

Clintonville Area Commission – District 1

Candidate's Statement – Paul Lada

I am a lifelong citizen of Columbus and a resident in South Clintonville and North Campus since 1986. My wife and I have lived in our home in District 1 since 2004. Our children are Columbus City Schools graduates. Our youngest attended Indianola Alternative from kindergarten through 8th grade and graduated from Whetstone H.S. He benefited greatly by being able to walk to school. That's one of the reasons I love our neighborhood.

I am a graduate of The Ohio State University earning a degree in Landscape Architecture and have been a practicing landscape architect for nearly thirty years. I have an interest in urban design and how cities can be exciting and rewarding places to live. My favorite projects are parks and other public spaces that can be enjoyed by families for generations. I also have a great fondness for trees from oaks to tulip poplars to dogwoods, another reason I love our neighborhood.

Through the years I have been in contact with my district's commissioners over things I see in the neighborhood, and I would like to carry on their good works. From the Lower Olentangy Urban Arboretum to enhancements to the Indianola bridge over Glen Echo, our commissioners have worked hard to improve the district. I'm very interested in what the Blueprint Project entails and how it will enhance our streets, how the Columbus Urban Forestry Master Plan affects the district, and how the city's zoning code modernization might improve the High St. commercial corridor.

I'm a runner and I enjoy running through the neighborhood alone or with my neighbors admiring everyone's beautiful gardens. One of my favorite runs is what our family has dubbed the "Ravine Route," which takes me through the entire district – it fills me with gratitude to be able to live in such a wonderful place.