



**Martin J. Keane** COUNCIL MEMBER, WARD 17

**COMMITTEES:** Utilities - *Chair* • Transportation - *Vice Chair*  
Development, Planning & Sustainability • Operations • Rules • Finance

Dear Neighbor,

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve you these last many years. That being said, you are receiving this letter because I have decided to move on from elected office. I have accepted a position with the City of Cleveland effective November 25th. It is in this new capacity that I hope to continue to serve both you and the entire City of Cleveland.

While the timing of such a move is never perfect, I do believe that now is the right time. It is true that we have suffered many setbacks, but we have also realized many significant advances since we began this adventure together back in March of 2007. Our neighborhoods are strong, our retail corridors are vibrant. A great foundation for our future has been laid. We have some very exciting opportunities on the horizon which are a direct testament to the hard work and determination of people who love the West Park Community.

Please know that my duties as your representative are taken seriously and that I have given 100% to maintain the respect and the integrity that goes with this office. I truly believe that as I move forward from Cleveland City Council, the neighborhoods of West Park and the City of Cleveland are in a better position than when I started.

I cannot articulate the appreciation that I have for your support, your kindness to me and my family, your friendship and, yes, even your criticism. Having been born and raised in this community, it never ceases to amaze me the awesome individuals I encounter in my work as your Councilman. This is a special place with very special people. It has been an honor.

Throughout everything, my family has always been my first priority, and they will continue to be so. I am proud of the neighborhoods in which we have raised our children. We have taught them the importance of a strong community and we have witnessed firsthand the virtues of a strong community. It is with that knowledge that my family and I have decided that now is the right time to move on and to allow a new Councilperson to move Ward 17 into the future.

As is protocol, I am to appoint my successor. I have chosen West Park resident Charles Slife as my appointee. Charles and I share the same passion for all Cleveland neighborhoods with special affection for West Park. Charles brings a wealth of experience to this office and he welcomes the opportunity to serve all of Ward 17. I am confident that the West Park Community will afford Charles the same support and respect that has been afforded me over the past years.

Thank you and God Bless!!