

Statement of  
**Andrea McCutcheon**  
For the Office of Mayor

I am a candidate for the office of Mayor for the Town of Forest Heights. I have served as Councilwoman Ward II since my appointment May 31, 2006 and as Council President during this period. I became a resident of Forest Heights in the summer of 2003.

I believe that the person serving in the capacity as Mayor has a fiduciary responsibility to the Town of Forest Heights to be accountable for their actions and adhere to the rules of the Town Charter, Ordinances, Maryland Code and other laws governing municipalities.

The Mayor is the Chief Executive Officer, and the head of the administrative branch of Town government. The duty of supervision over the financial administration of the Town government requires the Mayor to be transparent with the administration of the budget and follow the Charter and Ordinance rules. Failure to do this has caused violations of the Charter and Ordinances that have occurred in the past and that are occurring now. Transparency and alerts as required to the Council enable the Council to make necessary adjustments to the budget, monitor spending, and work as a body.

The Town must have a Treasurer. The unsubstantiated firing of our treasurers by the Mayor caused one lawsuit that was paid, and grounds on the second termination were in violation with the Charter and Ordinance causing the Town to be subject to a second lawsuit. The Charters has provisions for the Clerk to server as treasurer also, however this didn't work in the past and isn't working now. In addition, the responsibilities of Clerk and Treasurer are too much for one person on a permanent basis. The Town of Forest Heights has over a million dollar budget. The Treasurer is the Chief Financial Officer. We must have this position filled to have someone accountable, qualified and experienced in all aspects of the position. The Mayor, as recently as the January Town meeting has repeatedly stated that he is opposed to filling the position without reason. The Town's finances are a priority.

The Mayor and Council must have a plan when seeking grants and assistance from legislators for monies for the Town. The direction of the country is "Green Technology and Infrastructure", to improve our environment. The current federal stimulus package, if passed, will contain support for road improvement, wastewater management and other projects. These funds will be disbursed to local governments according to standard formulas and criteria. These will be 100 percent federally-funded grants. Therefore we have to have a PLAN. We can't just say we need money without a plan and required specifics on use for the request with the required paperwork.

With the grants we have and have lost nothing has been accomplished on our municipal building due to Larry Stoner's opposition of our Green Resolution passed with full Council approval last February. Councilwomen Goodall and Reifsneider have worked diligently speaking with various organizations that are willing to help and have helped us in this endeavor. These works can't be accomplished by one person.

We must work together and work with our community. There are numerous experts in various areas that live in Forest Heights and are willing to be involved sharing expertise to improve Our Town. As Mayor I will not delegate my responsibilities, nor will I depend on others for knowledge that I am expected to have or learn.

**If elected to the position of Mayor I will:**

- Ensure that budgeted appropriations are proper and not exceeded with **complete transparency**.
- Work with the Council to review the Town Charter and Ordinances for obsolete and/or ambiguous rules.
- Operate the Town in a proactive efficient manner to ensure the service of police protection, health and sanitation, and infrastructure in response to the needs of the town.
- Work with the Council to promote programs and activities for our youth, elderly and citizens.
- Seek grants to facilitate community programs make repairs/renovate the town hall, offset infrastructure repairs and other Town operating expenditures, and promote continued beautification of our Town.
- Work with the Council to update the Master Plan and to prepare a Comprehensive Plan as required by State law.
- Conduct Town meetings in accordance to Robert's Rules of Order.
- Reestablish Committees to include the public in decisions of the Town of Forest Heights.

**CHANGE TO MOVE FORWARD**  
**VOTE McCUTCHEON FOR MAYOR**