

Mayor, Council, Family and Friends,

It is an honor to be re-elected to the Council seat of District 3 in the city of Phoenix. During my first term, I saw numerous accomplishments that included: creating a gated alley program, ensuring adequate infrastructure is being built to protect our water supply, accelerating our pavement maintenance program to improve our roads, ensuring two golf courses in District 3 no longer use drinking water to water their courses, but rather use an alternative source, enhancing recreational amenities at several Parks in District 3, assisting three neighborhoods create a block watch organization, adopting a Plan for Persons Experiencing Homelessness, securing the future of our recycling program, seeking state legislation to ensure that residents of and the neighbors that abut Sober Living Homes are protected, and beginning the process to ensure the redevelopment of Paradise Valley Mall.

However, I know there is much to be accomplished in my second term to foster economic growth and preserve our quality of life. We together, the Mayor and Council can work to ensure this. While we may not agree on every issue, I believe through mutual respect we can do great work for our City. I hope to continue to address the issue of homelessness and seek solutions that truly work. I hope to see us offer the gated alley program to all neighborhoods desiring to gate their alleys.

Infrastructure is the backbone of our city, and I will work to ensure we protect our water supply, improve our roads, provide multi-modal means of transportation, seek solutions for flooding and build and enhance our communication network. I am committed to public parks, libraries and the arts. These uses bring an important dimension to our city. And lastly, I support Public Safety in our City. One of the projects I am most interested in is making our streets safer for pedestrians. I hope that we have a plan adopted soon that addresses how we can make streets safer for all.

But most important to me is serving the public with the everyday problems. Whether it is a pothole, weeds, or a water leak, my office wants to assist you. Local government impacts residents and businesses in the most basic of needs. My office is here to serve. You may not always get the answer you want, but we will thoroughly review and try to solve your issue.

I am extremely excited about the next four years and I want to give a special warm welcome to the newest members of Council representing District 1 and District 7. Thank you all.

-Councilwoman Debra Stark

April 19, 2021 Swearing-In Ceremony Remarks