

Latrisha Vetaw

Candidate for: Ward 4 City Council

How long have you lived in your community?

I first moved to North Minneapolis when I was 12. My mother took me and my siblings out of the projects of a small town outside Chicago. The North Minneapolis Community welcomed us with open arms and supported my mother through the difficult transition. I

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

I am fortunate to have support from individuals like Tom Hoch, Jacob Frey, Sandra and Don Samuels, and Jachie Cherryholmes just to name a few. Labor unions like AFSCME Council 5, Minneapolis Firefighters Local 82, and Teamsters Joint Council 32 have endorsed me as a city council candidate. Women Winning, an organization with a phenomenal mission, has also endorsed me as a city council candidate.

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?

I believe each of us deserves to live in a home that is safe, secure, comfortable, and affordable. As the 4th Ward City Council Member, I would continue to prioritize the preservation of existing and creation of new affordable housing with a focus on those making 30-60% of AMI with a special emphasis on units serving those at or below 30% of AMI. I will work to adopt a cooperative metro-wide approach to affordable housing and meeting the needs of those who are unsheltered to prevent the chaos brought on by housing insecurity.

***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?**

I will create good paying jobs and ensure that these jobs are accessible to all our community members--especially our BIPOC communities and others historically excluded from the job market. We need to fully utilize programs like the METP Dislocated Work Program to pinpoint those on whom we most need to focus. Our strategies around job fulfillment must be developed in collaboration with those we seek to serve. By getting more money in the pockets of those able to work, we can enable more people to gain access to a broader array of housing options, including homeownership.

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.

On rent stabilization, I understand that there is currently a policy moving forward, but the details have not yet been drafted. While I have expressed opposition to "rent control" policies in the past, I will evaluate any proposed policy with a data-driven approach. I strongly believe that rights of tenants and rights of property owners are of tantamount importance and that there is a way for them to coexist equally. Private landlords, like my husband, should not have to step up to the plate to fill the gaps where public housing is failing. No one should be forced between the difficult choice of supporting one's family or evicting another's from their home.

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

I do not support the current public safety charter amendment, because I believe we must have a "both/and" approach. We need both safety beyond policing and law enforcement that includes a police presence. I support much-needed structural changes to the Minneapolis Police Department. I also realize that policy changes and training cannot accomplish this alone. What the MPD needs is a culture-shift. We need the ability to get the wrong officers out through anything from changing the police union contract to enhancing our disciplinary process and reforming the problematic arbitration system. I know firsthand how desperately the policing system

needs reform and I am determined to effect serious change when I am elected as the Ward 4 City Council Member.

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

I do support a strong mayoral system. Minneapolis is highly in need of a clarification of the relationship between the Mayor's Office and City Council. Especially with the difficulties of the past year, we need to be able to react to crises quickly and precisely.

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

Twitter - @vetaward4 Facebook - @latrishafoward4