In an email from Matt Harris, Austin, TX, GroundSwell has learned that he has filed to run for the U.S. Congress in the TX 10th district within the Democratic Party primary. The primary is March 6, 2018. Because of the extreme gerrymandering of the Texas Republicans, this district would normally be un-winnable for a Democrat. But this is not going to be a normal election year. He has been studying the district voting patterns carefully with some expert assistance and believes this to be a winnable election.

Matt’s central campaign theme will be to call out the role of monopoly power and natural resource privileges in our economic system. While not using the same language as Henry George, you will recognize the same logic in his campaign material. His campaign website is at www.MattHarrisForTX10.com. The site also has a blog area intended to promote engagement.

Matt Harris has lived in Austin, TX since 1986. He graduated from the University of Florida with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering. He also studied at the University of Karlsruhe in Germany for a year of post-grad work under the Fulbright program. (Quadrille-Mobay Grant). His work experience has included IBM, PayPal, FICO, and local startups Trajecta, eCustomers, and ALI Solutions. His expertise is as a data scientist as well as project management and his areas of expertise include risk management, fraud detection, and marketing analytics.

He may be e-mailed at mharris@geotrends. His website is MattHarrisForTX10.com. His Facebook page is https://www.facebook.com/Matt4TX10/. His blog is http://mattharrisfortx10.com/blog.html. His address is Matt Harris Campaign, PO Box 10616, Austin, TX 78766.

One harsh fact of our political system is that it costs money to run a campaign. He would appreciate any donation you can provide. If you are not in a position to help with a donation he also would appreciate your participation on the blog part of the site. If you have thoughts on how to express the important political ideas of our time, please share them with him. Contact information is on the site. If you want to receive regular campaign updates please sign up on the site. Please let other Georgists know that you think might be interested.

(editor’s note. Common Grounders will remember that Matt Harris organized and chaired the former Texas Chapter of Common Ground USA. He served on the Schalkenbach Foundation board for nine years (www.schalkenbach.org)).