



# CHERYL BUTLER-WALKER

CANDIDATE FOR CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONER | DISTRICT 2



## SMECO & ELECTRICITY COSTS

**RISING COSTS. STRAINED INFRASTRUCTURE. NO CLEAR PLAN.**

Families are being priced out. Promises have been made.

It's time to deliver real results.



### THE PROBLEM

Residents are paying more for electricity and the costs are rising fast.

- ✓ Wholesale electricity costs have increased **by 5 times more in recent years.**
- ✓ Infrastructure costs (transformers, equipment) are rising significantly.
- ✓ Population growth and new development are increasing demand on the grid.

**THE BOTTOM LINE:** Families are seeing higher bills, but they don't know why or what's being done about it.



### THE GAP

We approve growth before we confirm the grid can handle it.

- ✓ Development is approved without confirming grid capacity first
- ✓ No requirement for grid impact analysis before major projects.
- ✓ Limited public transparency on how growth affects electric rates.

**Growth without preparation =  
HIGHER BILLS, OUTAGES, LAGGING GRID**

## MY PLAN: SMARTER GROWTH, LOWER BILLS, STRONGER INFRASTRUCTURE



#### REQUIRE GRID IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

- Before approving major developments, we must understand the impact.
- No more "build now, figure it out later."

**THE GRID MUST BE PART OF THE PLAN.**



#### DEMAND PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY

- Residents deserve clear answers on how growth affects rates.
- I will push for real data, regular updates, and honest reporting.

**ANSWERS BEFORE APPROVALS.**



#### TIE APPROVALS TO PROVEN CAPACITY

- Data centers and large projects must prove the grid can support them.
- No exceptions.

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



#### INVEST IN LOCAL ENERGY SOLUTIONS

- Expand local generation, storage, and resiliency.
- Reduce our reliance on volatile markets and rising costs.

**LOCAL INVESTMENTS TODAY MEAN LOWER BILLS TOMORROW.**

**OUR COMMUNITIES DESERVE AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE POWER AND A PLAN THAT KEEPS UP WITH GROWTH.**

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



**ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNMENT**



**RESPONSIBLE INFRASTRUCTURE**



**STRONGER COMMUNITIES**

**SMARTER GROWTH**