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WAMU 88.5 FM AMERICAN UNIVERSITY RADIO

My name is Muriel Bowser and I am running for RE-ELECTION AS WARD 4 MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Please limit your responses to 100 words. Any responses beyond the 100 word limit will be cut due to space limitations.

1. Name the two biggest challenges facing the Washington DC and briefly explain how you would work to solve them. (Maximum 100 words)

Most challenges facing our City involve enhancing opportunity—educational and economic. We have embarked on an unprecedented public education reform effort. In my next term on the Council, I am committed to working with all stakeholders and making the tough decisions necessary to keep building on this year's progress. Ensuring that DC remains a place where people of all income levels can live is a growing challenge. We must look to new ways to encourage the creation and preservation of affordable housing throughout DC, including developer contributions to the Trust fund.

2. Name the two biggest challenges facing the United States, and briefly explain how you would work to solve them. (Maximum 100 words)

We are in the midst of an energy crisis fueled by our incredible consumption of fossil fuels. I have supported comprehensive renewable energy legislation that requires our City, businesses, and residents to look closely at the uses of renewable energy sources. As a local government, we help our Country by funding innovative programs to reduce our reliance on foreign sources. Likewise, local governments can help solve our national healthcare crisis by ensuring that the standard is universal health coverage. That's why I supported Healthy DC-- comprehensive legislation that opens the doors to preventive healthcare to the vast majority of Washingtonians.

3. Name a political figure (either local or national) you greatly admire and explain why. (Maximum 100 words)

I most admire my father Commissioner Joseph Bowser. It is true that local politics have the most impact on the lives of everyday Americans. I learned at my father's heels that organizing your block, your neighborhood, your ANC leads to meaningful changes in your everyday life. Following in his footsteps, I was elected to an ANC Commissioner and Civic Association VP in my Riggs Park neighborhood. Having first gained this invaluable grassroots experience, I sought the Ward 4 Council seat. My father's example has in no small way allowed me to hit the ground running on the Council.



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4. Name two specific skills or experiences that make you uniquely qualified to represent Ward 4 on the City Council. (Maximum 100 words)

My work and educational experience has uniquely qualified me to advance an aggressive agenda for Ward 4. I have worked in local government for over 12 years and gained expertise in economic revitalization, transportation management and service delivery. My understanding of the workings of government, my connections with our neighboring jurisdictions and relevant training in public policy has allowed me to not miss a beat in representing Ward 4 on the Council. I am equally blessed with the ability to analyze complex issues, synthesize the costs and benefits, communicate these issues to residents and persuade my colleagues on the Council.

5. How long have you lived in Ward 4 and how has it changed since that date? Explain why those changes have been to the benefit or detriment of local residents. (Maximum 100 words)

I'm a fifth-generation Washingtonian and have lived in Ward 4 since 2000. I have seen public facilities built and improved, government become more accountable, and persistent areas of crime dissipate. Just this last year, we've opened a new recreation center, senior wellness center, spray park, ball fields, school health suite, and replaced crumbling bus shelters, miles of new roadways, alleys and sidewalks. I've secured funding to invest in parks, modernize schools, and provide clean and safe services on our corridors, and more crime-fighting tools for police. Our residents benefit greatly from a focus on making sure government is working for them.

6. Fill in the following blanks (Maximum two sentences):

a) The most recent book I read and enjoyed was Barak Obama's The Audacity of Hope.

b) My favorite television show/movie is Forest Gump.

c) In my spare time, such that there is very little of that, I love to spend time with my family and dearest friends.

Thanks so much for taking the time to fill out this questionnaire; your answers will be shared with the WAMU audience.



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My name is Baruti Jahi and I am running for City Council in Ward 4.

Please limit your responses to 100 words. Any responses beyond the 100 word limit will be cut due to space limitations.

1. Name the two biggest challenges facing the Washington DC area and briefly explain how you would work to solve them. (Maximum 100 words) Reducing Crime and fixing Public Schools are the two biggest challenges facing D.C. I'm proposing using recreational centers to also provide social service programs. Crime prevention should include delivering services to the community to help decrease the probability of criminal activity; while crime reduction can occur through an increase in law enforcement and legislation that severely penalize criminals for gun crimes. I will organize a Ward 4 PTA Consortium consisting of representatives from PTAs in the Ward. They will advise me of the relevant issues that impact the performance of public schools, and I will meet regularly with the Chancellor.

2. Name the two biggest challenges facing the United States, and briefly explain how you would work to solve them. (Maximum 100 words) The War in Iraq and the economy. There are many correlations between the Iraq War and Vietnam. As Dr. King discussed in his speech entitled, "Beyond Vietnam, A Time To Break Silence," it's impossible to effectively fund domestic programs when you're allocating unlimited resources into War. The Iraq War is draining our economy. Whether you support war in Iraq or not, as a District resident your rights are limited because our voice cannot be heard in Congress since our elected representative does not have a vote on the House floor. I will work to secure voting representation for District residents.

3. Name a political figure (either local or national) you greatly admire and explain why. (Maximum 100 words) Senator Barack Obama. He has overcome numerous obstacles throughout his lifetime and already achieved more than anyone ever anticipated. Senator Obama grew up in a household headed by a single mother, and so did I. He is the presumptive Democratic nominee for president having beaten the formidable and powerful Clinton machine. I'm going to win the Democratic nomination for the Ward 4 Council Seat over the Fenty machine. I admire his ability to articulate policy through passionate and inspirational



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speeches. I look forward to demonstrating the same ability. By the way, I'm also called the candidate with the funny name.

4. Name two specific skills or experiences that make you uniquely qualified to represent Ward 4 on the City Council. (Maximum 100 words) I'm a great listener and knowledgeable about District government. I have the unique ability to motivate people and accomplish difficult tasks. My educational and professional experiences have prepared me for this moment. I'm a graduate of Howard University with a Ph.D. in Political Science, and I've worked as a Manager for NASA of the Federal government for 10-years. I understand public policy and how government should work. I was honored to receive the Metropolitan Police Department's Community Service Award last year for my work in public safety, and I'm the most recent past president of the Shepherd Park Citizens Association.

5. How long have you lived in Ward 4 and how has it changed since that date? Explain why those changes have been to the benefit or detriment of local residents. (Maximum 100 words) I've lived in the Ward for 5-years and the District for 20-years. When I speak to residents throughout our Ward the changes they cite are the rise of homicides, assaults with a deadly weapon and burglary. They see these crimes as a detriment because of the personal nature of them, and the negative impact on their quality of life. The declining real estate market has also contributed to an increase in financial difficulty for residents of the Ward.

6. Fill in the following blanks (Maximum two sentences):

a) The most recent book I read and enjoyed was The Audacity of Hope by Barack Obama.

b) My favorite television show/movie is The GodFather.

c) In my spare time I love to Take walks on the mall with my family.

Thanks so much for taking the time to fill out this questionnaire; your answers will be shared with the WAMU audience.