

Endorsement by Nancy MacWood, Commissioner and former Chair, ANC 3C

I wholeheartedly endorse Rick Nash for ANC 3C08. Over my tenure representing that part of Cleveland Park, I worked with Rick on lots of neighborhood issues. It is obvious to me that Rick has the qualities that you find in the best ANC commissioners. I've always hoped that when I decided to step down, he would step up.

Being a good ANC commissioner is not just about attending meetings. It starts with understanding that you are elected to represent people who live in the SMD. A commissioner must know the residents, seek their views, listen to them, follow the law, and use judgment to advise the DC government on a host of matters. Rick has volunteered his time for years working with neighborhood organizations, reflecting neighborhood views responsibly and accurately to citywide decision makers. It's a small step to move from that arena to the ANC.

I've heard some people denigrate knowledge and experience in favor of "new" generational views and approaches. No segment of our population should be ignored or alienated. What makes our neighborhood such a remarkable community is that it is a mixture of generations, from those who have lived most of their lives here to those who have recently arrived. Having experience and demonstrating a commitment to working with your neighbors to make a great community is not a bad thing; it's an advantage to getting things accomplished. Rick's representation will be marked by hard work and creative, thoughtful ideas; he will cede the labels to others as he strives to shape policies and proposals to benefit the community, not a single landowner or a special interest. Let's face it, there are factions within and outside the community that seek to dismiss the concerns of residents – young, old, newcomers, longtime residents, renters, or homeowners - who disagree with their agenda. In a democracy most people value civil and transparent dialogue and shun efforts by those who dismiss and demean anyone who dares to disagree with them. ANCs are neighborhood political bodies where neighbors engage to influence city decisions; ANCs are not tools to advance the mayor's agenda or a single issue agenda and we need to elect people who will respect the views of residents and commissioners from other Single Member Districts in the ANC. Rick will represent his constituents and work with his ANC colleagues with an inclusive and open approach that seeks to understand their concerns and find solutions.

Rick's a smart guy with a legal mind who does not take himself so seriously that he can't find irony or humor in everyday life. He is a pleasure to be around and to talk with about dogs, speed humps, or our families. His modesty makes him a sincere and interested listener. He knows that for someone struggling to get a response from the DC government his intervention may be all they need. But, if they need his advice on or analysis of a more complicated issue, like an unexpected zoning case, he also knows how to break it down and be an advocate. If you don't know Rick already, I hope you will get to know him as he campaigns for ANC3C08.

There are some big changes around the corner - some we've planned for a long time and some we are just beginning to envision. Rick does his homework, listens, and has an open mind to change that will enhance the quality of life in the SMD and the greater community. His approach will be predictable - listening, talking, suggesting, advocating – and in the end using his judgment to make sensible decisions. I am confident that on issues large or small, you will be reassured that you made a wise choice in voting for Rick as the ANC commissioner for 3C08.

Nancy MacWood
Commissioner and former Chair, ANC 3C