

When I ran for Ward 5 councillor, I did so because I believed residents deserved a higher standard of leadership. I still believe that today.

My campaign was built on research, clearly defined priorities and practical plans. I respected voters enough to speak honestly about the challenges facing our city, including what a municipal councillor could realistically deliver.

Many people supported that approach. You were not looking for political slogans or easy promises. You wanted thoughtful, competent representation grounded in facts, integrity and genuine community service.

I am not asking those voters to lower that standard. I am asking them to apply it again in your support of Juanita Maldonado.

Juanita brings extensive experience helping people navigate government and access the services they need. She spent ten years working in a federal constituency office and has continued serving families, newcomers and vulnerable residents through her professional and community work. She understands that public service begins with listening and that every resident deserves to be treated with dignity.

This election is about more than choosing between individual candidates. It is about deciding what kind of leadership Ward 5 expects.

We need leadership grounded in facts rather than fear. We need achievable commitments rather than promises that cannot withstand scrutiny. We need a representative who recognizes homelessness as a complex human and community challenge, not a convenient target. We need someone who respects residents, gives proper credit to the people doing the work and understands that trust must be earned.

Most importantly, Ward 5 needs a councillor who will represent the entire community, not divide it for political advantage.

To everyone who supported my campaign, your votes demonstrated that a significant number of residents wanted something better. This time, that desire for change cannot remain divided. If we stand together behind the strongest alternative, we can deliver the thoughtful and accountable representation Ward 5 deserves.

An endorsement should never be a blank cheque. I encourage residents to ask Juanita difficult questions, examine her priorities and hold her accountable for the commitments she makes. That is what informed voters should expect from every candidate.

Based on her experience, her record of community service and the kind of leadership I believe Ward 5 now needs, I am proud to endorse Juanita Maldonado for Ward 5 councillor.

She is the clear choice for residents who want respectful, capable and community-centred leadership, and a ward represented through service rather than politics as usual.

Krysta Boyer

Former Ward 5 Candidate