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Monday, January 6, 2020

**Mike Austin to Run for Ward 8 Council Seat**  
*"It's Now or Never"*

**Washington, DC** – Today, Ward 8 ANC 8C Chairman Mike Austin announced his candidacy for the Ward 8 Council seat. Mike pledged to be a champion for all Ward 8 residents and their families.

Mike said, “Our people are suffering under this current leadership. Our community problems have gone on long enough. I’m tired of the broken promises, it’s time for progress. If we don’t solve these challenges now, then we may never figure them out, it’s time for better: it’s now or never.”

Mike was born in Ward 8, is a fourth-generation Washingtonian, a lawyer, and the Chair of ANC 8C representing Congress Heights, DC. Mike has proudly dedicated his career to serving Ward 8. Previously, he served as the Legislative Director for Ward 8, where he focused on educational improvements, criminal justice reform, and displacement prevention; the Legislative Director to the Deputy Mayor for Greater Economic Opportunity, where he focused on closing the economic gap for Ward 8 residents by overseeing the policy initiatives of the Department of Employment Services and the Department of Small and Local Business Development; and as a Vice President at a hospital, where he focused on improving health outcomes for Ward 8 by enhancing the quality of health care services.

Mike stated, “I plan to bring a creative, balanced, and responsible leadership style that listens to the community. My experience in workforce, small business, and health care gives me a unique background for the Council. I will use that perspective while working closely with community leaders and partners in Ward 8 to create a plan within my first three months in office. That’s the urgency that we need on the Council.”

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