



# CHERYL BUTLER-WALKER

CANDIDATE FOR CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONER | DISTRICT 2



## DATA CENTERS:

### BIG INVESTMENT. BIGGER RISKS. WE NEED REAL SAFEGUARDS.

Data centers can bring investment, but without the right rules, they could strain our water, our power grid, and our neighborhoods.



### THE PROBLEM

Data centers use massive amounts of water and electricity—resources we can't afford to waste or overextend.

- ✓ A single large data center can consume more water per day than the entire county's available water supply.
- ✓ Current zoning changes would allow data centers in multiple areas of the county.
- ✓ These facilities place extreme demands on our water supply and electrical grid.

**THE BOTTOM LINE:** Without strong safeguards, we risk higher bills, water shortages, and long-term damage to our environment and quality of life.



### THE GAP

Our current policy leaves too much up to chance.

- ✓ Developers are only asked to "prioritize" non-potable water (non-drinking water), not required to use it.
- ✓ Groundwater use is not prohibited.
- ✓ Grid capacity is not required to be proven before permits are approved.
- ✓ Environmental and infrastructure impacts are not fully evaluated up front.

Vague language. Loopholes. Big risks.

**OUR COMMUNITY DESERVES BETTER.**

## MY PLAN: SMARTER RULES. STRONGER PROTECTIONS. BETTER OUTCOMES.



#### REQUIRE VERIFIED WATER SUPPLY BEFORE APPROVAL

- No permit without a proven, sustainable water source.
- Protect our aquifers and future water supply.

NO WATER PLAN, NO PERMIT.



#### BAN GROUNDWATER USE FOR COOLING

- Close the "prioritize" loophole.
- Protect our limited and irreplaceable groundwater.

OUR WATER IS OUR FUTURE.



#### REQUIRE DOCUMENTED GRID CAPACITY

- Prove the grid can handle the load.
- No exceptions.

IF THE GRID CAN'T HANDLE IT, WE SHOULDN'T APPROVE IT.



#### CONDUCT FULL ENVIRONMENTAL & INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW

- Evaluate water, power, traffic, and environmental impacts.
- Involve experts and the public.

TRANSPARENCY MATTERS.



#### MAKE IMPACTS PUBLIC BEFORE DECISIONS ARE MADE

- Share the data.
- Hear from the community.
- Build trust.

RESIDENTS DESERVE THE FACTS BEFORE THE VOTE.

GROWTH SHOULD WORK FOR CHARLES COUNTY—NOT COME AT OUR EXPENSE.

LEARN MORE: [VOTECHERYLBUTLER-WALKER.COM](http://VOTECHERYLBUTLER-WALKER.COM)



ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNMENT



RESPONSIBLE INFRASTRUCTURE



STRONGER COMMUNITIES

SMARTER GROWTH