

- State Assembly Rep. Sondy Pope
- State Assembly Rep. Terese Berceau
- Dane County Executive Joe Parisi
- Dane County Sheriff Dave Mahoney
- Dane County Clerk Scott McDonell
- Dane County Board Chair John Hendrick
- Dane County Supervisor Jenni Dye
- AFSCME WI PEOPLE Conf., AFL-CIO
- Clean Wisconsin Action Fund
- Democratic Party of Dane County
- Fair Wisconsin PAC
- Progressive Majority
- South Central Fed. of Labor, AFL-CIO
- Wisconsin Progress

(More at <http://Arnold.US/endorsements>)

**Personal:** I grew up in the Northeast and met my wife of 41 years, Nancy, while in college in Baltimore. We have two grown daughters and five grandchildren. I enjoy gardening, bicycling, and kayaking.

- Policy Analyst, WisDNR, since 2012
- Information Technology Practice director, UW E-Business Consortium, 2006-2011
- Fitchburg resident since 1994
- Entrepreneur and consultant 1981-2006
- Dane County resident since 1983
- Professor of ecology, State University of New York, Brockport, 1977–1981
- Ph.D. in ecology and statistics, Cornell University, 1978
- MA in environmental engineering, The Johns Hopkins University, 1972
- BA, The Johns Hopkins University, 1971

I appreciate the support of many Fitchburg neighbors during the campaign. Please **vote for me** on April 2. I will continue to work hard to earn your support.

Sincerely,  
Steve Arnold

*Re-elect Steve Arnold  
Fitchburg Common Council  
District 4, Seat 7*