

Dear Kirkwood Friends and Neighbors,

We, former and retiring **KMPUD Board members** who have served for a collective 29 years on the KMPUD Board, enthusiastically **endorse** incumbents **Bob Epstein** and **John Schroeder** for re-election to the KMPUD Board of Directors on November 2.

Please **vote** on November 2 to extend **Bob** and **John's** terms for another four years.

As former and retiring Board members, we have seen firsthand the most important abilities that Board members bring to the District: **leadership, vision** and **unique abilities** that complement the skills and experience of our talented District Staff.

**Unique abilities** that complement our staff importantly include:

- Engagement with financing institutions to gain the lowest cost loans possible to fund essential replacement projects and to make decisions that will reduce our debt. ***In Kirkwood's slow growth environment, decreasing debt and obtaining low cost loans are the primary ways that our utility costs can be managed and ultimately go down.*** John and Bob provide wise counsel in these matters and have put us on track for annually reducing our out-valley debt. John, the Board's current Treasurer, just procured a sub-1% interest rate interim loan to fund the essential Wastewater Treatment Plant project.
- Addressing Kirkwood's role in fighting climate change. The current drought and wild fires are stark reminders of the need to act now. Of all the candidates, ***Bob has the most direct experience with creating public policy to address climate change.*** This includes the recent electric rate changes that make it affordable to use 100% renewable electricity rather than burning propane, wood, and gasoline in Kirkwood.
- Turning data into useful tools for customers and Staff. Customers' ability to track their utility use on-line, Staff's ability to quickly detect unusual water or propane use indicating a problem at a residence, and customers' ability to notify snow removal Staff of residency, are products of Bob's volunteer programming efforts done at direction of the Board and in collaboration with Staff. ***This ability not only provides services to Staff and customers, it leads to administrative efficiencies that lower the District's costs.***

**Leadership** means a clear understanding of the roles of Board members versus those of Staff; the ability to enable the best from our Staff; and the ability to listen to our community, Staff and fellow Board members with a willingness to modify points of view with an appreciation for different perspectives. Leadership of this type is urgently needed to find the balance between the competing needs of affordability, replacing unreliable infrastructure, responses to climate change, and the threats of wildfire. Leadership also means collegiality, even when there is disagreement. ***Bob and John have consistently shown this leadership,*** and will continue to do so.

**We enthusiastically endorse Bob and John for re-election. Please vote on November 2. Thank you!**

Eric Richert, Retiring Board Member and current President, 2009-2021  
Standish O'Grady, Former Board Member, 2011-2020  
Geoff Smith, Former Board Member, 2015-2019  
Bob Ende, Former Board Member, 2011-2015