

## 2022 Election Candidate Questionnaire for Montgomery County Council

Dear Candidate,

We ask that you complete our questionnaire so we understand your views on the pressing transportation issues facing Montgomery County. Your answers will be given to our membership for strictly education purposes only. Answers will also be posted on our website, shared on social media, listservs, and with our members in Montgomery County.

The questions are yes or no as well as questions that require you to elaborate for your response. We ask that you return the questionnaire by COB 4/2/22. Please email the questionnaire responses to me at [advocacy@waba.org](mailto:advocacy@waba.org). If you have any questions please email us. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to complete the questionnaire.

WABA **does not endorse** candidates for any political office.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah Lowery  
Advocacy Director, WABA

### **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  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?

Any new development in the county must be required to factor in appropriate and safe pedestrian and bicycle pathways.

### **Police out of Traffic Enforcement**

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

Yes  No

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

I do not support removing police from all traffic enforcement. If the police see a violation they should be permitted to pursue it and not have their hands tied behind their back as they try to take actions against violations. However, I think it is a question of prioritization. With the electronic capabilities we now have for enforcement of various traffic violations, police policy should be set to discourage any police focus on violations that will be captured electronically and police policy should eliminate "ticket quota" time.

**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  No

**Tunnel**

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

Yes  No

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

Yes  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

Yes I oppose, No I don't support.

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

I do not support the widening of I-270 or I-495. First, not enough attention has been given to addressing the increased traffic that will occur at the exit ramps at Georgia Ave, New Hampshire Ave., Colesville Road and 355 if expansion moves forward. I also do not think enough consideration has been given to the environmental impact or the impact on homes and businesses directly impacted by the widening. I think the money would have been better spent on improving mass transit. Lane reversal would be a much cheaper solution than lane widening. Lastly, placing the toll collection in the hands of the private sector causes some consternation, since it then becomes a money-making operation which is never good for the public.

## **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?

The primary responsibility of government is to protect its citizens. Vision Zero calls for safe pedestrian and bicycle pathways and audits to identify high risk/incidents areas and redesigning those areas to make them safer. Why this is not already being done I find extremely disturbing. This needs to be done and needs to be done now. There is no excuse for high incident locations not being immediately addressed by the proper authorities including the County and the State Highway Administration.

## **Transportation Equity Pledge**

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

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