

> Subject: Do you want to be a part of building a better future for Norwalk?

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> Hi everyone,

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> Can you believe we are nearly two years into living through a global pandemic? We have seen firsthand how basic infrastructure is so critical and how technology and innovation have proven to be the way forward to tackle big problems. Infrastructure is important. And Norwalk has its share of big problems due to failing infrastructure.

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> I am proud to call Norwalk home, and while I am one of those people who came to Norwalk from somewhere else, I care about this town and its many residents. That is why I am running for the First Taxing District Commissioner position. The election is 100 days away.

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> The management of how we collect water, process it, and distribute it throughout our district is something that is under constant threat. We have all experienced the recent droughts, watch the western wildfires send us their smoke-filled air, seen the murky brown tap water after water main breaks, or scrape the manganese and lime build-up from our shower stalls and bathtubs.

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> We all are horrified when we learn of the poor quality of water in places like Flint, Michigan, and maybe we wonder what is happening with our local water. And here is where the opportunity lies.

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> For decades the First Taxing District has failed to invest in maintaining the core infrastructure of delivering clean and safe drinking water to Norwalk. Yeah, it is complicated. But we can start by thinking about who we elect to represent us on the First Taxing District board. We need someone that will take the time to lead staff in developing funding strategies that leverage grants, partnerships, and technology to reduce the operational costs and keep the system going in a good state of repair. This is about knowing how the cost of investing in the future delivers results so that generations of Norwalkers can depend on reliable and affordable clean water.

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> The federal government offers hundreds of programs that help small districts like ours meet the needs of the people who depend on this essential utility. There are hundreds of small districts like ours that have benchmarked solutions and programs to learn from and build on their experiences. We can focus on things that work to ensure that stormwater retention, pipe inspection, and water conservation work together to ensure that there is enough water to serve our community.

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> The First Taxing District has so many awesome opportunities and yet struggles to execute anything big and instead focuses on memorial water fountains and permits to public parks. And if you are lucky enough to receive a direct bill, that is the only time the First Taxing District communicates anything about the water. I know first hand that the thousands of people who rent never hear from the First Taxing District. It's time that we elect someone who cares enough to do something differently.

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> I need your help. Sure it would be nice to have your vote in this election. But more importantly, I need your help to understand your concerns about the First Taxing District. I have always begun any campaign with a listening tour. And this one is no exception.

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> I want to hear your thoughts and opinions about the water quality or whether your water main or water pressure seems to be struggling. I want to hear from you about all your concerns about living in the First Taxing District and how you can be better represented.

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> I have never shied way away from rolling up my sleeves to fight for fairness and equal representation. I have always reached out to those in our community that are too tired, too overworked, and too shy to attend the endless amount of meetings it takes to make one simple change that has to power to transform someone's life.

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> Too often, we accept the status quo when we can make a difference instead. We accept the expedient solution instead of understanding how infrastructure projects will impact people. Nobody likes to be surprised one morning to find out that the lack of water due to a maintenance project will make them late for work or unable to cook or open their business. Well ... you get what I mean.

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> But I can't do it alone. I have learned over many years that it is only when we are all working together that we can achieve amazing things.

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> Join me in this journey to achieve an amazing thing.

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> Jackie Lightfield