

**Letter of Support for City Council Candidate Marla Decker  
from Nora Martínez DeBenedetto**

Dear Second Ward Friends,

Hope all is well with you! I am writing to you today to voice my enthusiastic support and endorsement of my dear friend Marla Decker for Second Ward City Council. Being born and raised myself right here in the Second Ward, nothing is more important to me than careful stewardship of our municipal government, and I know that Marla is the right person for this job. As moms to young boys, we bonded immediately over our shared passion for raising city kids, and also bigger issues like supporting Hoboken schools, increasing city-support for recreational programming, and fighting for common sense gun laws in New Jersey.

I first met Marla when I ran for City Council four years ago. She volunteered for my campaign because she believes, like I do, that the Second Ward deserves representation that is focused on the real issues, not manufactured political divisiveness. My initial impressions remain true today. Marla is smart, honest, ethical, and did I mention smart? Marla spends her days working in finance and law, and she spends her time off volunteering as a leader in her condo association (a thankless job if ever there was one), and at the Hoboken Public Education Foundation. Additionally, she is a founder of the Rent for Refugees charity, which raised over \$40,000 for Ukrainian refugees. When there is an issue that needs to be dealt with in Hoboken or across the globe, Marla quietly steps up and gets the job done with compassion, understanding, and humility.

Marla does not shy away from big problems. She is a listener and a doer. She is never afraid to voice her opinion, but she does so in a way that is thoughtful and unifying. I will never forget when Marla took her kids to a football game in Hoboken, and there was a scary incident involving a gun. Marla texted me that night, scared for her own children, of course. But her true anguish was for the children who don't have a choice or the privilege to simply avoid gun violence. Marla gets that caring for the less fortunate in our community uplifts us all, makes us all safer, makes our community stronger.

As you know, Election Day is Tuesday, November 7th. You can vote early at any Hudson County early voting location. Hoboken's location is at City Hall (94 Washington Street). Polls are open Saturday October 28th through November 5th, Monday-Saturday 10am-8pm and Sunday 10am - 6pm

I welcome additional conversation on this topic. Please feel free to contact me any time at [no-radebe42@gmail.com](mailto:noradebe42@gmail.com)

Best,

Nora Martínez DeBenedetto