

Oct. 22, 2017

I've known Andrea Kelley for over 25 years. She has earned my vote, and here is why I believe she deserves yours.

Andrea is able to speak truth to power in respectful ways and to work collaboratively resulting in solid, sustainable solutions. I have watched her analyze complex situations from land use to the opioid crisis with great insight and pragmatism. I know from her work in my congregation that she is committed to social justice.

As a business woman (a professional landscape designer and site planner) she understands that zoning reform and master planning are tools to address concerns over tear-downs and inappropriate development, and that providing diverse housing options need not preclude open space or historic preservation or decrease our street tree canopy.

Her history of dedicated service to Newton in a wide variety of roles has prepared her to serve on the City Council with distinction while enhancing our city's livability. Her service includes the Newton Child Care Commission, the Peirce School PTO President, PTO Council Political Action Co-Chair, Newton Housing Partnership, Newton's Design Review Committee, and the League of Women Voters (as past president and chair of Housing, Land Use and Zoning committees).

I sincerely hope you will join me and vote for Andrea Kelley for City Councilor At-Large from Ward 3.

Barbara L. Bates, part-time naturalist, Mass Audubon Habitat Sanctuary