

I made a mistake at last week's debate. I referred to some of my constituents—the people I'm asking to trust me with their vote—as anti-immigrant and anti-housing. That was wrong, disrespectful, and I own it fully.

Nonantum is my home. It's a neighborhood built by immigrants, and it holds a wide range of views on housing and growth. Our diversity of opinions is not a weakness, it's what makes it strong. Reducing any of my neighbors to a label is exactly the kind of politics I've said I don't want to practice. I failed that standard in last week's forum, and I'm sorry.

We have a array of opinions on many issues here in Nonantum. Most of us agree that we must urgently address our housing affordability crisis and support all our community members, no matter where they came from, even if we differ on the approaches.

I am reaching out community members in Nonantum to hear their concerns firsthand — not to defend what I said, but to listen. I'd rather earn back trust through that conversation and not just through a statement. Any resident can reach me directly at alison@alisonleary.com to set up a time to talk.

I've pledged transparency and accountability in our government, and I want to live up to those values.

Warm regards,

Alison Leary

