

Kevin Reich

Candidate for: Ward 1 City Council

How long have you lived in your community?

43 Years

Please list any notable supporters or groups of supporters for your campaign

AFSCME Council 5, IOUE Local 49, SMART Local #10, Minneapolis Firefighters Local 82, IBEW Local 292, Minneapolis Building Trades, Teamsters Joint Council 32, Iron Workers 512, DFL Senior Caucus, MN Municipal Retirement Association, Larry Pinkney, Courtney Ross

Minneapolis is facing a housing shortage unlike any we have experienced in recent history. What will you do to increase the number of homes available to Minneapolitans?

Here on the Eastside, we have made significant progress towards increasing the number of homeowners. However, there is still much to be done. At the City level, we have worked on housing policies focused on production, housing trust funds, approving conduits for state and federal resources, and policies regarding stabilization. Minneapolis is dedicated to providing its citizens the resources and opportunities to have a quality, affordable place to call home at night. I am dedicated to facilitating sustainable and continued growth in our community.

***Minnesota has one of the largest homeownership gaps between Whites and Blacks, Indigenous, and People of Color. This is one of MAR's primary concerns. What would you propose at the local level to close this homeownership gap?**

A responsible community ensures that everyone has a place to call home and an opportunity for anyone to be a homeowner. As a City, we must continue to discuss past policies that have negatively affected our neighborhoods and create new policies that actively remedy these harms. It is imperative that we proactively preserve and invest in areas that ensure our BIPOC communities have access to ownership and better housing. This means continuing projects like Cultural Corridors that improve access to goods and services, economic opportunity, a community system that supports its people, and counteract displacement. I have supported and will continue to support policies that promote homeownership in our diverse community.

How do you think the city can best balance the rights of tenants and property owners to effectively manage rental housing? Specifically, please speak to your positions on Rent Stabilization, Inclusionary Zoning, Rental Subsidies, and/or Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act.

We must proactively seek out partners and sight opportunities to create multi-benefit projects that meet our affordability goals and transit and environment goals. Throughout my time on the City Council, I have supported stabilization protections and will continue to do so while we diligently investigate policies that benefit everyone. Our City has great building blocks already, but we must expand on these and ensure we are providing adequate funding for housing initiatives. I am committed to supporting policies and initiatives that balance growth, development, and sustainability.

Do you support the current Public safety charter amendment and why?

The Minneapolis Police Department is flawed. However, I believe that it is irresponsible to pass an amendment that would enact a wholesale elimination of our current department and grant a blank check for the creation of a new department without any concrete understanding of what such a department would entail. By focusing on this divisive rhetoric we are missing a real opportunity to create a better, more responsive, and more accountable police department--a department that works in tandem with mental health professionals, social workers, effective violence prevention programs, and a range of alternative collaborating response teams. At the end of the day, we all want a better public safety system, but some differ on how we get there. Let us come together and focus on what we agree on and push for tangible progress.

Do you support the current government structure charter amendment to enact a strong mayoral system and why?

The amendment is logical and consistent with other municipal models but I wonder if we have explored all of the options that are conducive to our current model. The jury is still out for me.

Please provide links to all social media accounts connected to you or your campaign if any.

Facebook: KevinReichWard1 Twitter: mpls_kevin Instagram: Klreich Website: Kevinreich.org