## **Building a Strong City Council**

The City Council is a key part of the City's governance. Many important projects, initiatives, major infrastructure projects, legislative changes are considered and approved in the Council. However, I believe the Council has more work to do as a cooperating body which must conduct reviews of existing projects' effectiveness, the value added for the public money spent. The Council must hold leaders accountable for their actions or inaction. The Council balances the power of the Mayor by evaluating the validity of his/her initiatives and preferred projects. Above all, Council members are the true representatives of the opinions and needs of their constituents.

## **How to Build a Strong Council?**

Elect candidates that bring experience and expertise to the Council and have the will to solve problems honestly and directly. The Council should be less about party affiliations and partisan politics. The Council's main purpose is to focus on issues that most affect the City's ability to provide necessary services to its citizens and the best decisions regarding growth and infrastructure.