Dear Gallup Community,

Thank you for the chance to introduce myself to you as a candidate for City Council District 2. I was born and raised in Gallup and am proud to call this place home. Bilagáána nishłí, Tó'aheedlííníí bashishchíín. Bilagáána éí da shí chéí, Kinyaa' áánii éí da shin ál í.

As a mother and clinical social worker, I am running for city council because I care about this community and I believe everyone's voice matters, but isn't currently being heard. I don't see our leaders representing the population of Gallup, and I don't see efforts to reach out and support the most vulnerable residents. As a social worker with over 13 years of experience in the mental health field, I am a natural diplomat and an empathic listener. I bring an understanding of individual and community needs to the role of public servant. I also bring the perspective of a parent with young children to the conversation on quality of life and what makes Gallup a great place to live. I want our community to be a safe, healthy, and prosperous place for you and your family.

One of the issues I care most about investing my energy into is housing. I want to see us increase access to safe, affordable housing, advocate for renters, and expand new housing options by partnering with the tribe. This includes additional shelter and treatment options for unhoused residents, to create more safe spaces wherever people find themselves in life, and empowering them to create positive change by first getting housed. I will also prioritize building safe, walkable neighborhoods by keeping roads and sidewalks maintained. One way I will work on this is by organizing on the ground with regular neighborhood association meetings for information exchange and planning.

I will engage residents by going to them, asking for input on regular city issues, and by pursuing creative solutions for our town, not just "the way it's always been". I will listen and respond to constituents about what they want for our community.

Gallup has so much to offer, and we have real challenges such as addressing water sustainability, funding for improved public services, as well as how to foster a thriving arts community in our unique environment. I want to see us work together to build "A Gallup for Everyone", and I will work with the mayor, council, and staff to serve the entire community once I am in office.

Thank you for your interest in this local election and please feel free to reach out to me at sierraforcitycouncil@gmail.com if you have concerns or questions!

Respectfully,

Sierra Yazzie Asamoa-Tutu, MSW, LCSW