



CONNECTICUT AVENUE

October 2022 Board Election Candidate Statement

NAME: George R. Helz

UNIT: N508

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I am a candidate for a seat on the 8101 Board of Directors. I understand that the Board is the governing body of the Association with responsibility for forwarding the safety, prosperity, and vitality of our community. I look forward to the opportunity to serve.

BACKGROUND/QUALIFICATIONS

Life trajectory in brief: Born in Montgomery Co.; grew up in Gaithersburg; went away to college and grad school; returned in 1970 as Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the University of Maryland; having served in administrative as well as research and teaching roles, retired as Professor *emeritus* affiliated with the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and the Department of Geology in 2005 (more information on career at <https://www.geol.umd.edu/georgehelz>); moved to 8101 in 2013 from a house in Kensington.

8101 Contributions: Served on the Architecture Control Committee and more recently on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

GOALS AS A DIRECTOR:

How I see my role on the Board: In my view, 8101's needs will be best served if we can recruit to our Board people with experience and expertise in three areas: 1) finance and accounting, 2) law, and 3) engineering and construction. My background gives me a general understanding of technical matters and should allow me to contribute meaningfully in the last area. In the first two, I am simply an educated layman who must rely on the expertise of others.

Issues the Board must deal with: The present Board has done a wonderful job. Lax management has been replaced, a financial plan for addressing long neglected maintenance issues has been designed, and those issues have begun to be addressed with work contracts. In the coming year, deciding how we accommodate electric vehicles is a looming challenge for the Board. Also, I think we must try to put Covid behind us and restart some of our social activities (e.g. the holiday party). I regard this as essential if 8101 is to remain a community and not become a collection of strangers, like a hotel.