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Morrell selects Williams on Orange election ticket

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**By Chris Sykes
Staff Writer**

Orange mayoral candidate Janice Morrell announced during her campaign kickoff that she will include one of the incumbents for a City Council position on her election ticket.

Morrell, who had her kickoff program Jan. 18 inside an Orange restaurant, said she will run at the head of a two-person ticket that includes Councilwoman Donna K. Williams.

Morrell is one of four mayoral candidates.

The others include South Ward Councilman Edward Marable, city Legislative Research Officer Dwayne Warren and Mayor Eldridge Hawkins Jr.

In a statement, Morrell said she decided to run for the office of mayor, because "new leadership is needed now." The former long-time chairwoman of the Orange Zoning Board said she plans to focus on six subjects if she is elected. They include fiscal management, public safety, commercial and industrial development, senior programs, quality-of-

life issues, and recreation and education.

"Since 2008 we have seen our city and particularly municipal services decline. We can no longer allow that to happen," Morrell said in her statement. "My background as an administrator, a manager, a passionate advocate, and a concerned citizen are the impetus behind my candidacy."

Morrell also outlined her plan with details ranging from grant opportunities and deployment of public safety resources to economic stimuli to attract new businesses.

Morrell said she selected Williams as a running mate because she called her someone "who has been on the front line of representing Orange residents."

"Donna Williams asked the questions that the citizens wanted to ask: she was tenacious in pursuing the answers," Morrell said. "If all council members had been as tenacious, we would be in a better fiscal situation and enjoy a better quality of life than we now do."

Williams could not be reached for comment by press time.
