

Margaret Gómez is an exemplary nominee for the 2014 John Ben Shepperd Outstanding Local Leader Award because of her numerous contributions at the local level as a longtime advocate for the Travis County area. A leader with high ethical standards and sound character, she is dedicated to supporting community organizations and addressing infrastructure needs. Her roles as the first Mexican American woman to serve as Commissioner of Travis County, Chair of the Texas Hispanic County Judges and Commissioners Association, and Conference of Urban Counties Executive Board Member since 2001, demonstrate her commitment to cultivating a vision that embraces diversity and providing direction to enhance the quality of life throughout Austin and Travis County.

As a public servant for 33 years, Ms. Gómez's commitment to stewardship has been recognized both by her constituents and by community groups. Elected constable in 1980 against a 14-year incumbent, for example, she was re-elected in 1984 and 1988 with 60 percent and 62 percent of the vote, respectively. In 1991 she was elected to another term as constable, receiving 75 percent of the vote. What's more, she was named "Woman of the Year" by the Texas Women's Political Caucus (1980), "Outstanding Hispanic Woman" by the Texas League of

United Latin American Citizens (1993), and twice was named “Fund Raiser of the Year” by the East Austin Optimists Club.

As further illustration of her diverse community leadership experience, Ms. Gómez serves as an active member on 22 boards, committees, and Commissioner’s Court subcommittees. In these roles she has been responsible for stopping Capital Metro from increasing fares for seniors and persons with disabilities; voting to increase funding for SafePlace; voting to fund Meals for Kids and Capital IDEA programs to fight poverty; and voting for the largest bond in Travis County’s history to preserve natural areas and add park land. She possesses a deep understanding of the challenges faced by the community she represents and consistently has given her time to a variety of organizations that work for the public good.

Commissioner Margaret Gómez is a remarkably effective community advocate and local leader. With a record of public service spanning decades, she has worked tirelessly for the betterment of Travis County. For these and many other reasons, I am proud to nominate Margaret Gómez for the John Ben Shepperd Outstanding Local Leader Award.



# 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Leadership Forum

## Outstanding Local Leader



### Nomination Form

Please complete all information and then attach supporting documentation as detailed below.

The Outstanding Local Leader award exemplifies the leadership spirit of John Ben Shepperd who advocated that all Texans have a responsibility to serve their local communities. Nominees must demonstrate leadership while exhibiting character and high standards of ethics. Scope, significance, reach and impact of accomplishments as a volunteer, elected official, educator, philanthropist, business leader, religious leader, etc. – in community or state affairs.

- Recipient MUST BE PRESENT at the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Leadership Forum, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013, to receive the award.
- Recipient must be a current Texas resident.
- Recipient cannot appear on a ballot in a contested race for elected office the same year as nominated for the award.
- Recipient cannot serve on any board or be related to anyone representing the selection committee.

Please attach the following to support your nomination's consideration for induction:

- A narrative of no more than two (2) pages (double-spaced) that describes your reasons that this person should be awarded Outstanding Local Leader.
- Awardee supporting documentation that may include: curriculum vitae, previous awards, resumes, etc.

#### Nominee Information

I hereby nominate (full name): Margaret Gomez

Elected Office (if applicable): Travis County Commissioner, Precinct Four

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name: Travis County Commissioners Court Position/Title: Commissioner, Precinct Four

Business Address: 700 Lavaca, Suite 1510 Work Phone: (512)854-9444

City: Austin State: TX Zip: 78701

Email: margaret.gomez@co.travis.tx.us

#### Nominator Information

Full Name: Judith Zaffirini

Address: P.O. Box 12068 Home Phone: (512) 463-0121

City: Austin State: TX Zip: 78711 Email: zaffcomm@zaffirini.com

In what capacity do you know the nominee? Professionally

*All nomination forms must be received by JBS no later than September 30, 2013.*

*Email To: jbs@utpb.edu or Mail To: JBS 4901 E. University Blvd. Odessa, TX 79762*