

Dear Friends,

With the election around the corner, many people are starting to ask “Who are you voting for?”. It was my intention not to do any public endorsements. I’ve made no secret that the most important issue to me is getting a Fair Contract for the NTA - something I feel will benefit not only the teachers, but everyone in Newton, as it will allow us to avoid the staffing crisis that is just around the corner if their contract negotiations fail.

However, in the three years that I’ve been doing advocacy work, it’s just hitting me now that there is an issue that feels even more critical. Our city is failing. We are a wealthy community that won’t pay its teachers. We have a zoning proposal that is tearing the community in two. We have a rise in hate crimes, with antisemitism being the most pronounced.

For whatever reason, our City Council seems unable to collaborate. Listed below is a candidate I’m voting for. In my extensive conversation with him, and his responses to my PEC survey, I’ve found him to be both supportive of NPS and interested in promoting a more collaborative approach...

For City Councilor At Large from Ward 6: [Alan Lobovits](#)

Everyone can vote in this race. You can vote for up to two candidates.

I’m sure people who have been following along closely will realize that none of my candidates support the current zoning proposal. Whether you agree with the proposal or not, I believe that lack of collaboration is what is causing so much polarization in our community. Any plan that generates this much controversy didn’t get enough input in the initial stages. (Or input was given, but not incorporated.)

I encourage people to vote their values. This is where my values are leading me to vote.

We’re fortunate to have many good candidates running this year. Wishing luck to all the candidates. This has been a particularly difficult time to be campaigning.

Be well,
Alison Lobron
Parent/Educator Collaborative