

East Bethel Candidate Profile



Candidate Name: *Wanda McLaurin*

Office Sought: *City Council Member,
Special Election*

Bio:

Hello East Bethel! My name is Wanda McLaurin, and I am running in the City Council Special Election for the seat I was appointed to last year. It would be a privilege to finish the remaining two years of this term to serve the citizens of East Bethel.

I have lived in East Bethel for almost 10 years. After searching across several states and many other cities in Minnesota, my husband and I chose to retire in this beautiful city to be closer to family and return to the Midwest. East Bethel offered us the rural feel we were searching for with many amenities available due to our proximity to the metro area.

I became involved with the city in 2016 as a resident who did not agree with how the city's decisions were affecting the livability of my and surrounding neighborhoods in the northern section of the city. I believe that as member of a community we have an obligation to become a voice for positive change, offering constructive input as to how things might be changed. I became involved, listening, learning, and volunteering for the EDA, the Planning Commission including chairing the Planning Commission until my appointment to City Council.

I serve on the East Bethel Booster Days and the East Bethel Chamber Golf Committee. I am a member of Beaverbrook Sportsman Club, American Legion Post 0791, and the East Bethel Chamber of Commerce. I currently serve as the city liaison to the East Bethel Chamber of Commerce and the East Bethel Parks Commission. You will also find me at the Green Barn in Isanti during the spring and winter seasons

Over the last few years, East Bethel has experienced its most impactful period of growth. While it has not always been easy, this growth has seen both residential, commercial, and light industrial expansion. Development is what helps to keep our city tax rate one of the lowest in the north metro area and helps to support our efforts to attract retail (like grocery stores) for our residents. I have had the privilege of working for some of the largest US corporations and small family businesses and understand the challenges they face. I want to continue to support our existing businesses and attract the type of development that is best suited to our community.

East Bethel is a unique city with that special blend of rural and limited Highway 65 urban corridor development. The city has challenges ahead but also has many opportunities to make this an even better place to live and call home. I would be honored to continue to be part of the governing body that will take East Bethel into the future. I can only do this with your support. Please vote for me on November 8, 2022.

Thank You,

Wanda

