

How did NACPAC interact with the candidates and reach their conclusions?

- NACPAC invited all 48 candidates in the four races to participate in our outreach process. 44 candidates participated in individual 15 – 20 minute interview, over multiple nights in February and early March. 46 candidates supplied NACPAC with position papers.
- Candidates who received a supermajority of votes from the NACPAC Board of Directors, were offered NACPAC's endorsement.

Why did you only endorse three candidates for four four-year terms on the City Council?

- There are good candidates who are involved and willing to serve their community. But we look for candidates who we believe, based on their track record, will work with business to create a competitive business climate. They don't need to agree with us all the time, but they need to be open to hearing from business and hear all issues with an open mind.
- This year we also looked for candidates who would bring energy and ideas to balancing the budget during difficult economic times. Not everyone made a compelling case that they could help manage the budget without, for example, turning to more taxes and fees from businesses and residents.

Aren't you failing to provide enough guidance to your members and the community?

- Along those same lines, we endorsed five candidates for four openings in our school district and park board selections. We believe those candidates respect the views of business and residents.
- We debated this quite a bit. But if candidates don't meet most of our criteria, we can't put the NACPAC seal of approval on their campaign. Hopefully our members will have other information, like their performance in debates or campaign literature, that helps their selection.

What kind of statement are you making about the candidates you didn't endorse?

- Our endorsements are FOR candidates, not against the others we did not select. Our choices reflect who we believe are the candidates who agree with our framework and philosophy.
- We are not making a statement against any candidate. But if a candidate did not get NACPAC's endorsement this time around it is because a majority of the business executives on our board felt the candidate would not be an active advocate for our concerns—like taxes, economic development and workforce development.
- Almost every candidate has a long history of community involvement and we commend them for that, but our endorsements are offered on our business principles.

Why did you not endorse the slate in #204?

- The candidates on the slate are, individually, smart and involved people with some interesting ideas. But the notion of a slate is troubling in that it would provide a majority of the votes on the board to a group of people who were on the same talking points and platform. District 204 has a lot off issues, people are still recovering from a divisive fight over the third high school and the slate members would have been better off making their cases individually.