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Saint Paul City Council Candidate Liz De La Torre Committed to Running

Saint Paul – Liz De La Torre, candidate for Ward 1 City Council in Saint Paul, issued the following statement regarding her campaign.

I wanted to share an update with you, and with all the voters of Ward 1.

Many of you may have noticed that I have been quieter and more absent over the last several weeks. Though my campaign has never closed its doors, I have been dealing with a personal challenge that has kept me from running the robust, aggressive campaign I wanted.

I've always been very open about my health issues. I've struggled with anxiety and depression for most of my life and have successfully managed my Hashimoto's disease for years under the care of an endocrinologist. This spring, I was diagnosed with lupus, an autoimmune disease that causes fevers, tissue damage, joint pain, and exhaustion. Since then, I have struggled to balance the demands of work and campaigning with my personal health and well-being.

But with the support of my friends and family and the help of medical specialists, I have recovered some of my strength and refocused on my top priority: representing the people of Ward 1 on the Saint Paul City Council. It is with energy and excitement, as well as humility, that I share this news with you and recommit myself to earning your vote this November.

Continuing to run for office with a chronic health issue was not an easy decision. I know it will mean stretching myself to my physical, emotional, and mental limits. I also know it will mean running a different campaign than I planned. But I'm ready to take on the challenge.

As an advocate for victims of sexual violence, I am constantly inspired by the strength and resilience of my clients. I decided to run for city council so I could fight for meaningful policy changes that would improve their lives, and the lives of all our vulnerable neighbors. But I'm staying in this race to follow the example of my parents, who risked their lives to build a better life for my siblings and me in the United States.

As daunting as this challenge feels, I am honored by the support and encouragement I have received from so many of you. I want to show others – especially other women of color – that no barrier is high enough to keep us out of the halls of power.

I'm ready to fight for a stronger Ward 1 – and I hope you will join me.

De La Torre is a candidate for Ward 1 City Council. She lives in the Cathedral Hill neighborhood and holds a Bachelor of Science in International Studies and Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Learn more about Liz at www.NeighborsforLiz.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NeighborsForLiz. Follow Liz on Twitter @LizDeLaTorreW1.

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