

June 19, 2014

For Immediate Release

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I have decided to withdraw from the race for the Ann Arbor City Council, Ward 5 seat. As much as I wanted to represent you and our city, I have learned that I am not yet ready to take on this position.

As I campaigned for office, it became clear to me that I needed to know more about city issues and local politics in order to serve residents in the most effective way. It was a real pleasure to campaign and to learn so much about our wonderful city. I have a tremendous amount of respect for our elected officials and for all of the hard working volunteers and supporters.

As a result of this decision, I am returning all monetary campaign contributions. What counts much more than money is everyone's involvement and support of the political process. I will always be deeply indebted to everyone who supported my candidacy. The amount of energy and commitment displayed throughout this campaign from the volunteers was absolutely amazing. It is the people that make representative government work.

The support and confidence that people showed for me is very much appreciated. I will continue to learn and be active in city government and hope that I can contribute to the values that we share. I thank you in advance for your gracious understanding and even more importantly, for your participation in Ann Arbor's government.

I wish my opponent Councilmember Warpehoski the best, and hope that he serves the residents of the Fifth Ward and our city well.

Sincerely,

Leon Bryson