
Eric ROSARIO

Contact Information

P.O. Box 6603
Ithaca, N.Y. 14851

607.273.2417
eric@ericrosario.org

www.ericrosario.org

MEDIA RELEASE

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20-year resident declares candidacy for Second Ward vacancy on Ithaca Common Council

ITHACA – Eric Rosario, community advocate and 20-year City of Ithaca resident, will run as an independent candidate for the pending Second Ward vacancy on the City’s Common Council.

“In the weeks since Alderwoman Michelle Berry announced she would not run for re-election, I’ve been contacted by many neighbors throughout the Second Ward, including Alderwoman Berry herself, who believe in my ability to step forward and help lead the Ward,” said Rosario, whose candidacy was recently endorsed by the Second Ward Democratic Committee.

Rosario is a 9-year member of the Ithaca Urban Renewal Agency. For the past 7 years, he has co-chaired its Economic Development Committee, helping establish and support local businesses such as Diane’s Downtown Automotive, the Ithaca Coffee Company, the new Bookery II, and key job-training programs such as the Commercial Driver’s License Partnership Program and the Skilled Trades Diversity Council pre-apprentice program.

A dedicated community member, Rosario has been a leader in the Henry St. John Civic Association during the 9 years he has lived in that neighborhood. He played an active role in the City-sponsored process to create the Greater Southside Neighborhood Plan. He also co-founded the Latino Civic Association of Tompkins County in 1994 and, more recently, the Alliance for Community Empowerment. In addition, Rosario has 15 years professional management experience with Cornell University.

The breadth of Rosario’s Ithaca experience is reflected in the main planks of his platform:

- Enhancing and protecting the Second Ward’s quality of life
- Promoting balanced economic development
- Ensuring fiscal accountability

“I will work hard to keep our Ward’s housing affordable; support economic development that benefits, not compromises, our quality of life; and take a thoughtful hard look at our budget to determine where we can leverage intermunicipal cooperation to reduce our tax burdens,” Rosario said. “I also want to build on the City’s efforts to increase citizen access to City Hall, and accountability from its officials.”

Alderwoman Berry, a Democrat and the outgoing Second Ward representative on Common Council, enthusiastically supports Rosario’s candidacy.

“Eric is an independent visionary with a strong track record for leadership, keen listening, and forthright action. His solid commitment to fiscal accountability, balanced economic development, and advocacy on behalf of neighbors will be great assets to our Ward,” she said. “He will do wonderful work not only for the Second Ward, but for the entire City.”

Independent Candidate for Common Council
City of Ithaca, 2nd Ward