



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Sierra Club Endorses Kailasapathy and Lipson Conservation Group endorses Sumangala ("Sumi") Kailasapathy (D-First Ward) and Eric B. Lipson (D-Fourth Ward)

The Sierra Club, Huron Valley Group, and the Sierra Club, Michigan Chapter are endorsing incumbent Ann Arbor City Councilwoman Sumangala ("Sumi") Kailasapathy (Democrat, First Ward), attorney Eric B. Lipson (Democrat, Fourth Ward) for the office of City Councilperson in the City of Ann Arbor.

James D'Amour, Political Chair of the Sierra Club, Huron Valley Group, offered these observations.

"In her past four years serving on Council, Sumi Kailasapathy has been a steadfast friend and champion. She has gone to bat for us time and time again and we are deeply grateful for her exceptional public service.

"We were impressed with her challengers, who each have their strong environmental credentials and service, and in other years, we would consider these candidates.

"But when it comes to protecting parks, Sumi provides a critical, strong and independent voice in emphasizing an issue central to our organization. She looks out for the environment and raises a voice for residents protecting our natural systems and open spaces. Sumi has been our stalwart champion where it counts, and willing to talk truth to power on the environmental issues that matter, protecting our natural systems from overdevelopment, calling for accountability and transparency on environmental protection, and championing aggressive action on the Gelman 1-4 dioxane plume."

"I have personally known ERIC LIPSON since my days of service with him on the Ann Arbor City Planning Commission. Then and now, Eric has been a champion of non-motorized transit safety, and supported the Allen's Creek Greenway before City Hall embraced it, and now calls for government transparency on the location of Amtrak train station.

"During our candidate interview process, we were taken in with his strength as a council candidate, his thoughtfulness and openness on our issues. Among all the candidates we interviewed, Eric had the greatest depth of knowledge of the Gelman plume problem that has plagued our city for the past 30 years, and he plans to address it.

"He will be an independent and thoughtful voice on Council, and on issues of the environment, we see another champion for parks and natural systems in the city.

We urge all of our members and supporters as well as friends and neighbors to vote for SUMANGALA KAILASAPATHY (D-First Ward), and ERIC LIPSON (D-Fourth Ward) in the August 2nd primary.

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