

PRESS RELEASE

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Climate Organizer Jane Stromberg Announces City Council Run

BURLINGTON, VT -- Jane Stromberg announced today that she is running for City Council in Burlington's eighth ward. The Burlington resident will seek the Progressive nomination. Jane is a University of Vermont graduate and has been active for several years in the community as a climate researcher and organizer.

Jane is the first in her family to attend college, graduating with degrees in Environmental Science and Political Science. While a student she was the President of the Renewable Energy Network, co-chair of UVM Progressives, and a fellow at Our Climate. Jane also worked at the Center for Academic Success, the Student Accessibilities office, and the Howe Memorial Library for the entirety of her time at UVM. Since 2016 Jane has served on the board of the Vermont Public Interest Research Group (VPIRG). She also worked on VPIRG's 2017 summer canvass.

East District City Councilor Jack Hanson has endorsed Jane's campaign and will serve as her campaign treasurer. "With eleven years left to radically transform society to address the climate crisis, we need young climate champions like Jane in leadership roles at all levels of government. If elected, Jane will play a pivotal role in moving our City forward on climate change and other critical issues facing Ward 8 residents," Hanson said.

Stromberg has put the climate crisis as the top priority of her campaign. She hopes to bring her experience as a climate and environmental health researcher and advocate to the council in an effort to drive local policy forward. "In the midst of the climate emergency, our state's CO2 emissions are rising and Burlington still has a long way to go to reach 100% renewable energy in heating and transportation. I have the experience and knowledge to help lead the fight to cut emissions and hope to build upon that work if elected," Jane stated.

Jane's announcement speech focused heavily on housing and the role of UVM in shaping the housing market: "We see absentee landlords chopping up and renting out once affordable single family homes. We are dealing with a University failing to provide affordable on-campus housing options for students and driving up our housing market as a whole. If ever we needed fresh ideas, and strong Progressive leadership -- it is now," said Jane during her announcement.

Former Burlington City Councilor and Progressive Party State Chair Emma Mulvaney-Stanek also endorsed Jane's campaign, saying, "Jane offers an underrepresented voice on City Council as a recent UVM graduate, woman and young person. Her first hand experience of working multiple jobs to afford Burlington rents and her student loan debt payments allows her to uniquely understand the needs of many Ward 8 residents. We need Jane's fresh perspective to make sure all voices in Burlington are considered in City Hall, especially working folks."

Jane also spoke about the need to create an equitable and just community. "If Burlington is serious about embracing diversity, it is time we see that reflected in our local government. Young people, people of color, women, first generation college students, renters and so many other communities are being left out of the process and our policies reflect that. Ward 8 is among one of the areas most impacted by this lack of representation. If elected, we will change that."

Jane will be seeking the Progressive Party nomination at the party's caucus at Edmunds Middle School this Wednesday, December 4th at 6:30pm.