

## Guide to Candidates on Casinos

### Mayoral & At-Large City Council Candidates

Casino-Free Philadelphia does not endorse any candidates. However, many of them have endorsed us.

We believe that people's positions on casinos is indicative on their stance on neighborhood empowerment, democratic principles, and commitment to protecting the City from harmful social development. We encourage everyone to use this guide as people decide who and how to support the mayoral and at-large candidates.

In every case, all candidates were contacted and responses were published in the order received.

### Philly's Ballot Box

Philadelphians know that development should have standards. No social standards protecting homes or neighborhoods are in place for casinos. Casino-Free Philadelphia crafted a minimum standard on casino development.

Twenty-seven thousand Philadelphians signed a petition calling for a vote on whether to have a 1,500 foot buffer zone between casinos and homes, schools and places of worship. The Philadelphia City Council voted unanimously to place this referendum, Question #1, on the May 15th ballot. The referendum would be legally binding, using the city's local zoning control, which was upheld by the PA Supreme Court.

The state Supreme Court is threatening our right to vote on the casino buffer zone. They have put a preliminary injunction on the referendum. Therefore, we plan on holding our own election so that Philadelphians will be able to vote on Question # 1.

As a result, Casino-Free Philadelphia is launching Philly'sBallotBox.org.

Philly's Ballot Box is a citizens' ballot where on Election Day, May 15th, voters in Philadelphia will be given a chance to vote on the referendum. We will set up our own ballot boxes around the City and allow people to vote secure online and vote via phone.

Philly'sBallotBox.org is our only chance to vote on Question #1, whether to allow casinos to be built in our neighborhoods.



On May 15th, you can vote online or find your nearest citizens' ballot box at [www.PhillysBallotBox.org](http://www.PhillysBallotBox.org), or vote by phone at 215-925-6380.

**[WWW.PHILLYSBALLOTBOX.ORG](http://WWW.PHILLYSBALLOTBOX.ORG)**

All Mayoral Candidates were contacted to fill out a questionnaire. Please consider who responded, who did not, and how to support those who support your position. Responses are in order received.

Name of Candidate	I will VOTE YES on ballot question #1	I would work to prevent casinos that violate the 1,500 foot buffer	I support no casinos in Philly	I will support amending Act 71 to create minimum standards	I have created a plan to deal with the negative impacts of casino gambling, if they are built.	I will put "VOTE YES on Question #1" on my sample ballots.	What have you done to support the referendum? (Please respond in thirty words or less.)
Bob Brady (D)	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	The exclusion of neighborhoods by the Gaming Control Board puts in casino development puts the spotlight on a larger problem, zoning and planning. I will ensure that zoning reform occurs quickly and that communities are allowed to shape the vision for their neighborhood through the planning process. By engaging neighborhoods and their elected officials at an earlier stage, we can create a fair and predictable system.
Tom Knox (D)	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	I will attempt to keep casinos from being built within Philadelphia if a majority of Philadelphians do not want them.	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	In the past I have been a vocal and financial supporter of Casino Free Philadelphia. I believe that Philadelphians have the right to a voice in this decision and that that right has been violated.
Michael Nutter (D)	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>YES</b>	I have spoken out in support of the referendum. I have not put forth any policy plans that rely on casino revenues.
Al Taubenberger (R)	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	I have spoken out in favor of the referendum and will continue to do so. (I am not printing any ballots.)

All At-Large City Council Candidates were contacted to fill out a questionnaire. Please consider who responded, who did not, and how to support those who support your position. Responses are in order received.

For At-Large Candidates, voters can select up to five candidates. They can select fewer, strengthen the impact of each vote.

Name of Candidate	I will VOTE YES on ballot question #1	I would work to prevent casinos that violate the 1,500 foot buffer	I support no casinos in Philly	I will support amending Act 71 to create minimum standards	I have created a plan to deal with the negative impacts of casino gambling, if they are built.	I will put "VOTE YES on Question #1" on my sample ballots.	What have you done to support the referendum? (Please respond in thirty words or less.)
Matt Ruben (D)	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	Was present for initial discussions; promoted, spoke to press, and demonstrated for it as activist and candidate; lobbied for City Council vote; donated to CFP, helped with the signature effort.
Marc Stier (D)	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	I helped create the referendum, bought TV ads to support it, have sent thousands of emails, blogged on it, and organized events in support of stopping negative casino development
Caryn Hunt (D)	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	I've been fighting this all year, through Casino-Free Philadelphia. I was on the streets collecting signatures for the referendum, and have tirelessly lobbied elected officials to give Philadelphians their say.
Derek Green (D)	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	Along with other reform candidates, I participated in the City Hall Press conference urging City Council to place the referendum on the May ballot.

*continued, At-Large City Council Candidates*

Name of Candidate	I will VOTE YES on ballot question #1	I would work to prevent casinos that violate the 1,500 foot buffer	I support no casinos in Philly	I will support amending Act 71 to create minimum standards	I have created a plan to deal with the negative impacts of casino gambling, if they are built.	I will put "VOTE YES on Question #1" on my sample ballots.	What have you done to support the referendum? (Please respond in thirty words or less.)
David Oh (R)	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	?	<b>YES</b>	?	?	When I ran in 2003, I was the only candidate who voiced my opposition to casinos. At that time, gambling was generally accepted as a positive thing for Philadelphia.
Patricia Mattern (R)	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	If citizens approve referendum and proposed casino satisfied its requirements, I would not necessarily oppose.	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	I have spoken in support of giving Phila. citizens the right to vote on the issue.
Frank Rizzo (R)	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	In City Council, I voted for the Anti-Casino Referendum (the Resolution and the Ordinance). Also, I (either personally or through my staff) have participated in the various Anti-Casino forums.
Jack Kelly (R)	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	NO	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	I am confident that my record speaks for itself concerning my stance on the referendum – On every vote in City Council I have voted YES or "Aye" in support of the 27,000 Philadelphians who signed a petition calling for a vote on whether to have a 1500 foot buffer zone between casinos and homes, schools and places of worship.
Andy Toy (D)	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	NO	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	I have signed the petition and I have attended City Council hearings and have spoken in favor of the referendum.