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March 23, 2026

William “Bud” Ravitz Announces Candidacy for Third Term on Morris Township Committee, Launches New Grassroots Party “USA2.0”

Pragmatic progressive cites need for new political movement focused on unity, long-term vision, and effective governance

MORRIS TOWNSHIP, NJ — Morris Township Committeeman William “Bud” Ravitz announced his candidacy for a third term in the November 2026 election, while also unveiling a major political shift: his resignation from the Democratic Party and the formation of a new grassroots political movement, **USA2.0**.

First elected in 2020 and sworn into office in January 2021, Ravitz is currently the longest continuously serving member of the Morris Township Committee. He emphasized that his experience, steady leadership, and forward-looking vision position him to continue guiding the Township through both current challenges and future opportunities.

At the Township Committee’s March meeting, Ravitz formally announced his departure from the Democratic Party, citing a growing belief that traditional party structures are no longer equipped to meet the demands of the current political and civic landscape.

“Business-as-usual politics is no longer the answer to the problems America faces today,” Ravitz said. “The problems at the national level filter down to become the problems of the

Township.”

Ravitz described himself as a “pragmatic progressive” who prioritizes results over ideology and consistently places the needs of Township residents above partisan considerations. He noted that while he was inspired to enter public service by Bernie Sanders’ 2015 presidential campaign, his governing approach has always centered on collaboration, practicality, and long-term planning.

His newly formed party, USA2.0, reflects a broader vision for rebuilding civic institutions and restoring public trust through grassroots engagement and sustained commitment.

“We need a grassroots party to reimagine and rebuild our government and institutions—and to be in it for the long haul,” Ravitz said. “This is about creating a better version of America—one that may take generations to build, but one where the failures we see today cannot repeat themselves. The time to start is now.”

Throughout his tenure, Ravitz has served on nearly all Township Standing Committees and Resident Advisory Boards, as well as the Planning Board for the past four years. He credits this breadth of experience with giving him a comprehensive understanding of municipal operations and community priorities.

Ravitz also highlighted his commitment to fostering unity and reducing political divisiveness within the community.

“We have far more in common than what divides us,” he said. “I believe I’ve helped bring people together and reduced the

toxicity that too often defines politics today.”

Central to Ravitz’s philosophy is the principle of continuous improvement. He has consistently advocated for proactive decision-making, even when politically difficult, to avoid passing unresolved challenges to future governing bodies.

“There are times when tough decisions must be made,” Ravitz noted. “But making them now ensures that future leaders are not burdened with problems made worse by inaction.”

In closing, Ravitz issued a broad appeal to voters across the political spectrum:

“I appeal to those who feel disenfranchised—whether you have been aligned with a party or not—and to independent thinkers across our community: I ask for your support this November because experience and vision matter more than party identity. If we want better government, we must be better citizens—who elect better leaders.”

Bud is retired from the corporate world and writes the political commentary *The Bigger Picture*, on Substack. Bud will be launching his campaign website in the near future.