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**Dear friends from Ward 3 and beyond,**

As we enter the busiest period of local election season in Newton, I'm excited to be running for a second term as Ward 3 Ward Councilor. I want to continue to serve Ward 3 residents and be an independent voice on the City Council for all residents. I'm in a competitive race, and I need your support to continue to serve. You must be a Ward 3 resident to vote for me, but anyone can help my campaign. Promoting my accomplishments does not come naturally to me, but constituents need to know I've been working on their behalf and where I've made a difference:



- **Constituent Service** — As ward councilor, I'm the person residents often call if they need help with a city government or quality-of-life issue. It's been a privilege to help solve such problems. These have included getting sewage leaks repaired, flooding issues, better zoning enforcement of construction noise violations and unsafe vacant houses, neighborhood speeding and parking issues, finding space for a small business, help with filing public records requests, and citywide, answering tree questions.



- **Education** — I heard from many parents who were distraught over the effect that remote-only education was having on their school-age children. They turned to their city councilors because of frustration with the mayor, superintendent, and School Committee. I communicated with many, and met outdoors with some, to better understand the challenges they and their kids were facing. I was one of the 12 councilors who wrote to the mayor and School Committee in October 2020 to stress listening to public health experts, and urgency in restoring in-person learning. We were joined by several more councilors in January 2021.
- **Gun Store Zoning** — Like most of the City Council, I learned about the gun store on April 15, and immediately began seeking and providing

answers to residents' questions. In online forums, I passed along information about the process and upcoming meetings. I supported passage of restrictive zoning and voted for strengthening amendments including requiring the accompanying adult to be a parent or guardian, having buffer zones extend across city lines, and creating a buffer zone to conservation land as well as parks. Unlike most of the city, Ward 3 includes or is close to the two areas where gun stores would currently be possible under the new firearms zoning -- [Rumford/Riverview](#) and [North Street](#). I created walking tour videos of each, on my [YouTube channel](#), to enable people to better understand where gun stores could still be allowed.

- **Senior Tax Work-Off Program** — Responding to a constituent request, I initiated a review of the income eligibility limits to participate in the Senior Tax Work-Off Program, which had not been adjusted since the program began in 2004. Many other councilors joined my docket item, and the Fuller administration supports the effort. This will help more seniors on the edge of eligibility to better afford to stay in their houses.



- **Historic Preservation** — I kept a campaign promise and nominated two iconic West Newton Square buildings for landmarking — the Davis Hotel (Sweet Tomatoes) and Robinson Block (CVS). Both are now landmarked, the strongest protection available. But we have seen that landmarking is not foolproof, with the unprecedented demolition by a developer of a Newton Landmark, the pre-Revolutionary War Gershom Hyde House on Greenwood Street. With Councilors Tarik Lucas and Pam Wright, I joined 16 historic preservation advocates to call for proportionate legal and financial consequences. Developers cannot be allowed to profit from flagrantly destroying city landmarks.
- **"Snout Houses"** — As a city councilor, I was finally in a position to vote against yet another postponement of the garage door ("snout house") ordinance that was passed years ago but never implemented, to keep garage doors from dominating our streetscapes. This year, the administration and City Council made revising and approving this ordinance a priority. Front-facing garages will now be less prominent and protruding.
- **Environment** — I've continued to advocate for preservation of tree canopy, which is increasingly recognized as critical to climate change mitigation. A year ago, when the Fuller administration sought funding for a Bullough's Pond dam rehabilitation that would have destroyed much of the nearby Laundry Brook forest, I forced postponement of the vote, leading to consideration of alternatives and selection of a different consultant.

### Looking ahead — Zoning Redesign and Development

The most consequential vote in the City Council next term will be on Zoning Redesign. Draft residential zoning presented in 2020 would allow two family housing in all residential districts, an idea embraced by some councilors. However, Council leadership has postponed consideration to 2022, after this November's election, in response to pushback from many residents during December 2020 community engagement sessions. The draft zoning would allow larger structures than would current zoning, as well as more lot

subdivisions, incentivizing teardowns, not reducing them. I will only support new zoning that discourages teardowns and displacement, and preserves green space and trees — not zoning redesigned to benefit developers.

Large developments have not made Newton more affordable — witness the \$4,000 rents at Trio. But the "Housing Choice" legislation passed by the state legislature has made such projects easier to approve. Instead of needing 2/3 of the City Council (16 votes), only a simple majority is required, if the project is considered "transit oriented," and contains at least 10 percent subsidized affordable units (a threshold automatically met by Newton's Inclusionary Zoning requirement). As a result, developers can be more aggressive about project size and offer less mitigation. That makes who is elected to City Council even more important.

**How can you help?**

I need your support to continue working for Ward 3 and the people of Newton, with a voice and a vote on the City Council. If you would like to help, please consider:

- **Contributing to my campaign.** (Printing and postage are my biggest remaining expense.)
- **Hosting a lawn sign.** (Most helpful in Ward 3, near West Newton, or on a busy road.)
- If you live or work in Ward 3, **adding your name to my list of supporters.**
- **Forwarding this email to family and friends** in Newton, or writing a letter of support.

**Contribute!**

**Host a Lawn Sign!**

**Become an endorser!**

Thank you!

Julia Malakie



**Committee to Elect Julia Malakie**

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