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Goodweather Responds to Mayor Bowser's Decision Not to Seek Reelection

Open mayoral field underscores urgent need for new leadership

Washington, D.C. — Gary Goodweather, D.C. business leader, resident, father, U.S. Army veteran, and candidate for Mayor of Washington, D.C., issued a statement today following Mayor Muriel Bowser's announcement that she will not seek a fourth term. Goodweather acknowledged Bowser's years of service while emphasizing that many residents are ready for a new direction and stronger leadership during one of the most consequential moments in recent District history.

The Bowser announcement immediately reshapes the 2026 mayoral race, opening the door to a competitive field at a time when residents continue to face persistent safety concerns, affordability pressures, and threats to D.C.'s limited self-governance. Goodweather stressed the need for a mayor who will confront these challenges directly.

*"Mayor Bowser has given many years to this city, and I respect that commitment," **said Goodweather.** "At the same time, too many Washingtonians have felt unheard and unprotected. This moment makes clear that our city is ready for leadership that brings urgency, clarity, and real solutions."*

Goodweather noted that his campaign has been grounded in meeting residents where they are, listening to frustrations across all eight wards, and outlining a plan focused on public safety reforms, affordability, and restoring confidence in local government.

*"Washington needs a leader who puts residents first and defends our right to govern ourselves without hesitation," **Goodweather said.** "From the work we've done these past months to the work ahead, I'll continue to earn every Washingtonian's vote and share my vision for a more safe and prosperous DC."*

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