

Office Sought: Ward 1 DC City Council

Candidate's Name: Terry Lync

Current occupation: Executive Director, The Downtown Cluster of Congregations

Party: Democrat

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1. I would hope that I could meet on a regular basis with C-PAC and its members to hear about needs, efforts and initiatives that can improve civic and commercial life for the Caribbean community. Personal contact both with leadership and members is crucial to know what the day to day reality is and how the office of the Ward 1 Councilmember can best serve the community. There is no replacing hands on face to face interaction.

2. I have often worked with populations facing discrimination from both government agencies and private entities. My agency has run homeless programs for years and the homeless for reason of simply being homeless as well as often being of minority status are often discriminated against. Discrimination must be met with both organized efforts and legal action. I would expect to be working in coordination with CPAC on legal efforts that can address barriers placed in front of both individuals, businesses and others associated with the Caribbean community.

3. Culturally responsive services will require education and advocacy. Staff must be trained to be aware of discriminatory practices and how to treat equally all. I look forward to working with CPAC to identify current hurdles and hopefully work with C-PAC and its members to overcome such practices be it from private entities or public agencies - local or federal.

4. I look forward to working individually and collectively with small Caribbean businesses on the hurdles they face. I would like there to again be a Caribbean Festival along Georgia Avenue, NW. Many businesses have specific issues and needs that take focused attention and services. I would hope that there can be targeted grants to assist small business to both open and grow their businesses. Again, the Councilmember's office needs to work

with owners business by business. Each success can help lead to the next success to the benefit of all.

5. My offices I would expect may dedicate a staffer to work specifically on education related issues.....that means having an advocate who works with the Caribbean-American community. The goal is to partner with families to help their students achieve their goals ..their success makes the educational system more successful.

6. There needs to be school based social workers to work with families on health related issues. I expect to fully advertise to the community available resources. All such efforts will save tax dollars by achieving prevention. My experience is such efforts must be meaningful partnerships to be successful. I look forward to working with the community on health matters. Healthy families mean healthy and successful communities.

7. I expect to set up meetings with MPD leadership and rank and file with minority community members to discuss current practicessensitivity ... partnerships that create safer communities. There is no replacing personal contact. I want MPD officers and others to walk the beat to meet and get to know those they are serving ... in addition to the leadership being successfully engaged.

i. I believe there needs to be robust small business grant programs, scholarship programs to assist the community. With regards to policy efforts regular meetings with C-PAC can hopefully identify new opportunities and emerging issues and possibly head off negative impacts from government practices be it in safety practices, business engagement, or other areas. There is absolutely no replacing strong direct ties with the community - these issues cannot be delegated by I the Councilmember expect to fully engage with C-PAC on identifying needs and solutions to issues facing the community.

9. I support full funding for the Mayor's Office of Caribbean Community Affairs and would hope and advocate that C-PAC been involved in providing input on candidates and key issues that Office should be working on. I expect to be a successful partner with C-PAC - a successful, safe and vibrant Ward 1 is only possible if the Caribbean-American community is healthy and successful. I look forward to finding new initiatives and programs to make that possible by working with both individuals of the community as well as C-PAC leadership. The Community has been underserved, ignored, and ill served for way too long. That will end upon my election.

Thank you for this opportunity and I look forward to working with C-PAC on the issues facing the community and doing so successfully for the benefit of all.

Terry Lynch