



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Open Boulder Endorses Five Candidates for City Council

*Boulder, CO – September 6, 2017* – Open Boulder has announced its endorsements of five candidates for Boulder City Council in 2017. The five endorsees together will produce the kind of change the city is calling for, while remaining true to the community’s vision of Boulder as an exemplary place to live, work, and play. Each provides a different skill set, but working together we are confident they will provide pragmatic, progressive leadership for the city in a time of great change.

Open Boulder conducted an in-depth questionnaire (verbatim responses will be available soon at [www.openboulder.org](http://www.openboulder.org)) and interviews with several candidates. Our criteria for endorsement were: Consistency with Open Boulder’s issue stances and broad vision for the city; Record on Council or city board; and Electability.

The five endorsees are (in alphabetical order by last name):

### **Eric Budd**

Eric is the youngest of our endorsees but one of the most experienced, with his long service to civic group Better Boulder, advocating for walkable, denser neighborhoods where they make sense (usually near transit centers). Eric is a biking advocate, someone who gave up his car to create a near-carbon-neutral lifestyle, and a tech worker. He’s well versed on housing and transportation, a member of the Landmarks Board, and a leader in the co-operative housing movement. He is reasonable, practical, and solution-oriented and a great candidate for a seat in 2017.

### **Jan Burton**

Jan is the only incumbent we are endorsing in 2017. We also endorsed her in 2015, as a newcomer to Boulder politics and a retired tech executive deeply involved in the community, especially in the arts and open space spheres. As a Council member, Jan has been a strong, persistent voice of reason on a range of issues, from growth to open space management to (especially) housing for middle income and younger Boulderites. Her perspective is crucial if Boulder is to meet its challenges and remain an attractive place to live, work, and play.

### **Jill Grano**

Jill is an exciting newcomer to Boulder politics. A successful real estate agent and Board member of Thistle Community Housing, Jill knows Boulder’s housing market backwards and forwards. She’ll be a voice for aggressive action on creating attainable housing solutions for middle income residents, and a supporter of transportation investments that connect dispersed centers of density. Also a supporter of the arts, Jill is smart and progressive, and has a strong set of clearly articulated positions.



<http://openboulder.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/OpenBoulder>



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## **Mark McIntyre**

Mark is brand new to politics, but experienced in Boulder governance. He is a long-time advocate for increasing opportunities for bicyclists – both road and mountain – as well as the owner of a nationwide business services firm. He is particularly strong on housing and planning issues and can include among his supporters some of the foremost voices for affordability in our city. Mark's also an analytic, practical thinker deeply experienced in problem-solving, a key skillset for Council. He has served on Open Boulder's Steering Committee since its founding.

## **Bill Rigler**

Another endorsee from 2015, Bill has been Chair of the Transportation Advisory Board for the past two years after falling just short of a Council seat in the last city council election. He's a transportation expert, sensitive to the needs of users of a variety of modes. He has worked locally for Naropa and Ball Aerospace, and previously as a climate advocate on the international level. His is a voice for climate action, diverse modes of transportation, and a welcoming environment for entrepreneurial business. He would also be the first Council member since about 1970 to rent rather than own his home.

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*Open Boulder is the voice of Boulder-area citizens who came to this community to “live, work and play,” and who want to ensure that the amazing assets that brought them here are open for all for generations to come.*

*We are a grassroots, nonpartisan movement of open-minded, pragmatic and moderate individuals of all ages, cultures and economic backgrounds. We are parents, young and not-so-young professionals, students and recent grads, long-time residents and recent arrivals. We are employees and business owners, entrepreneurs and technology workers. We are outdoor enthusiasts and outdoor athletes, we are animal lovers, and we are environmentalists. We are forward looking, dynamic and we embrace diversity. We aren't afraid of change done right and we want our voices to be included in shaping our community's future. Most importantly, we are open to new ideas, new people and new ways of living, working and playing in Boulder.*

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