

## 2022 Candidate Questionnaire for Prince George's County Council and Executive

Dear Candidate,

We ask that you complete our questionnaire so we understand your views on the pressing transportation issues facing Prince George's 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 and with our members in Prince George's 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 4/2/21. 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

### Capital Trails Network

The Capital Trails Coalition seeks to create a world-class network of multi-use trails that are equitably distributed throughout the Washington DC region. The Coalition is in the process of finding funding to complete 800 miles of planned trails into pavement that people can walk and bike on. Trails are an economic boost for local economies and improve the health and well being of communities. Would you support Prince George's County, alongside DC and VA, dedicating funding to complete our regional trail network?

Yes  No

Further explain how you would advocate for the completion of the County's portion of the Trail Network?

**Right now the county has extra money from the various stimulus packages passed by the Federal government. It's imperative that local biking infrastructure is given priority and funding with these extra funds. Unfortunately, Prince George's has the highest pedestrian fatality rates in the DC region. Our car centric development and lack of strong biking and walking infrastructure contributes to our unfortunate statistics. I hope to hold council hearings exploring our lack of biking and walking infrastructure and work with advocacy groups like WABA in order to make bike infrastructure a priority.**

## Protected Bike Lanes

Bike lanes would reward County residents who choose to travel in ways that conserve land, energy, and fuel and they also fight climate change. Expanding the number of protected bike lane miles in the County would make bicycling safer, easier and more popular and also reduces fuel use.

Do you support increasing funding to expand biking infrastructure in your District?

Yes  No

How will you ensure the expansion of off-street paths and protected bike lanes on major thoroughfares and connecting streets that are comfortable for people of all ages and abilities?

**One of the first things we need to do is implement the biking plans that have been in the pipeline for years. The biggest two projects would be the blue line connector trail and the safer suitland road project. After the blue line trail is actually completed, we need to replicate that bike trail along all of our metro lines. But the county has been good at making plans- it's the implementation that's an issue.**

**As a council member, I hope to bring all the advocacy groups together to push the county to implement more biking infrastructure. I will write letters and op eds pushing for the need for more biking infrastructure. And lastly, push WMATA to add more secure bike parking at their metro stations. Importantly, the county council has the responsibility to review and improve the budget. I hope to use the budget approval process to push for biking infrastructure and I would consider voting against budgets that include sufficient biking infrastructure.**

## Vision Zero

Do you support implementation of the full Prince George's County Vision Zero Action Plan, and commit to making sure all action items are planned and implemented?

Yes  No

**As previously stated, the county has horrific statistics when it comes to pedestrian fatalities. I was happy to see us implement vision zero in the county, but I'm saddened that our current vision zero campaign seems to rely on public messaging instead of policy changes. Once on the council, I will fight to implement policy changes, such as road calming and reducing speeds on residential roads, in order to truly implement vision zero.**

Do you support expanding funding for the infrastructure changes needed to slow traffic on your community's streets, and improve crosswalks and intersections to make them safer for people who are walking and using mobility assistive devices?

Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

**Heck yea!**

### **Engagement**

How will you work with your constituents to develop consensus infrastructure designs for your District that balances the community's desire for walkability, connectivity, open space and resiliency with vehicular traffic?

**Community meetings and town halls are always great methods to engage constituents. In other jurisdictions small businesses have been skeptical of bike infrastructure that reduces parking spaces. But they've been convinced of the benefits after biking infrastructure leads to improved economic fortunes. So reaching out to those businesses or local groups before we change sidewalks or roads is necessary for biking infrastructure to be successful.**

### **Upcoming Term**

If elected, what will be your signature legislation or priority that you will champion to improve traffic safety during your upcoming term?

**Implementing more of vision zero policies and advocating for the long term bike projects like a safer suitland road and the blue line connector trail are my transportation priorities. I've mentioned it many times in this questionnaire, but our pedestrian fatality rate is awful and needs to change. We often blame these deaths on bad individual actors, but our policy decisions contribute so much to these preventable deaths. And we need elected leaders with the courage to make changes that save lives.**

### **Town-Hall with WABA members**

**Would you be willing to meet with Prince George's County WABA members in a town hall setting to discuss pressing transportation issues this year?**

Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes yes yes. Even if WABA doesn't have a town hall, I would love to come to some of WABA's meetings to meet the membership and hear their concerns.**

## **Transportation Equity Pledge**

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

**Signed!**

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