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Azizi calls for more fiscal responsibility at City Hall

'Inefficiencies' cause high property taxes, water bills, candidate says

ATLANTA –Atlanta City Council District 6 candidate Bahareh Azizi said Monday citizens need relief from the fiscal “inefficiencies and lack of accountability” that have driven property taxes and utility bills to the highest levels in the city’s history.

Speaking in Morningside during one of her neighborhood listening sessions, Azizi set fiscal responsibility as the driving force of her candidacy. Simple responsibility and accountability is the standard that will guide wide-ranging impact on quality of life, from putting more police on in-town beats to improving our water/sewer infrastructure to holding the line on property tax increases.

“The City of Atlanta’s budget needs to be able to protect its citizens, especially in times of economic stress,” Azizi said, citing the last city budget in which property taxes were increased by \$240 on the average homeowner. “I will work to address the inefficiencies currently plaguing Atlanta’s city government. This includes bills not being collected or paid on time. I will work to institute prudent budgetary practices to ensure that millage rates do not increase. One potential source of additional revenue is a liquor and cigarette purchases fee. A similar measure has met with success in Chicago and other cities..”

Azizi added that while Atlanta must have an efficient and reliable water supply and sewage system, “we must also ensure that residents are not burdened with high water bills and are protected against inefficiencies or lack of accountability by city government. I will work to ensure that the water and sewage improvements in the city are completed efficiently and in a timely manner. I will forge partnerships and alliances, and I will stand ready to work with the new mayor and my colleagues on City Council to help protect residents against dramatic increases in their water bills, especially in a time of economic hardship.”

Azizi is a longtime Midtown resident whose well-rounded background in education, business and community service is bringing a surge of grassroots attention to her as the most dynamic and fresh-thinking candidate on Atlanta’s political scene. She is determined to make a difference by addressing issues such as public safety, business growth, transportation and education. For more information, visit www.VoteAzizi.com.