

LRC-PAC **NEWSLETTER**

Second Quarter — 2025



LRC-PAC 2025 FOCUS

The two largest municipalities, Lansing and East Lansing, have elections in 2025.

- **In Lansing**, Mayor, City Clerk, four City Council seats are up.
- **In East Lansing**, there are two City Council seats up.



WHAT IS THE LRC-PAC?

The Lansing Regional Chamber-Political Action Committee (LRC-PAC) is the political action committee of the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce (LRCC), organized to maintain a pro-business, pro-growth outlook among elected officials in the Greater Lansing region. The PAC is a separate entity from the LRCC and has its own bylaws. The LRC-PAC is registered with the Michigan Secretary of State.

Who runs the LRC-PAC?

The LRC-PAC is run by an independent volunteer Board of Directors, appointed for three-year terms. An elected chairperson oversees the meetings. The LRC-PAC Board is made up of volunteers from varying business sizes and types. All LRC-PAC members must be members of the LRCC.

Who contributes to the LRC-PAC?

Anyone can contribute to the LRCPAC. The LRCC does not provide money or use member dues to give to the LRC-PAC. The LRC-PAC is responsible for raising its own funds. The LRC-PAC receives its funding from LRCC members, business-oriented PACs, and others interested in improving the business and economic climate in the Greater Lansing region.

How can you contribute to the LRC-PAC?

Personal checks and funds from LLCs and Partnerships are accepted if the funds are attributed to an individual member or partner. Under Michigan campaign finance law, a PAC cannot receive funding from corporate contributions.

As the region's only political action committee, we know how important it is that your voice is represented at every government level. To make that happen and continue our success, we need community investors like you to contribute to our efforts.

Support the LRC-PAC by donating today!

Make your donation today via credit or debit card by visiting lansingchamber.org/lrc-pac and clicking on the Donate button at the bottom of the page.

LANSING CITY ELECTION BREAKDOWN

Key Dates for the City of Lansing

- **Filing Deadline for Candidates:** April 22, 2025
- **Absentee Voter Ballots Available:** Thursday, June 26, 2025
- **Early Voting Begins:**
 - Wednesday, July 30, 1PM – 7PM
 - Saturday, August 2, 10AM – 4PM
 - Sunday, August 3, 10AM – 4PM
- **City Primary Election:** Aug. 5, 2025
- **City General Election:** Nov. 4, 2025

City Offices up in 2025

- **Mayor:** Andy Schor filed to run for his third term. Four other candidates filed, most notably current Lansing City Council At-Large Member Jeffrey Brown, who is running for Mayor.
- **City Clerk:** Chris Swope
- **Council Member At-Large (Two Positions):**

Ten candidates filed to run. Notably, current 2nd Ward Council Member Jeremy Garza filed to run At-Large. Current At-Large Council Member Jeffrey Brown filed to run for Mayor, and current At-Large Council Member Peter Spadafore filed to run for the 4th Ward seat.
- **Second Ward Council Member:**

With Jeremy Garza running At-Large, this seat opened up and two candidates filed to run.
- **Fourth Ward Council Member:**

Current Council Member Brian Jackson did not file for re-election. Peter Spadafore, currently an At-Large Council Member, filed to run for this seat.

Special Notes:

All city council seats are non-partisan. For Mayor, the top two candidates in the August primary will advance to the November ballot. For the At-Large race, the top four candidates will advance to November. For the Ward race, the top two candidates will advance to November.

EAST LANSING CITY ELECTION BREAKDOWN

Key Dates for the City of Lansing

- **Filing Deadline for Candidates:** July 22, 2025
- **City General Election:** Nov. 4, 2025

City Offices up in 2025

- **Council Member (Two Positions)**

Current officials: George Brookover and Dana Watson

Special Notes:

All city council seats are non-partisan.

For the East Lansing city council elections, the winners are determined by those with the most votes. The city does not have a primary like the city of Lansing.

LRC-PAC ENDORSEMENT PROCESS

The Lansing Regional Chamber-Political Action Committee (LRC-PAC) follows a thorough and deliberative process to endorse candidates who support economic growth and the business community.

For the 2025 Lansing City Election, the process included:

- **Questionnaires:** Developed collaboratively by the LRC-PAC Board of Directors, staff, and the Chamber's Policy Committee. Questionnaires were sent to all candidates with a deadline for submission.
- **Review:** Submitted questionnaires were reviewed in detail to assess each candidate's positions, priorities, and approach to economic development.
- **Candidate Interviews:** Candidates were invited to participate in interviews to discuss their vision for Lansing and how they plan to work with the business community to move the city forward.

This year, the LRC-PAC received 14 candidate questionnaires and conducted interviews with 9 candidates. Following this process, the LRC-PAC Board of Directors endorsed the following candidates for the 2025 Lansing City Election:

2025 LRC-PAC ENDORSED CANDIDATES

- **Mayor:** Andy Schor
- **At-Large City Council:**
 - Jeremy Garza
 - Clara Martinez
 - Aurelius Christian
- **2nd Ward:** Deyanira Nevárez Martínez
- **4th Ward:** Peter Spadafore



SCHOR



GARZA



MARTINEZ

Endorsed candidates demonstrate a commitment to fostering a strong business climate, supporting job growth, and advancing policies that make Lansing a competitive and vibrant city.



CHRISTIAN



NEVÁREZ
MARTÍNEZ



SPADAFORE



POLL FOUND ROADS, HOUSING, AND SAFETY LED LANSING'S 2025 AGENDA

Voter Priorities Aligned with Chamber-PAC Endorsed Candidates

Ahead of absentee voting in the 2025 Lansing City Primary Election, the Lansing Regional Chamber-Political Action Committee (LRC-PAC) conducted a poll to better understand voter priorities. The survey found that residents overwhelmingly wanted city leaders to focus on fixing roads, expanding affordable housing, and improving public safety.

The poll, conducted June 5–7, 2025, surveyed 215 likely Lansing voters and provided critical insights that helped guide the LRC-PAC's endorsement decisions.

Key Findings

- ✓ **92.5%** of respondents said they were “very likely” to vote in the August Primary.

When asked to identify the **most important issue** the City of Lansing should address:

- **Road and infrastructure maintenance:** 26.7%
- **Affordable housing:** 23.0%
- **Public safety and crime prevention:** 18.9%

When asked to select issues **needing the most immediate attention** from city officials:

- **Improving road conditions:** 57.6%
- **Expanding affordable housing:** 49.0%
- **Investing in youth programs and education:** 43.1%
- **Enhancing public safety measures:** 37.2%

The LRC-PAC conducted this poll to ensure its endorsed candidates aligned with the priorities of Lansing voters, focusing on the critical infrastructure, housing, and safety issues that impact families, neighborhoods, and businesses across the city.



THE CAPITAL CIRCLE

The Capital Circle is a group of dedicated individuals who contribute \$100 or more annually to the Lansing Regional Chamber-Political Action Committee (LRC-PAC). Their investment helps ensure the voice of the business community is heard at every level of government. Members of The Capital Circle play a critical role in supporting pro-growth policies, fostering strong relationships with elected officials, and advancing a vibrant, competitive regional economy.

Interested in being part of The Capital Circle?

Contact LRCC SVP of public affairs
Steve Japinga at sjapinga@lansingchamber.org

Current Supporters

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| • Tim Daman | • Heather Shawa |
| • Josh Pugh | • Amy Scoby |
| • Patrick McPharlin | • Lisa O'Connor |
| • Joe Neller | • Sara Dolan |
| • Evonne White | • Margaret Dimond |
| • Pat Gillespie | • Paul Anderson |
| • Katie Hubbard | • Kwafo Adarkwa |
| • Steve Japinga | • Curtis Audette |
| • Kevin McKinney | • Jason Mellema |
| • Keith Evans | • C. Richard Herrold |
| • Charles Hauser | • Adam Bitely |
| • Calvin Jones | • Bill Burke |
| • Ross Woodstock | • Mike Zamiara |
| • Todd Surline | • Pete Kramer |
| • Joe Ford | • John Sellek |

