



September 29, 2021

Dear Neighbors:

Over a decade ago my husband, Drew, and I made Ward 5 our home. While we had already been District residents, we were searching for a place where we could put down roots, grow together, and build our family. In Ward 5, we found all of that — and more. We were welcomed with open arms and found a beautiful community where we were immediately inspired to roll up our sleeves and get to work. I joined, and eventually led, the Ward Five Council on Education, which took me all across the Ward meeting neighbors and working side-by-side with so many passionate community members to improve the quality of education. My husband and I became deeply engaged in the work of our civic association in Woodridge, where Drew now holds the role of president.

The seeds we have planted in partnership with many of you have flourished in ways I could have never imagined. Our investments in the city, specifically in our Ward, have created deep roots that I now see manifested in the face of our two children. With beauty and growth comes opportunities and challenges. Our Ward is at a pivot point where the path we take can either create a stronger community for every neighbor, or it can further divide us. But I know that with community at the core, all things are possible. **And it is with that hope for continuing to build together that I today announce my candidacy for the Ward 5 seat on the Council of the District of Columbia (DC Council).**

I am humbled to be surrounded by an amazing group of supporters who push me forward and hold me accountable to lead with humanity and integrity. It is an honor to have Ward 5 treasure, long-time activist, and Woodridge resident Shirley Rivens Smith to serve as my campaign chairperson and to have Brian McNamee, a North Michigan Park resident, to serve as my campaign treasurer. But it is because of each of you that I feel so energized.

I believe that we can work together to preserve the legacy and beauty of our Ward 5 *and* build a future that reflects each of us. This has never felt more personal to me as a mother, a wife, an educator, and a dedicated public servant. I know what accountability looks like and I am ready to bring that to our community and then straight to the Wilson Building, as I have always done in my service to DC. I am ready to work for you, Ward 5, because you are my home.

You can follow my campaign at faithforward5dc.org and on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram at @faithforward5dc.

In community,