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**Goodweather Becomes First Certified Fair Elections Mayoral Candidate**

*Grassroots campaign qualifies for over \$375,000 in public funds with support from more than 1,200 individual donors*

**Washington, D.C.** — Gary Goodweather, DC business leader, U.S. Army veteran, long-time resident, and candidate for Mayor of Washington, D.C., today became the **first candidate in the 2026 mayoral race to be certified** as a Participating Candidate in the Fair Elections Program. The certification triggers over \$375,000 in public funds.

*"This milestone belongs to the more than 1,000 DC residents who believe in this campaign," **stated Goodweather.** "When we launched, we had no name recognition, no donor base, and no political machine. What we had was a vision for a safer, stronger, and more self-determined Washington—and our neighbors responded."*

To qualify for certification, mayoral candidates must collect at least 1,000 small-dollar contributions from District residents totaling \$40,000 or more. The Goodweather campaign exceeded both thresholds, securing 1,075 qualified contributions totaling over \$43,000 from DC residents. The campaign has raised over \$64,000 from more than 1,200 individual donors overall.

*"Fair Elections exists to prove that candidates who earn broad community support can compete—regardless of connections to wealthy donors or special interests," **said Goodweather.** "This certification is proof that our neighbors believe a different kind of politics is possible in this city."*

The milestone comes as Goodweather has released detailed policy proposals addressing transit equity, civic service, and neighborhood quality of life—with additional announcements planned in the coming weeks.

**Gary Goodweather for Mayor** is a grassroots, Fair Elections campaign committed to building a safer, stronger, and more self-determined Washington, D.C.

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Paid for by Goodweather for DC, Malachy Nugent, Treasurer