

GET OUT AND VOTE!!

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Over the past few weeks, I have had a chance to talk to several candidates running for city council. Most candidates want to visit our buildings and family sites in order to meet the residents and listen to their suggestions on how to make the district and city better.

One candidate informed me that they will *not* be visiting our sites. When I asked why, the candidate replied that our residents don't vote. They wanted to focus their attention in neighborhoods where people vote. I have to admit, this comment bothered me greatly. Our residents are just as important as others from different districts. We should get just as much attention, if not more.

However, the candidate was factually correct. When you look at the voting numbers for the past few elections, WHA residents are not voting in great numbers, even though, many of the voting polls are right inside our community rooms. Candidates know "which side your bread is buttered" meaning they are going to pay attention to the neighborhoods where people vote.

With that said, I want to ask and challenge my residents to be heard this fall in the upcoming city elections by voting. If you are not registered to vote, please go to www.vote.org or call the Elections Commission at (508) 799-1134.

Secondly, get to know the candidates. Read about what they stand for and if you get a chance to talk to them, ask them questions about issues that are important to you. Lastly, make sure you vote and encourage your neighbors to vote. Our city elections are sometimes so close that a few votes is the difference to the election.

I want our buildings and family sites to vote in such high numbers that our properties are the main priority for our candidates. I never want to hear a candidate say that there is no need visiting our residents again.

Thank you and Get Out and Vote!!