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POS Story

Talking to some of Brookline residents about their hopes for America beyond who wins the election

A handful of Brookline residents share concern for the future of America's economic and political culture. Some are more optimistic than others that change will be made post-election.

“I'd love to see things be more bipartisan and getting away from this polarized political landscape we're living in today could be better for America,” said Randy Medina, service manager for Landry's Bicycles.

Medina, a registered Democrat, also expressed concern for the current cost of living after talking to others about their experiences with these price spikes. He hopes future policies could change that.

Medina reminisced on the past economic climate when there was “a sense of coming together without worrying about the financial costs”, and said he would like for America to return to that in the years after the election.

Isaiah Newton, a mechanic at Landry's Bicycles from New Hampshire, echoed Medina's concerns about distribution of wealth, specifically mentioning placing limits on private equity firms.

Newton also said he wants a more united country after the election.

“Politics have become too tribal in the past eight years, and I'd like to see people actually connected to one another instead of just assuming like you're a liberal [...] or a conservative [...],” concluded Newton. He is registered as independent.

Gabe Meacham, a registered Democrat from California working in college administration, agrees there should be a shift away from an extreme political climate.

Meacham talked about the U.S. being “like the world police,” and his concerns on the future of America’s international involvement after the election.

He said he hopes the U.S. involvement in international conflicts serves “in a way that both protects our own domestic interests and also the human interests of everybody.”

Beyond the U.S. political climate, residents discussed other policies facing potential reform.

Zoe Johnson, a librarian from Ohio, mentioned anxieties revolving around abortion. She lacks confidence in the protection of reproductive rights.

“It depends on who's elected, so that's why it's so scary because it could go either way. But I'm not optimistic,” said Johnson with a small laugh.

Johnson is not registered to vote in Massachusetts.

Anna Brown, a registered Democrat and a Boston landscaper, shared her list of wishes for the future America on her way to dance practice.

The first was to have less chaos.

She wants to see some follow-through on the promise of eradicating student debt. Brown is also worried about future immigration policies as many of her comrades are in America via visas.

However, she does not have faith in these issues being resolved.

“I feel like a lot of people in our government are not really focusing on the right things,” said Brown.

Daniel Cloonan, a resident surgeon from Nebraska, was walking his dog around Amory Park while he discussed how he’d want the future president to deal with climate change.

“I’ve seen, in my short life, some significant environmental changes, [...] and I think it’s only going to get worse. And I’m worried, if we don’t make changes now, things will get worse in the future,” said Cloonan.

Cloonan said he believes there will be a positive outcome, regardless of who wins.

“They're well-spirited people, and if we put support behind them from a policy and financial perspective, that'd be great,” Cloonan said.

The 2024 election is on Tuesday, November 5th. Kamala Harris is the Democratic candidate and Donald Trump is the Republican candidate.

“I just hope that we can continue to be a free country where people are able to be respected for who they are. That's what the American regime is all about,” said Randy Medina, “America is an awesome place, and I feel like it's worth fighting for.”