

Elections

Re-elect incumbent Tom Truex as Davie mayor.

Davie residents face a tough decision when they go to the polls March 10. They will have to choose between two strong mayoral candidates in a hotly contested race that has become a referendum on a massive development project dividing that area of the county.

Despite heated opposition to his support for the Davie Commons shopping village, the *Sun Sentinel* Editorial Board recommends voters re-elect incumbent Mayor Tom Truex to office.



Truex

Truex, 51, the city's mayor since 2003, has proven to be an effective and visionary leader in tough economic times. He has led in efforts to boost economic development along the 441 corridor and other areas to create affordable housing and in-

crease city revenue. But he wants to manage the development in a way that concentrates large projects in areas where it makes sense, and has added many acres of open space and parks during his short tenure. Truex, an attorney, said he would also like to make changes to police and fire benefits to make them less of a burden on the city.

Truex's competitor, Councilwoman Judy Paul, a 68-year-old retired school teacher, strongly opposes the 152-acre Davie Commons project, and has vowed to protect green space and the city's semi-rural environment if elected. Paul said she would also reduce bickering at City Council meetings and decrease spending by scrutinizing the city's budget line by line.

While her priorities are laudable, and her voice is a valuable one in the debate about the city's future, Truex is a better choice to lead the city at this time.