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## **Attorney General Peter F. Neronha endorses Central Falls mayoral candidate Maria Rivera**

CENTRAL FALLS, RI – Today Central Falls mayoral candidate and City Council President Maria Rivera welcomed the campaign endorsement of Rhode Island Attorney General Peter F. Neronha.

“I enthusiastically endorse Maria Rivera for Mayor of Central Falls. For all the years I've known her, Maria has fought for the people of her City with integrity and passion,” said Attorney General Neronha. “She is a creative problem solver, an inspirational leader, and she truly cares about people – her greatest strength. She will be an outstanding Mayor, just as she has been an outstanding Councilwoman. I am proud to support her, and look forward to continuing to work with her on behalf of the people of Central Falls.”

The top-vote getter in the 2018 election of all Central Falls City Council Candidates, Maria is currently the first female and Latinx Central Falls City Council President, a position she earned in just her second term as a council member.

Among her many accomplishments, Maria has prioritized the safety of her community during her term as City Council President, working closely with the police department to build a safer social environment through the introduction of Community Policing – helping law enforcement build a stronger bond with residents through a proactive partnership to identify and solve problems.

“With Attorney General Neronha’s endorsement and confidence in my leadership skills, I promise to continue to protect our residents and businesses, and find new ways to help them thrive,” said Maria. “Attorney General Neronha has demonstrated his commitment daily to protecting Rhode Islanders from harm, and I look forward to working with him on ways to reduce racism in the criminal justice system, as well as strengthen the civil justice system and consumer rights. I will work hard to maintain an important relationship and line of communication with the Attorney General’s office on behalf of our Central Falls community.”



During her time as Council President, Maria has worked hard to make Central Falls a better home for families and the city’s most vulnerable residents. Maria has improved education and youth opportunities by introducing new after school programs, expanded Central Falls Library programming, and advocated for increased education funding for city schools. Maria has taken important steps to address safety and resident concerns by launching new Council Open Office Hours, cracking down on unsafe vacant and abandoned properties, and passing a city law requiring the upkeep of city roads when utilities cut them up.

Maria is currently a Senior Eligibility Technician at the Department of Human Services. She is a graduate of the Rhode Island Latina Leadership Institute and has served on The Learning Community Charter School board of directors, the Central Falls Board of Canvassers, and the Central Falls Planning Board. Maria currently serves on the board of Nowell Leadership Academy for parenting and pregnant teens and the Central Falls Nuisance Task Force. She earned her BA in Public Administration from Roger Williams University and is a 1995 graduate of Central Falls High School. Maria lives in Central Falls with her two children.

Maria Rivera for Mayor has been previously endorsed by current Central Falls Mayor James Diossa, Central Falls Councilwoman Jessica Vega, Councilman Franklin Solano, and Councilman Jonathan Acosta. For more information, visit [mariarivera2020.com](http://mariarivera2020.com) or [facebook.com/mariaforCF](https://facebook.com/mariaforCF).

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