

Kortikere launches campaign for City Council seat

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LOWELL — Harry Kortikere, a city resident with a background in technology and management, is campaigning for a spot on the City Council.

“I’ve learned a lot about the community. The needs and wants of the community. What’s working what’s not working,” he said. “And I want to bring a lifetime of experience that I have in contributing to make this city better. It’s a process of continuous improvement.”

Kortikere moved to Lowell in 2016 and since then said he has visited neighborhood groups and connected with the business community.

He said he has a public, detailed list of policy positions starting with the what he sees as the most important: economic development.

“We are uniquely positioned to attract companies from Cambridge and Boston that are priced out and companies that are now in Burlington who are almost getting priced out — and bring them here,” he said.

Bringing mid-sized companies to the city, promoting development in the Hamilton Canal Innovation District and supporting the arts can grow the local tax base and address the city’s current budgeting headaches, he said.

He also discussed other priorities like clean energy options, education including school buildings, leveraging money through implementing the Community Preservation Act, addressing the opioid crisis and sufficiently funding public safety.

Kortikere, 43, grew up in India and moved to the United States in 1998. He pursued a masters in industrial and system engineering from the University of Cincinnati.

He moved to Massachusetts in 2011 and received a masters degree in management from Harvard University.



Kortikere said he has worked as a consultant in the technology sector and for several companies including Intel and Qualcomm.

He currently works for Philips, a medical technology manufacturer in Andover. Kortikere also teaches classes in entrepreneurship and small business management at Cambridge College.

In 2012, he ran for state representative in Somerville.

He said he is also involved in Merrimack Valley Project and the RISE Coalition.

All nine City Council seats are up for election on Nov. 5. Candidates can pull papers starting June 3.

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