

Biography of Councilmember Brianne Nadeau

Brianne Nadeau was elected to the Council of the District of Columbia on November 4, 2014. As Councilmember, Brianne has worked to address public safety, expand affordable housing, hold government agencies accountable and support Ward 1 workers, families and schools.

The first bill Brianne introduced in 2015 would strengthen the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability to ensure District elected officials remain accountable to residents and to make District government more open and transparent.

To improve public safety, she works to ensure the Metropolitan Police Department and DC agencies have the resources they need to keep our communities safe, and to better connect residents with MPD through public safety walks and community meetings. She voted for a comprehensive public safety bill recently passed by Council which uses a data-driven approach to address the causes of crime. She also supported a program to reimburse residents for installing security cameras.

Brianne is working to ensure the District remains a great place to raise a family. She co-introduced paid family leave legislation, which would provide paid leave for workers in the District who confront a major life event like child birth, adoption or caring for a sick family member. She also introduced legislation to prevent families facing extreme hardships from losing assistance through the TANF program. She has worked to hold DCPS accountable for school modernizations and in the past two budget cycles secured much-needed investments in Marie Reed Elementary, Bancroft Elementary, Bruce Monroe at Park View, and Banneker High School.

Because she believes families shouldn't be forced to leave the neighborhoods they love because of skyrocketing housing prices, she supports a multipronged approach to addressing the housing crisis. She introduced and passed emergency legislation to preserve 64 units of affordable housing in Columbia Heights, and worked with the Council to approve development of 128 new affordable units on Florida Avenue. She also supports the production of new homes for the residents of Park Morton through the New Communities program. She has pushed to fully fund the Housing Production Trust Fund, which is used to support affordable housing construction, and co-introduced a bill to increase down payment assistance for new home buyers. She led the effort to create new positions at the Office of the Tenant Advocate to protect the rights of renters and help tenants stay in their homes and added three new inspectors at the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs to investigate illegal construction.

Brianne is a community activist at heart, and engages Ward 1 residents and businesses through civic organizations, volunteer opportunities in neighborhoods and schools, and through regular dialogue as part of her Brianne on Your Block office hours in the community.

On the Council, she serves on the Committee on Business, Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, the Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Committee on Housing and Community Development. Brianne serves on the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments as Chairperson of its Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee. She also represents the District as the Chairperson of the Local Government Advisory Committee to the Chesapeake Bay Council and at the National Conference of State Legislatures. She is the State Director of the Young Elected Officials Network.

Prior to the Council, Brianne was Vice President at Rabinowitz Communications providing strategic counsel to faith-based, Democratic and environmental non-profit organizations, and served as a board member of Jews United for Justice. In 2006, she was elected to the Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 1B, eventually serving as chair. Brianne earned an M.A. in Public Policy from American University where she concentrated her studies in the Women & Politics Institute, and a B.A. in Political Science from Boston College.

Brianne grew up in Michigan where she attended public school and was a Girl Scout for 13 years, earning the Scout's highest honor, the Gold Award. She is an active member of her prayer community, DC Minyan.