

# VIC EDGERTON FOR WARD 9 ALDERMAN

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

If you choose me as your Alderman on November 4<sup>th</sup>, my priorities will include:

## Informing, Educating, Building

The first step toward stronger communities is clear communication. Through a **newsletter and website**, I will share information about local issues and discuss progressive solutions to the city's challenges. I have already begun this with my **East Rock Community News video**, now airing on CTV on Thursdays at 5:30 PM. Each September, I will create a special, **new-resident newsletter** to welcome neighbors, introduce the community, its assets, its challenges and opportunities to get involved. I will hold monthly "**drop in**" hours to hear your concerns and ideas for Ward 9 at one of our local laundromats, coffee shops, markets or restaurants. I will continue to help **build and strengthen neighborhood associations**.

**Property Taxes and a Healthier Economy**  
I support the pursuit of a "**fair share**" contribution to the city from Yale in the short term and efforts to spread the burden of the tax base through the region in the long term. It will then be easier for **small, locally owned businesses** to thrive. I support workers' **right to organize** and the expansion of the **living wage** ordinance to cover more workers than the handful that is covered now, which will pump money into the economy from the bottom-up.

## A Cleaner Environment

I will create a **free soil testing program** for those concerned about lead contamination, which was found in our community garden. I will work to keep New Haven industries from **burning residual fuel oil**, the dirtiest of all fuel oils. I support courting businesses that provide hourly car rentals, which have proven to be a **viable alternative to car ownership**, which would reduce air pollution, ease traffic and parking concerns, and help lower the cost of living for those who only need a car for shopping or weekend trips. I will continue to use my 10 years of environmental and public health experience to protect Ward 9 and New Haven residents, like I have as a key member of the New Haven Environmental Justice Network.

PLEASE VOTE VIC ON  
TUESDAY, NOV. 4<sup>TH</sup>



**FACT:**  
**The New Haven Democratic political machine is aggressively trying to eliminate all independent voices from the Board of Aldermen, be they Greens, Republicans or simply Democrats who don't agree with the mayor.**

**FACT:**  
**Informed observers suggest that after this election, we could be left with 3 or fewer independent votes out of 30 alders.**

Questions?

Call 215-4VIC  
<http://www.ctgreens.org/vic>  
[votevicward9@yahoo.com](mailto:votevicward9@yahoo.com)

## Crime Prevention

Building on the new bike cop patrol, the next step in crime prevention is with tighter communities. I will create opportunities like "block parties" for new residents—including graduate students—to **meet their neighbors** and I will work to expand involvement in Block Watches to further the safety of Ward 9 residents. I support the **community policing** approach and the good work of Officer Avery and Lt. Lanza.

## Clean Elections

The contribution limits for the proposed mayoral clean elections bill are an improvement at \$300, but are still far out of the reach of the low-income New Haven voter. Many more could afford a \$100 contribution, a limit I imposed on my own campaign, **making the process more inclusive**. The same limits should apply to Aldermanic races. To minimize time spent on fundraising, I will fight for a **disclosure requirement on campaign materials** when a candidate spends more than \$3,000.

## Addressing the Crisis in our Schools

I will push for an **elected Board of Education** to introduce accountability into our school system. I support a **student representative** on the Board of Education. I also support higher **teachers' salaries** that are in line with surrounding areas, **lower class sizes**, and an **expansion of the Hooker district**.

## A Bicycle-Friendly City

I will continue to pursue ways to make the city more friendly to cyclists, starting with more **bike lanes** to lower-income areas, more **bike racks** at our local businesses, slowing traffic using an array of "**traffic calming**" measures, **tracking of cycling and pedestrian accidents** so we can identify the dangerous spots and fix them, and working closely with the police to **stem the recent tide of bike and wheel thefts**.



# INDEPENDENT VOICE

5 Reasons Why an Independent Voice is the Right Choice

## 1 SHINING LIGHT ON ISSUES THE DEMOCRATS IGNORE

An independent voice can shed light on critical issues that otherwise would not make it on the agenda. When the Democrats were ready to put Fair Haven's old, polluting English Station power plant back online, your Green Alderman, John Halle, joined with citizens groups to expose this threat to our neighborhood's health.



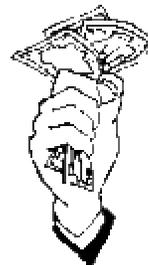
## 2 STANDING UP FOR FAIR PROPERTY TAXES

The most realistic immediate solution to skyrocketing taxes and New Haven's fiscal crisis is to ask the city's largest property owner to pay its fair share of property taxes. The Board of Alderman has already passed a resolution asking Yale to do just that. But in the Mayor's recent letter on property taxes, he told us homeowners and renters would have to dig deeper, and so would state and federal governments—and yet he made no mention of Yale's \$11 billion endowment or its tax-exempt status. My opponent's materials are similarly silent on the issue. **The Green Party has never been afraid to stand up to special interests.**



## 3 A WATCHDOG FOR THE PUBLIC

When the Mayor proposed a budget giving himself a pay raise while cutting jobs and services, our Alderman, John Halle, blew the whistle. As a Green, I can keep a critical eye on a city government that has depended for too long on the kind of backroom deals and insider politics that flourish in a one-party town.



## 4 SETTING THE AGENDA

For a small party, we have had a huge impact. As the *New Haven Advocate* has pointed out repeatedly, the Greens have championed a set of issues—from cleaning up our air, to making the city more bike-friendly, to clean elections—that have later been adopted by other politicians. As your Alderman, I will continue to use my independence to set a progressive agenda, seeking out creative solutions to improve the quality of life in our Ward.



## 5 BRINGING QUALITY OF LIFE TO THE FOREFONT

New stop signs, a cop dedicated to illegal dumping, tree stump removal, traffic mirrors, fighting trash trucks that come at 3:00 AM and much more. John Halle raised the bar on responsiveness to your concerns and ideas in the ward. Quality of life concerns have been the number one priority for Greens, and they will continue to be my top concern.

