



## CANDIDATE SPOTLIGHT

**DEBBIE ROSE**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, ALGONKIAN DISTRICT

CANDIDATE: **DEBBIE ROSE**

OFFICE: **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS – ALGONKIAN DISTRICT**

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### **How long have you lived in Loudoun County and what is your favorite thing about living here?**

My husband and I met in law school and then I moved here when I got a job on the Hill. My husband moved here too, and we got married in 2000. We first lived in Arlington and Fairfax and then moved to Loudoun in 2006 when we started our family. We wanted to live in a less congested environment.

My favorite thing about living here is the community. It is a big county but there is a sense of community with so many opportunities to meet people whether it's through kid's activities like sports or just meeting neighbors and chatting with them in the grocery store. There is a sense of connectedness and I have also enjoyed being engaged in politics and social activities. I have connected with so many people in our county and it is really unique in that we have large and small communities but there is still a small town atmosphere.

### **What are some things you would like voters to know about you?**

I enjoy doing policy work and the process of bringing people together. I prefer working behind the scenes and not just the exciting parts that people see. I like getting input from stakeholders and finding a pathway to finding solutions, which is something I learned as a staffer when I was working on the House Judiciary Committee.

In my career as an attorney for a congressional committee, representing intellectual property and technology industries, and now representing clients in education matters, I bring people together to find resolutions to conflicts. I believe I did this well while serving on the School Board. I enjoy talking to everyone across the political spectrum and learning everyone's perspective.

I am also committed to the principles of running an efficient government as well as the efficient use of taxpayer money. I look at it as how I handle my own budget. I want to keep as much money as I can and maximize how to utilize funds to benefit my family. I don't spend money frivolously and I believe elected officials are the guardians of taxpayer money. We need to see the benefits in the use of funds.

### **What made you decide to run for Board of Supervisors?**

The current board and especially the supervisor in my district are too focused on national politics and social issues. Local government should be focused on local issues such as land use, taxes, funding services, schools, and making sure our law enforcement and first responders are funded to meet their operational needs. We also need to look at providing for people who need assistance from the county; in our district there are specific needs and there is a lack of focus from the current supervisor. I would like to fix that in a nonpartisan way and address the needs of my constituents whether it's about speeding on Algonkian Parkway or fixing potholes. We need to meet the needs of the people who live here for the long term.

### **What issues would you like to focus on as a supervisor?**

I want to make sure we are looking at transportation issues and having a diverse economic base that's not solely reliant on things like data centers. Although they have been very valuable in terms of keeping taxes down, we need to diversify our business tax base as well as having appropriate oversight over our public schools. We should be addressing residents' issues.

### **Loudoun County, particularly eastern Loudoun, is seeing huge economic growth and with affordable housing initiatives currently being discussed, how would you deal with the congestion, roads, and schools? We are running out of space over here.**

We have a lot of questions that need to be asked. The current supervisor hasn't asked these questions because of the focus on the talking points of the far left and just checking off the boxes.

We should understand how the terms and issues are defined and ensure oversight of the housing programs. What costs are being passed along to new home buyers and taxpayers? It is important to have affordable housing but where is the oversight of eligibility? These are questions that need to be asked. Where are the kids going to go to school? Will these proposed developments overcrowd our schools? Many schools already face challenges of being Title I eligible due to ELL and low-income enrollment.

We need to look at land use to also meet the needs of low-income communities and not price out residents and businesses. These conversations have not been had and we need input from the community. Regarding new housing, it is important that zoning decisions be made with the

input of all stakeholders. The Algonkian District is already densely populated so new development should not negatively impact schools, traffic, roads and services here. Many of our commercial centers are in decline. We need to engage the community for input.

**Environmental issues are also a concern in the Algonkian district such as the EPA superfund site in Broad Run Farms and building in Bles Park. The current supervisor wants to build on these sites. How do we preserve some green space in eastern Loudoun?**

Good question. There may be some holdup on the Bles park plans, but it was also interesting that it had the support of all supervisors. We need to look at how we balance the improvements and still preserve the wildlife sanctuaries. There are concerns too about the superfund cleanup which could take a few years of trucks going in and out of the neighborhood and the nuisance to the residents. We need to listen to their concerns and alleviate them. The current supervisor has been missing in action and has not addressed any of this.

**Is there one word your family or friends would use to describe you?**

I am dedicated and I don't give up. Once I am dedicated to a cause I will fight for my goals and principles and I plan to do this as a supervisor.