

Why Ken Parker should be the next Mayor of Newton

Newton's next Mayor will have a tough job: Building confidence in City Hall, renovating and rebuilding our schools and city infrastructure, closing a structural deficit, paying for Newton North, and helping to select our next Superintendent of Schools.

We need a Mayor with **clear plans** and **proven leadership** to restore our community's trust.

1. PARKER HAS THE BEST SOLUTIONS FOR NEWTON'S PROBLEMS.

Ken Parker brought together 100 Newton experts to develop *A Blueprint for Newton's Future* – a comprehensive plan to ensure Newton's financial health, to re-establish confidence in City Hall, and to improve our city services and schools. Read it at www.Parker2009.org/Blueprint. Add your comments.

"Parker has a grasp of policy that far outweighs that of his opponents, and we admire how he has carefully identified and articulated positions to nearly every problem the city faces." -- Newton TAB

2. PARKER'S LEADERSHIP IS OPEN. HE BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER.

Ken Parker has an 18-year record of listening and working with community members to get things done. His leadership of the year-long collaboration to develop the *Blueprint* – with business leaders, education activists, environmental and planning experts – demonstrates Ken's **openness, creative thinking, and ability to inspire others to think of the common good**. As Mayor, Ken will draw on the expertise of Newton's citizens – and best practices from other cities – to create innovative, transparent, and accountable government at City Hall.

3. PARKER STANDS UP FOR WHAT'S RIGHT.

- Ken Parker was the only Mayoral candidate to propose a one-year pay freeze for city employees to reduce the risk of layoffs when balancing the budget. Now it's the official position of the City.
- Ken Parker was one of only a handful of Aldermen who stood up against spiraling costs of the Newton North High School project – before it became politically popular to do so.
- When Mayor Cohen and the School Committee planned to postpone urgent maintenance and improvements at our schools to pay for new modular classrooms at Oak Hill Middle School, Ken proposed a change in financing strategy to achieve both, and he rallied community leaders to support it. Because Ken stepped up to lead, the current plan now includes both the modulares needed for Oak Hill and crucial money-saving projects such as roof repairs and new boilers.

4. PARKER GETS THINGS DONE. HE'S READY ON DAY 1.

As Alderman, Ken Parker has taken initiative to identify over \$20 million in savings and new revenue. He initiated the *Smoke Free Newton* ordinance that inspired similar laws across the state, spearheaded expansion of the Crystal Lake beachfront, improved citywide recycling, and created the Finance and Management Working Group – from which key reforms were adopted by the Blue Ribbon Commission and the City of Newton. Ken knows Newton's problems, has sound solutions, and is ready to govern.

Read *A Blueprint for Newton's Future* at www.Parker2009.org

Vote for Ken Parker this Tuesday, Sept. 15