



Title: Election Analysis Report

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Summary:

At the December 2, 2024, Operations and Programs Committee (OPC) meeting, Outreach staff will provide a summary of the outcomes of the 2024 election at the municipal, county, and state levels within the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD or District). MCWD's government relations consultant, Joel Carlson, will also provide a legislative update ahead of the 2025 session.

Purpose:

To ensure the Board and staff are tracking broad trends and specific changes among MCWD's key audiences, Outreach has developed an election snapshot that provides a high-level scan of election results for municipalities, counties, and state legislature seats within the District.

Election Overview:

The 2024 General Election took place on Tuesday, November 5, 2024. According to the Minnesota Secretary of State, approximately 76% of eligible voters in Minnesota voted in the 2024 election. With this voter turnout, Minnesota continues to be one of the top states for voter turnout, however, turnout did not break the state's previous record of nearly 80%, which was set in 2020.

Many key issues for voters across Minnesota stemmed from the economy, including housing affordability and inflation. Additional key issues included reproductive rights, the U.S.'s position in current global affairs, immigration, public safety, and the environment. There was one statewide ballot initiative for a constitutional amendment to renew the Environmental & Natural Resource Trust Fund, which passed with approximately 77% of the vote.

Within the District, several municipalities held city council and mayoral elections. Additionally, both county boards held commissioner elections, and many of the state legislative seats within the District were up for election.

City

Twenty-three of the 29 municipalities within the watershed held city council elections in 2024. For the majority of these 23 municipalities, half of their council seats were up for election. In total, there were 48 council seats up for election across the District. As a result of the election, about one-third of these seats will turnover in 2025, resulting in new faces filling those seats; however, this turnover is largely due to incumbents not running for reelection, rather than highly competitive races. There were only six city council incumbents across the watershed who lost their race.

Additionally, 17 of these 23 municipalities held a mayoral election in 2024. A new mayor was elected in six municipalities; however, this turnover is largely due to incumbents not seeking reelection. Only two mayoral incumbents across the watershed lost their race.

City	Mayoral Election	Council Election
Chanhasen		X
Deephaven		X
Edina	X	X
Greenwood	X	X
Independence	X	X
Laketown Township		X
Long Lake	X	X
Maple Plain	X	X
Medina	X	X
Minnetonka Beach	X	X
Minnetrista	X	X
Mound	X	X
Orono	X	X
Plymouth		X
Richfield		X
Shorewood	X	X
Spring Park	X	X
St. Bonifacius	X	X
Tonka Bay	X	X
Victoria	X	X
Watertown Township		X
Wayzata	X	X
Woodland	X	X

County

In Carver County, two of the county’s five commissioner seats were up for election in 2024. District 3 incumbent, Matt Udermann, retained his seat, while the incumbent commissioner for District 1, Gayle Degler, did not run for reelection, resulting in one new commissioner on the Carver County Board. In addition to the Board of Commissioners, two of the county’s Soil and Water Conservation District’s five supervisors were up for election. District 2 incumbent, Marcus Zbinden, retained his seat, while the District 4 incumbent supervisor, Robert Burandt, did not run for reelection, leading to one new supervisor.

In Hennepin County, four of the county’s seven commissioner seats were up for election in 2024. The county board saw no turnover, with all four incumbents – Jeffrey Lunde (1), Debbie Goettel (5), Heather Edelson (6), and Kevin Anderson (7) – retaining their seats. Similarly, two of the five Three Rivers Park District commissioners – Jennifer DeJournett (2) and Louise Segreto (4) – were up for election, and all incumbents were reelected.

State

The District saw very little change in its state legislators. Of the District’s 13 state Senate seats, one district held a special election in 2024, due to a vacancy following Sen. Kelly Morrison’s campaign for one of Minnesota’s U.S. congressional seats. The DFL retained this seat with the election of Ann Johnson Stewart, preserving the DFL majority in the state Senate. This also means 10 of MCWD’s Senate seats will continue to be DFL-held, while three will remain Republican-held.

There were 19 state House races in the District this year, as all seats in the state House of Representatives were up for election in 2024. There was no party turnover in the House districts within the watershed, however, there will be four new legislators, replacing incumbents who did not seek reelection. Statewide, the DFL held a slim majority in the state

House prior to the election. Republicans flipped enough seats in the House to result in a 67-67 tie between Republicans and the DFL, ending the two-year DFL majority in the Senate, House of Representatives, and Governor's office. Both parties are currently working on a structure to split party control of the House before the 2025 legislative session starts.

December 2, 2024, Operations and Programs Committee Meeting:

At the December 2, 2024, OPC meeting, staff will summarize 2024 election results and cover the following:

- Approach and methods used to develop the 2024 election snapshot
- Summary of municipal, county, and state election results
- Overview of recent and upcoming policymaker engagement
- Update on the 2025 legislative session

Supporting Documents:

Attachment 1: Municipal Election Details

Attachment 2: County Election Details

Attachment 3: MN State Legislature Election Details

Attachment 1: Municipal Election Details

Legend:

	Up for Election
	Incumbent Won
	Seat turned over
	Seat left vacant

*Incumbent not running

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Chanhassen	Mayor	NA	Elise Ryan	Mayor	NA	Elise Ryan
	Council Member	At-Large	Haley Schubert	Council Member	At-Large	Haley Schubert
	Council Member	At-Large	Josh Kimber	Council Member	At-Large	Josh Kimber
	Council Member	At-Large	Jerry McDonald	Council Member	At-Large	Jerry McDonald
	Council Member	At-Large	Mark Von Oven	Council Member	At-Large	Mark Von Oven

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Deephaven	Mayor	NA	Kent Carlons	Mayor	NA	Kent Carlons
	Council Member	At-Large	Steven Erickson*	Council Member	At-Large	Tom Erdmann
	Council Member	At-Large	Emily Scherschligt	Council Member	At-Large	Emily Scherschligt
	Council Member	At-Large	Tony Jewett	Council Member	At-Large	Tony Jewett
	Council Member	At-Large	John Studer	Council Member	At-Large	John Studer

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Edina	Mayor	NA	James Hovland	Mayor	NA	James Hovland
	Council Member	At-Large	Carolyn Jackson	Council Member	At-Large	Carolyn Jackson
	Council Member	At-Large	James Pierce	Council Member	At-Large	James Pierce
	Council Member	At-Large	Kate Agnew	Council Member	At-Large	Kate Agnew
	Council Member	At-Large	Julie Risser	Council Member	At-Large	Julie Risser

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Greenwood	Mayor	NA	Tom Fletcher	Mayor	NA	Tom Fletcher
	Council Member	At-Large	Kristi Conrad	Council Member	At-Large	Kristi Conrad
	Council Member	At-Large	Jennifer Gallagher	Council Member	At-Large	Jennifer Gallagher
	Council Member	At-Large	Mike Marti	Council Member	At-Large	Mike Marti
	Council Member	At-Large	Brian Malo	Council Member	At-Large	Brian Malo

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Independence	Mayor	NA	Marvin Johnson*	Mayor	NA	Brad Spencer
	Council Member	At-Large	Ray McCoy	Council Member	At-Large	Ray McCoy
	Council Member	At-Large	Steve Grotting	Council Member	At-Large	Steve Grotting
	Council Member	At-Large	Lynn Betts	Council Member	At-Large	Lynn Betts
	Council Member	At-Large	Brad Spencer	Council Member	At-Large	Vacant

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Laketown Township	Supervisor	A	Mike Klingelhutz*	Supervisor	A	Linda Mullen
	Supervisor	B	Pete Parris	Supervisor	B	Pete Parris
	Supervisor	C	Cathy Nielsen	Supervisor	C	Cathy Nielsen

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Long Lake	Mayor	NA	Charlie Miner	Mayor	NA	Charlie Miner
	Council Member	At-Large	Gina Joyce*	Council Member	At-Large	Todd Newcomer
	Council Member	At-Large	Mike Feldmann	Council Member	At-Large	Mike Feldmann
	Council Member	At-Large	Deirdre Kvale	Council Member	At-Large	Deirdre Kvale
	Council Member	At-Large	John Dyvik	Council Member	At-Large	John Dyvik

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Maple Plain	Mayor	NA	Julie Maas-Kusske	Mayor	NA	Julie Maas-Kusske
	Council Member	At-Large	Mike DeLuca	Council Member	At-Large	Mike DeLuca
	Council Member	At-Large	John Fay	Council Member	At-Large	Rochelle Arvizo
	Council Member	At-Large	Andrew Burak	Council Member	At-Large	Andrew Burak
	Council Member	At-Large	Connie Francis	Council Member	At-Large	Connie Francis

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Medina	Mayor	NA	Kathleen Martin*	Mayor	NA	Todd Albers
	Council Member	At-Large	Robin Reid*	Council Member	At-Large	Mary Morrison
	Council Member	At-Large	Joseph Cavanaugh*	Council Member	At-Large	Braden Rhem
	Council Member	At-Large	Dino DesLauriers	Council Member	At-Large	Dino DesLauriers
	Council Member	At-Large	Todd Albers	Council Member	At-Large	Vacant

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Minnetonka Beach	Mayor	NA	Joe Pagano	Mayor	NA	Joe Pagano
	Council Member	At-Large	Jennifer Halverson*	Council Member	At-Large	William Whitely
	Council Member	At-Large	Jason Mohr	Council Member	At-Large	Jason Mohr
	Council Member	At-Large	Tracey Breazeale	Council Member	At-Large	Tracey Breazeale
	Council Member	At-Large	Chris Dovolis	Council Member	At-Large	Chris Dovolis

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Minnetrista	Mayor	NA	Lisa Whalen	Mayor	NA	Lisa Whalen
	Council Member	At-Large	Ann MacGregor*	Council Member	At-Large	Brian Govern
	Council Member	At-Large	Cathleen Reffkin	Council Member	At-Large	Cathleen Reffkin
	Council Member	At-Large	Peter Vickery	Council Member	At-Large	Peter Vickery
	Council Member	At-Large	Claudia Lacy	Council Member	At-Large	Claudia Lacy

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Mound	Mayor	NA	Jason Holt	Mayor	NA	Jason Holt
	Council Member	At-Large	Paula Larson*	Council Member	At-Large	Michelle Herrick
	Council Member	At-Large	Kevin Castellano	Council Member	At-Large	Kevin Castellano
	Council Member	At-Large	Sherrie Pugh	Council Member	At-Large	Sherrie Pugh
	Council Member	At-Large	Kathy McEnaney	Council Member	At-Large	Kathy McEnaney

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Orono	Mayor	NA	Dennis Walsh	Mayor	NA	Bob Tunheim
	Council Member	At-Large	Richard Crosby*	Council Member	At-Large	Jaqueline Ricks
	Council Member	At-Large	Maria Veach	Council Member	At-Large	Steve Persian
	Council Member	At-Large	Matt Johnson	Council Member	At-Large	Claire Berrett
	Council Member	At-Large	Alisa Benson	Council Member	At-Large	Alisa Benson

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Plymouth	Mayor	NA	Jeffry Wosje	Mayor	NA	Jeffry Wosje
	Council Member	1	Kimberly Nelson	Council Member	1	Kimberly Nelson
	Council Member	2	Julie Peterson	Council Member	2	Julie Peterson
	Council Member	3	Catherin Cesnik	Council Member	3	Scott Aldrich
	Council Member	4	Julie Pointner	Council Member	4	Julie Pointner
	Council Member	At-Large	Clark Gregor	Council Member	At-Large	Clark Gregor
	Council Member	At-Large	Jim Willis*	Council Member	At-Large	Joel Spoonheim

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Richfield	Mayor	NA	Mary Supple	Mayor	NA	Mary Supple
	Council Member	1	Simon Trautmann*	Council Member	1	Walter Burk
	Council Member	2	Sean Hayford O'leary	Council Member	2	Sean Hayfor O'leary
	Council Member	3	Ben Whalen*	Council Member	3	Rori Coleman-Woods
	Council Member	At-Large	Sharon Christensen	Council Member	At-Large	Sharon Christensen

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Shorewood	Mayor	NA	Jennifer Labadie	Mayor	NA	Jennifer Labadie
	Council Member	At-Large	Paula Callies	Council Member	At-Large	Nat Gorman
	Council Member	At-Large	Scott Zerby*	Council Member	At-Large	Michalle DiGruttolo
	Council Member	At-Large	Dustin Maddy	Council Member	At-Large	Dustin Maddy
	Council Member	At-Large	Guy Sanschagrin	Council Member	At-Large	Guy Sanschagrin

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Spring Park	Mayor	NA	Jeff Hoffman*	Mayor	NA	Mark Chase
	Council Member	At-Large	Mark Chase*	Council Member	At-Large	Carolina Suttle
	Council Member	At-Large	Ben Rimolde	Council Member	At-Large	Bill Turner
	Council Member	At-Large	Doug Sippel	Council Member	At-Large	Doug Sippel
	Council Member	At-Large	Pamela Horton	Council Member	At-Large	Pamela Horton

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
St. Bonifacius	Mayor	NA	Kerry Taylor	Mayor	NA	Tim Eiler
	Council Member	At-Large	Terrill Anderson	Council Member	At-Large	Terrill Anderson
	Council Member	At-Large	Robert Smestad Jr.	Council Member	At-Large	Thomas Schufman
	Council Member	At-Large	Randy Ebert	Council Member	At-Large	Randy Ebert
	Council Member	At-Large	Carolyn Brooks	Council Member	At-Large	Carolyn Brooks

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Tonka Bay	Mayor	NA	Adam Jennings	Mayor	NA	Adam Jennings
	Council Member	At-Large	Kristin Viger*	Council Member	At-Large	Jeff Anderson
	Council Member	At-Large	Tim Connelly*	Council Member	At-Large	Kathleen Ottum
	Council Member	At-Large	Doug Eckland	Council Member	At-Large	Doug Eckland
	Council Member	At-Large	Kelly Wischmeier	Council Member	At-Large	Kelly Wischmeier

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	<i>Title</i>	<i>District/Ward</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>District/Ward</i>	<i>Name</i>
Victoria	Mayor	NA	Debra McMillan	Mayor	NA	Debra McMillan
	Council Member	At-Large	Derek Gunderson*	Council Member	At-Large	Christian Pederson
	Council Member	At-Large	Chad Roberts	Council Member	At-Large	Chad Roberts
	Council Member	At-Large	Greg Evansky	Council Member	At-Large	Greg Evansky
	Council Member	At-Large	Andy Reiff	Council Member	At-Large	Andy Reiff

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	<i>Title</i>	<i>District/Ward</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>District/Ward</i>	<i>Name</i>
Watertown Township	Supervisor	A	Kathy McCann	Supervisor	A	Kathy McGann
	Supervisor	B	Jerry Bruner	Supervisor	B	Scott Hoese
	Supervisor	C	Kathy McCann	Supervisor	C	Gerald Bruner

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	<i>Title</i>	<i>District/Ward</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>District/Ward</i>	<i>Name</i>
Wayzata	Mayor	NA	Johanna Mouton*	Mayor	NA	Andrew Mullin
	Council Member	At-Large	Alex Plechash	Council Member	At-Large	Alex Plechash
	Council Member	At-Large	Cathy Iverson*	Council Member	At-Large	Kenneth Sorenson
	Council Member	At-Large	Jeff Parkhill	Council Member	At-Large	Jeff Parkhill
	Council Member	At-Large	Molly MacDonald	Council Member	At-Large	Molly MacDonald

City/Town	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	<i>Title</i>	<i>District/Ward</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>District/Ward</i>	<i>Name</i>
Woodland	Mayor	NA	Vince Suerth	Mayor	NA	Vince Suerth
	Council Member	At-Large	Tom Newberry	Council Member	At-Large	Tom Newberry
	Council Member	At-Large	Juan Vazquez	Council Member	At-Large	Juan Vazquez
	Council Member	At-Large	Dave Daniels	Council Member	At-Large	Dave Daniels
	Council Member	At-Large	Hank Zucker	Council Member	At-Large	Hank Zucker

Attachment 2: County Election Details

Legend:

	Up for Election
	Incumbent Won
	Seat turned over

*Incumbent not running

Office	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Carver County Board of Commissioners	Commissioner	1	Gayle Degler*	Commissioner	1	Lisa Anderson
	Commissioner	2	Tom Workman	Commissioner	2	Tom Workman
	Commissioner	3	Matt Udermann	Commissioner	3	Matt Udermann
	Commissioner	4	Tim Lynch	Commissioner	4	Tim Lynch
	Commissioner	5	John P. Fahey	Commissioner	5	John P. Fahey

Office	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Hennepin County Board of Commissioners	Commissioner	1	Jeffrey Lunde	Commissioner	1	Jeffrey Lunde
	Commissioner	2	Irene Fernando	Commissioner	2	Irene Fernando
	Commissioner	3	Marion Greene	Commissioner	3	Marion Greene
	Commissioner	4	Angela Conley	Commissioner	4	Angela Conley
	Commissioner	5	Debbie Goettel	Commissioner	5	Debbie Goettel
	Commissioner	6	Heather Edelson	Commissioner	6	Heather Edelson
	Commissioner	7	Kevin Anderson	Commissioner	7	Kevin Anderson

Office	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Carver County Soil & Water Conservation District	Supervisor	1	Stan Wendland	Supervisor	1	Stan Wendland
	Supervisor	2	Marcus Zbinden	Supervisor	2	Marcus Zbinden
	Supervisor	3	Mark Zabel	Supervisor	3	Mark Zabel
	Supervisor	4	Robert Burandt*	Supervisor	4	Mike Lynch
	Supervisor	5	Jeff Sons	Supervisor	5	Jeff Sons

Office	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections		
	Title	District/Ward	Name	Title	District/Ward	Name
Three Rivers Park District Commissioners	Commissioner	1	Marge Beard	Commissioner	1	Marge Beard
	Commissioner	2	Jennifer DeJournett	Commissioner	2	Jennifer DeJournett
	Commissioner	3	Erin Klob	Commissioner	3	Erin Klob
	Commissioner	4	Louise M. Segreto	Commissioner	4	Louise M. Segreto
	Commissioner	5	John Gibbs	Commissioner	5	John Gibbs
	Commissioner	County Board Appointee	Jesse Winkler	Commissioner	County Board Appointee	

	Commissioner	County Board Appointee	Jan Guenther	Commissioner	County Board Appointee	Jan Guenther
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Attachment 3: MN State Legislature Election Details

Legend:

	Up for Election
	Incumbent Won
	Seat turned over

*Incumbent not running

Office	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections			
	Title	District	Name	Title	District	Name	Alignment
MN Senate within Watershed	State Senator	17	Glenn Gruenhagen	State Senator	17	Glenn Gruenhagen	Republican
	State Senator	37	Warren Limmer	State Senator	37	Warren Limmer	Republican
	State Senator	42	Bonnie Westlin	State Senator	42	Bonnie Westlin	Democrat
	State Senator	43	Ann Rest	State Senator	43	Ann Rest	Democrat
	State Senator	45	Kelly Morrison*	State Senator	45	Ann Johnson Stewart	Democrat
	State Senator	46	Ron Latz	State Senator	46	Ron Latz	Democrat
	State Senator	48	Julia Coleman	State Senator	48	Julia Coleman	Republican
	State Senator	49	Steve Cwodzinski	State Senator	49	Steve Cwodzinski	Democrat
	State Senator	50	Alice Mann	State Senator	50	Alice Mann	Democrat
	State Senator	51	Melissa Wiklund	State Senator	51	Melissa Wiklund	Democrat
	State Senator	61	Scott Dibble	State Senator	61	Scott Dibble	Democrat
	State Senator	62	Omar Fateh	State Senator	62	Omar Fateh	Democrat
State Senator	63	Zaynab Mohamed	State Senator	63	Zaynab Mohamed	Democrat	

Office	Pre-Election			Post- 2024 November Elections			
	Title	District	Name	Title	District	Name	Alignment
MN House within Watershed	State Representative	17B	Bobbie Harder	State Representative	17B	Bobbie Harder	Republican
	State Representative	37A	Kristin Robbins	State Representative	37A	Krisin Robbins	Republican
	State Representative	42A	Ned Carroll	State Representative	42A	Ned Carroll	Democrat
	State Representative	43B	Mike Freiberg	State Representative	43B	Mike Freiberg	Democrat
	State Representative	45A	Andrew Myers	State Representative	45A	Andrew Myers	Republican
	State Representative	45B	Patty Acomb	State Representative	45B	Patty Acomb	Democrat
	State Representative	46A	Larry Kraft	State Representative	46A	Larry Kraft	Democrat
	State Representative	46B	Cheryl Youakim	State Representative	46B	Cheryl Youakim	Democrat
	State Representative	48A	Jim Nash	State Representative	48A	Jim Nash	Republican
	State Representative	48B	Lucy Rehm	State Representative	48B	Lucy Rehm	Democrat
	State Representative	49A	Laurie Pryor*	State Representative	49A	Alex Falconer	Democrat

State Representative	50A	Heather Edelson*	State Representative	50A	Julie Greene	Democrat
State Representative	51A	Michael Howard	State Representative	51A	Michael Howard	Democrat
State Representative	61A	Frank Hornstein*	State Representative	61A	Katie Jones	Democrat
State Representative	61B	Jamie Long	State Representative	61B	Jamie Long	Democrat
State Representative	62A	Aisha Gomez	State Representative	62A	Aisha Gomez	Democrat
State Representative	62B	Hodan Hassan*	State Representative	62B	Anquam Mahamoud	Democrat
State Representative	63A	Samantha Sencer-Mura	State Representative	63A	Samantha Sencer-Mura	Democrat
State Representative	63B	Emma Greenman	State Representative	63B	Emma Greenman	Democrat