

JACQUELINE GOODALL FOR MAYOR

It is with great honor, pleasure and thought that I announce my candidacy for Mayor of the Town of Forest Heights. It is important to understand that I am not entering into this campaign as someone who will bash the current or past mayors of our town. Nor will I bash other candidates and hope they will give me the same respect.

I believe that the Citizens of Forest Heights, deserve better government than we have gotten in the past and as a councilperson I have worked for a better government. I have introduced legislation that strengthened our Town Charter, fought for a professional Town Administrator to run the day to day operation of our town and introduced changes to the Codes and Ordinances for the betterment of our town. I have worked to move in the direction of a more Sustainable Community, before it became the law.

I am entering into this campaign as a candidate with a clear vision of where I would like to see Forest Heights grow and mature in the years to come. I enter this campaign with strong leadership ability and a strong desire to do the right thing. I enter into this campaign to work with the Town Council for the good of our town, to make decisions based on the desires and needs of the community and to provide an exciting new leadership to the Town of Forest Heights. I promise that accountability and transparency will not be just a buzz word.

One of my frustrations as a councilperson has been the lack of planning on the part of the Mayors to guide us in the direction our town was headed. I will work with our Council and Citizens to develop such plans, to set goals and to guide us to those goals. Citizens have repeatedly pointed out the need for our streets to be repaired. Many who served as Mayor in the past have promised to repair our streets without any forethought on how this was to be accomplished. Last June, the council hired an engineering firm to study our storm water system and our sidewalks. On January 28th, that engineering firm outlined a plan to address our storm water drainage system and sidewalks. Addressing our underground infrastructure and water issues must be a priority and must be done prior to spending money to renovate our streets. As Mayor, with the support of the council these plans will not set on a shelf nor will I take the band-aid approach to this problem. Other issues that as Mayor I will address:

- Restructuring our Administration, Public Works and Police Department so that they operate more efficiently
- Better accountability of Public Funds to the council and citizens of our town
- Reducing the tax burden of residents for the operation of our town
- Working to create a safe environment and Live-able community
- Addressing the social needs of the community especially, Seniors and Youth of our town
- Continue to expand our Volunteer and Neighborhood Watch programs and introduce other such programs
- Working more closely with the State of Maryland and Prince Georges County to assist our town and residents
- Create an atmosphere where our citizens will want to get involved
- Partnering with universities and non-profit groups to assist us in achieving our goals

Working to create a 'Sustainability' Plan to address environmental, social and economic needs of the community

In closing, I have served and worked relentlessly as Councilperson for Ward I for the past four years. I am a licensed real estate agent. I also hold a degree from Indiana University in Urban Planning and Development. I strongly support addressing environmental health issues and ways that we can reduce our impact on the environment. Like many, this tough economy has proven financially challenging for me and I have had to make tough decisions with limited funds. I would like to say that I am not perfect. I have not had a perfect life nor have lived a perfect life all the time. I have made mistakes as many of us have. I have learned from those mistakes. But today, I feel confident that I am ready for this challenge and ready to lead the Town of Forest Heights as your next Mayor.

Jacqueline Goodall has been a resident of the Town of Forest Heights for 17 years. She is a graduate of Indiana University, NW with a degree in Urban Development and Planning.

Goodall has served on Town Council since 2007. Her main focus since serving on the Council has been addressing the aging infrastructure and storm water systems of the Town, utilizing environmentally friendly methods, while raising the awareness of our connection to the Oxon Run Watershed.