



DOWNTOWN
DALLAS



VELETTA FORSYTHE LILL

Veletta Forsythe Lill is a well-known civic volunteer in Dallas. She currently serves as Mayor Tom Leppert's Arts District Coordinator, acting as a liaison between the city and the arts district institutions. She has long served the city and in 2005, due to term limits, Ms. Lill stepped down after serving 8 years on the Dallas City Council. Ms. Lill's duties as council member included her service as Chair of the council's Arts, Education and Libraries Committee where she was a strong advocate for the cultural life of the city.

During her tenure on the council the citizens approved almost \$100 million in bonds for libraries and arts institutions. The city's largest public investment in infrastructure provided investment in the land and seed dollars for the future \$338 million Dallas Center for the Performing Arts. Several new municipally owned cultural facilities opened to wide acclaim during her tenure including the Latino Cultural Center and the Freedman's Memorial. For both facilities she was engaged in the public and private fundraising efforts. Her work with the Nasher Sculpture Center enabled the city's contribution of \$2 million for infrastructure improvements, enhancing the public space surrounding the center.

In addition to being an advocate for the creation of new cultural facilities, she has also championed planning and preservation efforts. She chaired the committee charged with creating Dallas' first citywide comprehensive plan – ForwardDallas! adopted in 2006. In addition, she led efforts to update the city's landmark preservation law and helped create a strong historic preservation tax incentive program that enabled the restoration of many of downtown Dallas' landmark buildings

Ms. Lill, a former training specialist and systems coordinator for Fidelity Investments, has a long history of service to broad sectors of the community. She holds a Master's Degree in Community Health Education from the University of Illinois and currently chairs the Parkland Foundation, securing philanthropic support for Dallas County's nationally recognized public hospital.

In addition to her service to the city and the county she has served on the boards of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Preservation Texas, the Dallas Museum of Art, the AFI Dallas International Film Festival, the American Institute of Architects- Dallas Chapter, and Shakespeare Dallas. She has been honored with numerous awards including the Distinguished Elected Official Award from the American Planning Association, Honorary Membership in the Texas Society of Architects, and the Legends Award from the Dallas Center for Contemporary Art.