

2022 Election Candidate Questionnaire for Montgomery County Council
Kristin Mink for County Council - District 5

Bike Network

The Washington Area Bicyclist Association is proposing that the County fund the construction of bikeable/walkable networks in four Equity Focus Areas of the County, in Wheaton, White Oak, Langley Park and Downtown Silver Spring. Do you support this \$110 million proposal which will also help achieve the County's Climate and Vision Zero goals over six years?

Yes X No _____

What else do you think the County Council can do in the next term to make walking and biking safer and to help increase the biking and walking and transit mode shares?

The Council must continue to invest in pedestrian and bike infrastructure and consider both heavily in all master plans and sector plans. The Council must follow through on the planning and construction of additional BRT lines and ensure that pedestrian and bike infrastructure is upgraded to connect with new transit options.

Police out of Traffic Enforcement

Do you support removing police from all or some traffic enforcement?

Yes X No _____

How will you balance the need for traffic enforcement and equity while in office?

In line with recommendations from the Reimagining Public Safety Task Force, we should shift enforcement of basic traffic laws from the police department to MCDOT, and use traffic cameras as the default enforcement mechanism wherever possible. This will require passage of a state-level bill which passed the House but died in the Senate Judiciary last year (HB 564). The County Council must lobby and organize for the passage of this critical state-level legislation.

Trails - repaving

Do you support fully funding the budget request of the Parks Department to include monies for repaving the Sligo, Rock Creek and Capital Crescent Trails?

Yes X No _____

Tunnel

Do you support funding the \$55m project for this important regional trail connection through downtown Bethesda?

Yes X No _____

Do you support funding that will complete construction of the project within the current FY 23-28 CIP period or sooner/later?

Yes X No _____

270 widening

Do you support or oppose the proposal to widen parts of I-495 and I-270 to add four express toll lanes?

Yes _____ No X _____

Why or why not? And how would you show that support or opposition. Do you support other new highways or road expansions?

I strongly oppose widening 495 and 270, and I oppose any significant new road or highway expansions. The only investments we should be making into roads are for routine maintenance and improving pedestrian safety. I will show my opposition to the 495 and 270 project by working with the existing grassroots coalitions and elected officials to pressure the next governor to halt and eventually kill these projects.

Vision Zero

Vision Zero - is it working and if not, what needs to be done by the County to achieve the goal of zero deaths due to traffic crashes? What would you do to work with the State Highway Administration to achieve true Vision Zero?

Vision Zero has succeeded in bringing desperately needed attention to the critical issue of pedestrian safety in Montgomery County, but it has not succeeded in making sufficient progress towards the ultimate goal. We need faster action at the county and state level to upgrade pedestrian infrastructure, including barriers, improved sidewalks, pedestrian signals, and more, in addition to lowering speed limits in areas with significant pedestrian activity. I will focus my

work with the SHA on reducing speed limits; this is the single most important change we can ask our state partners to make in most problem areas.

Transportation Equity Pledge

[Will you sign our transportation equity pledge?](#)

I believe I signed this weeks ago, but I just signed it again just in case!

Link to sign: <https://waba.org/blog/2022/01/transportation-equity-pledge-for-2022-candidates/>