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Jackson cruises to victory in District 7 City Council race

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

Incumbent City Councilor Tito Jackson cruised to a re-election victory Tuesday in District 7, beating challenger Sheneal Parker.

Jackson captured 84 percent of the vote, according to [unofficial results](#). District 7 consists of Roxbury and parts of the Fenway, South End, and Dorchester.

"I feel really great about the opportunity to have my own term of two years to really work on the issues that the residents of District 7 are focused on," Jackson said by phone Wednesday, citing education, jobs and public safety as his primary concerns.

He said he celebrated last night's victory with his supporters, including a visit from Gov. Deval Patrick and his wife Diane, at Paraiso Restaurant in Uphams Corner.

"It was a wonderful event with all of the folks who -- I can't say stood in the cold this time -- but who were out there working with us," Jackson said, referring to the successful special election campaign he ran for the D7 seat late last winter. "It's now really time to continue to get back to work and create the changes the people of this neighborhood need."

Jackson said he was excited about the results of the other City Council races, particularly that at-large incumbents Ayanna Pressley and Felix Arroyo proved "the people on the sidelines wrong" by placing first and second-respectively in that four-seat, seven-candidate contest. And, he was encouraged that yesterday's voter turnout was higher than he felt others had predicted.

"The voice of the people was felt and heard last night," he said.

Jackson has held the seat for half a year. He replaced Chuck Turner, convicted of bribery and expelled from the City Council last year, by winning a special election in March.

Parker received about 14 percent of the vote. The Fenway resident and Boston public school teacher has worked with several community organizations.

In the other district council races:

-- **District 2**, Incumbent Bill Linehan of South Boston beat back a strong challenge from Suzanne Lee of Chinatown. Less than 100 votes separated the two. The district is based in South Boston but includes parts of the South End, Bay Village, the Leather District, Dorchester, and Roxbury.

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-- **District 4** Councilor Charles C. Yancey won his 15th term, topping his frequent opponent, J.R. Rucker. The district covers Mattapan and parts of Dorchester.

In the at-large races: It was a sweep for incumbents Ayanna Pressley, John R. Connolly, Stephen Murphy, and Felix Arroyo. Pressley was the top vote-getter, with about 21 percent.

Former councilor Michael Flaherty finished behind Murphy by a slim margin.

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