

Kendal GRAY

Democrat for Council

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Dear Neighbor,

My name is Kendal Gray, and I am writing to ask for your vote and support as I run for the county council. Please join me in officially Congratulate Councilwoman Jolene Ivey on becoming the first black woman to serve as Prince George's County Councilmember at Large. As she transitions into her new role there will naturally be a vacancy for the District 5 Council seat. The Council will be setting the rules for the special election soon. When the election date is sent I hope to earn your vote and support.

My family has lived in Prince George's County for generations. In fact, my great-uncle Robert "Ridgley" Gray served as principal of Fairmount Heights Elementary School from the time it opened 1934 to his retirement in 1970. After he retired, he served as Mayor of the historic town of Fairmount Heights from 1977 -1989 now there is an elementary school named in his honor.

When it was time for my wife and I to raise our family there was no question that we would follow in our parents' footsteps and raise our daughter in our hometown. We have been blessed to raise her in an area where she can see herself in all levels of the workforce. I want to make sure that as my daughter starts her professional life in Prince George's County she can live safely, thrive economically and have schools that positions children for success.

As a dad, my job has always been to protect and provide for my family. Now that my daughter is in college and I am helping to care for my aging mom, I know the struggles of my generation too well. Caring for your aging parents and raising your children is not a game! It is hard work. I have unique skillset and lived experience to help our government do a better job and address the growing concerns of our Senior population and young adults.

When I served as Chief of Staff on the council we built National Harbor, approved the Woodmore Town Center Development, secured the Wegman's grocery store, financed and built the Bladensburg Waterfront project, experienced record lows in criminal activity, obtained our first ever AAA bond rating, and we were known as wealthiest county for African Americans in the entire United States of America. People wanted to live here! As an auditor I investigated fraud, waste and abuse in our county budget. Now I want to use all of my professional and life experience to represent the County I love.

As I reflect on the work ahead of us, I know there is more to do to ensure that we all feel safe in our home and community. Therefore, we have to find creative ways to fund public safety and reduce crime. Next, we need to increase our commercial tax base so we can stop increasing property taxes on our citizens. We need more programing for our seniors so they can age in place and continue to be active in our community. Finally, we need to ensure that every tax dollar is spent wisely. I know we can get this done.

I would love to speak with you about how to move towards the future we want for our families. Let's stay connected as we progress towards the election and let's work together for a plan that puts Families First. Again, I humbly request that you consider voting for me as your next councilmember.

