

Ali Ramlawi August 7, 2018

We've got a lot to do. I mean, other than the 4th Ward, all the races are close. You know, it's just like national politics, it's pretty divided. 50 to 50 almost, you know, give or take a couple percentage points, there's a lot of work to do. The work has just started. We need to be bigger people and better people, reach across the aisle and work with folks who think differently than us.

I think it's a big victory for the townies of Ann Arbor. This is a victory... I feel vindicated, to be honest with you. I feel like everything I've always felt . proven (that) I'm not the only one who feels that way. Of course, I need to be respectful of people who have different viewpoints and I think I'll be able to do that.

I was challenged in the last week and I'll continue to be challenged for the next 4 years and I think I'll always side... side of principle, on the side of democracy, on the side of (indistinct) on the side of the working class, on the side of what's right.

I think we can actually have an honest discussion for the first time in a long time. I think the Mayor and Mayor's party has had a majority, a supermajority where they didn't really have to take into consideration what other people thought. For the first time in their career, they have been sobered by the fact that there is a great part of Ann Arbor who doesn't feel comfortable with their decision-making. and who want a different voice and they elected that. So it feels empowering but at the same time there is a lot of responsibility that comes with that and I need to find ways to bridge the gap and be able to make a difference and move things forward in a way that takes all parts of our community together and don't just shut out a part of them because they don't have representation on Council.