

Lisa Goodman Candidate for Ward 7 Re-election



• Endorsements:

- DFL Party
- Sierra Club
- DFL Feminist Caucus
- Stonewall DFL
- Teamsters DRIVE
- Minneapolis Building and Construction Trades
- Service Employees International SEIU
- MN Woman's Political Caucus
- International Union of Operating Engineers- Local 49

Issues:

I felt local government was not being as responsive to the public as I would have expected and I have made that a top priority.

I do not favor the 8% tax policy. Property taxes are regressive and local government can't rely on increasing that source to fund basic services. Many residents want the City to do more but tax less, it's impossible to do both. I hope the city can get to a point where a 4-6% increases can sustain the current level of services and pay off pension obligations. Decreasing our annual pension liabilities, controlling employee health care costs and collaboration with the County and Park system on services need to be seriously addressed in an effort to reduce redundancy among levels of government.

We must work with the State to diversify funding for local government so we rely less on property taxes by restructuring to allow Minneapolis to keep more of the sales tax generated in our City. Minneapolis is the economic engine of the region and we need to access revenue generated in our city to provide services that keep the city strong. A wholesale reduction in LGA forces an increase in property taxes. A statewide solution to fund local government is needed. Moving towards charging fees for services is a back door tax increase that I do not support.

I believe the pre 1979 TIF districts should be decertified and the entire amount calculated back to the total tax base to grow the tax base so the tax rate increase can be more modest. Neighborhood organizations are a basic service delivery model in the city and their operations should be funded out of the general fund. Target Center debt needs to be repaid in full because it's a drain on the general fund, the quicker the

payoff the more available for city services. Both should compete with all other city services for funding in this economic environment.

I use the auto allowance as I frequently use my personal car for city business. The allowance is a pre tax payment so it amounts to less than \$250 per month. I have collected receipts and tracked mileage in the past a monthly payment is comparable.

Ward Wide priorities:

Continue the progress made on the Riverfront by supporting & facilitating urban scale development on remaining surface parking lots. Adopt a comprehensive downtown strategy for private/public partnerships on urban greening and reforestation efforts. Lead the effort to adopt neighborhood alternatives promoting green energy with expanded use of residential level solar & wind energy.

City Wide Priority:

Continue to pay down debt, preserve our triple A bond rating and advocate the reform needed to diversify the sources of funding for local government.

Lisa Goodman Ward 7 Minneapolis Councilmember July, 2009