

LETTERS

Julia Malakie for Ward 3 councilor at-large

I hope Newton voters will join me in voting for Julia Malakie for the Ward 3 at-large City Council seat on Nov. 7. I've worked with Julia on many issues during the course of my 20 years on the City Council. I had the pleasure of serving with her on the Urban Tree Commission, and working with her on the establishment of the Newton Tree Conservancy. Her commitment to ensuring that our city's trees are protected and her advocacy for the city to go after National Grid and hold them accountable for the gas leaks that are killing our street trees is the kind of passion and commitment we need in our City leaders. Over the years, I have relied on Julia to help me collect and review data and make them understandable to the public. Julia was instrumental in helping me put together a presentation for the City Council on the number of teardowns in this city. Her commitment and passion for this city and its residents as well as her financial background will be critical in the next few years as the city will face some very difficult financial decisions.

Please vote for Julia Malakie for the Ward 3 at-large City Council seat on Nov. 7.

**Amy Mah Sangiolo, Ward 4
councilor-at-large**

Malakie for City Council

Julia Malakie is running for City Council in the Ward 3 at-large race, which means every Newton voter can vote for Julia—and I hope they do! I consider myself lucky to know Julia, for I have never met anyone with such a true moral compass. Julia is always honest, truth-seeking, generous and compassionate. Julia advocates fearlessly for residents, especially those who are most vulnerable. That's why she opposes the property speculation that threatens socioeconomic diversity, seniors, low-income residents and young families. She's committed to resident-centered planning, and genuinely representative and transparent Newton government. She'll vote No on the Charter ballot question.

Even in a city filled with well-educated people, Julia is often the smartest person in the room. Julia has a degree in economics from MIT, an MBA from the University of Chicago and worked in finance before beginning her second career in journalism. Julia has the finan-

cial, analytical and communication expertise the City Council needs to tackle Newton's structural fiscal imbalance, billion-dollar unfunded liability, needed capital investments and the negative fiscal impacts of unsustainable high-density residential development.

Julia's selfless devotion to caring for Newton's trees, parks and open spaces is inspiring, and a gift to the children who play in those parks, to the seniors who stroll through them, to the cyclists who ride in the shade rather than in the glaring heat on a summer day, and to everyone who enjoys our woods and open spaces. Chances are you've passed by a young tree planted by the Newton Tree Conservancy Julia founded. She's the woman pruning trees, pulling invasives and, monitoring gas leaks and getting them fixed. She serves quietly every day because she loves Newton—her lifelong home—she cares about our planet, and she wants to make our lives better. Please vote for Julia Malakie on Nov. 7.

**John Koot, Winchester Street,
Newton Highlands**