

EUGENE KANG FOR WARD 2: WAKE UP THE CITY COUNCIL!

Dear Neighbor,

My name is Eugene Kang, and I am running for Ann Arbor City Council. I am proud to have lived in Ann Arbor for my entire life. And I am proud to have spent almost my entire life right here in Ward 2.

Many people have asked me why I want to run for office. The answer is simple: I want to give back to this wonderful community. I attended King Elementary School and Greenhills School for 6-12th grades. Next year I'll be a Senior at the University of Michigan, majoring in English and Philosophy.

I am energetic, dedicated, and I know I have a lot to learn. I hope that I can serve a unique role as someone connected to both U of M students and to the greater Ann Arbor community. Because the City Council should be more responsive to your concerns, I have launched a precinct-by-precinct listening tour. Together, we can make Ann Arbor an even greater place to live.

As a lifelong resident of this community, I am aware of the challenges facing Ann Arbor. And, on the next page, I have identified key areas in which I plan to focus my attention. I look forward to listening to your concerns and working for you in the future.

Sincerely,

Eugene Kang

**REMEMBER TO VOTE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY ON
AUGUST 2!**

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Increasing Fiscal Responsibility

- Our city budget has been in deficit for the past five years and expenses are expected to exceed revenue for at least the next two years. We need to close this gap – but not on the backs of taxpayers who are already paying more than their fair share.
- The cost of living in Ann Arbor is already significantly higher than that of similar cities in the Midwest, and higher taxes will only make it more difficult for people, especially new homeowners, to remain in our City.
- I am committed to balancing Ann Arbor's budget and look forward to meeting with you to discuss your priorities and listen to your ideas.

Making Ann Arbor More Affordable

- Making Ann Arbor a more affordable place to live is critical to the City's future. We cannot allow our middle-class and economically disadvantaged citizens to be pushed out of our City because of sky-high housing prices.
- Ann Arbor spends \$5.6 million dollars a year to *discourage* Ann Arbor residents from *moving away*. Unfortunately, we spend only 10% of that amount to *encourage* people to live in our City by making housing more affordable.
- To curtail urban sprawl and enable people who work in Ann Arbor to live here as well, we must provide incentives for residents to remain in the City.

A Practical Approach to Downtown Density

- Downtown density is inextricably connected to the issue of affordable housing. While I recognize that building taller structures downtown would create more space for residential and commercial enterprises, I am sympathetic to how these structures would change the downtown aesthetic.
- I support a pragmatic case-by-case approach that would carefully consider each proposal and weigh the benefits of density with the costs to aesthetics. It is Ann Arbor's sense of community that makes it so special. We must not alter the City's unique appeal as we work to make sure as many people as possible can afford to enjoy the Downtown area.

Listening to Every Voice

- The Arbor City Council is not representative of Ann Arbor's population. University of Michigan students are Ann Arbor residents. Their views should be represented on the City Council. An accusation often leveled against my generation is that we are politically apathetic. My peers and I are working hard to change this perception.
- Young people *do* care about politics and I believe that the student body does care about the greater Ann Arbor community.

Contact us at kangforcitycouncil@gmail.com or (734) 972-7254