

Kapusta-Pofahl, Karen

From: Joseph Roling [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 9, 2024 1:53 AM
To: Common Council Executive Committee
Subject: District 19 alder application

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Hello,

Joseph Roling
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 53705
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Hello, I am a lifelong Madisonian, who grew up in the Meadowood area of the west side of Madison. I have an undergraduate degree in history from the UW-Madison and a masters degree in liberal arts from the University of Chicago.

My father ran a successful business downtown, until retirement. I've had more of circuitous career adventure in Madison, working at Ciatti's in high school, working in landscaping, hotels, transporting people with special needs, managing a downtown apartment building, and eventually working in communications and web development at the Wisconsin Medical Society and SSM Health.

I know Madison intrinsically through its history, culture, leaders, growth and politics. I have always been a huge promoter of Madison through exchange programs such as ECI (France), the Madison-Oslo Sister City Program, and Youth for Understanding (Japan). I have weighed in (as a resident) on numerous issues from racial and social diversity, high-speed rail, bike trails, affordable housing, health care, mass transit, energy policy, clean lakes, historic preservation, quality of life, arts and culture, and "what should we do about State Street."

I wish to serve because I come from a Madison that made it easier for me to come out as a gay man. It pioneered socially-conscious policing, recycling, affordable housing, and mixed-income developments. I want to help preserve the qualities that made Madison a star city, as it transitions into a major metropolitan area - qualities that can so easily be lost to more powerful interests. I am passionate about racial and economic equality, support of small businesses, urban design innovation, historic preservation, education and overall life quality.

My hope, as an alder, would be to accomplish being a faithful custodian of Madison's unique culture, while advocating for innovations that afford a high quality of life for ALL residents - innovations that support diversity, social equity, progressiveness, environmental protection and efforts to reverse climate change.

I only plan to run for the spring 2025 election if I feel that in this role, I have pleased my constituents and can accomplish more for them in future terms.

Thank you,

Joseph M. Roling