



AIM County Council Candidate Questionnaire

Responses from Pete Fosselman candidate for District 1

Affordable Housing

How would you work with AIM to increase the Housing Initiative Fund to \$100M by the year 2022?

I support increasing our affordable housing across the County based on the needs of each community. The time determine needs during the master plan process. I will not commit to a specific figure but will commit to working with AIM.

How would you work with AIM to put 200 units of affordable housing on public land, in the development pipeline each year?

strongly believe we need to close the gap in the supply of affordable housing. In order to do so, we need to preserve existing housing stock and produce options through new development. Each community has different needs and their master/sector plans should be viewed individually to set affordable housing percentages. I will not commit to a specific figure but will commit to working with AIM.

Equity in Schools

How will you work with AIM to expand the Excel Beyond the Bell Elementary program to four additional Title I elementary schools each year so that the program serves 2,400 students by the year 2022?

Learning does not end when the school day does. Excel Beyond the Bell extends learning opportunities to all children after the regular school day ends. I will advocate for increased funding for programs that have been shown to allow children to have full opportunities for a good education. I will not commit to a specific figure but will commit to working with AIM.

Protecting Immigrants and Refugees

Many Montgomery County families are living in fear of one or more parent being separated from their children because of deportation. How will you work with AIM to include funding for deportation defense and family preparedness in the county budget, as well as work with AIM to find private funding for these efforts?

Living in mixed status families is a reality that affects many students in Montgomery County Public Schools. In many instances, the children in our schools are US citizens while their parents are not. The County could coordinate with local nonprofits in order to provide legal assistance for parents of mixed status families. When deportation appears to become a reality, we could protect these families by launching preparedness campaigns in case of deportation; in addition to continuing outreach through the Montgomery County Citizenship Initiative.

Will you commit to work with AIM and Montgomery County landlords to house refugees in Montgomery County?

I believe this is a private sector issue and the County should not become involved in who private landlords should or should not house. What I do believe is the County could develop incentive program



(tax breaks, agreements with new tenants to help with apartment maintenance to save landlords money and/or create a voucher system that tenants may use for rent.

Transportation

Will you work with AIM to protect good transportation jobs from privatization?

I do not have oppose private jobs - the majority of residents work for private non-union employers.

How will you hold WMATA accountable to prevent cutting bus service in the county, particularly to low-income areas?

Instead of decreasing bus service in low-income areas we should be doing more to fund public transit in Montgomery County and our State Delegation must be a larger part of the equation. Transit improvements such as new MARC stations, bus improvements, BRT lanes, and dedicated Metro funding must be priorities.

Democracy with Accountability

Do you commit to meeting with AIM within a month of taking office, and on a quarterly basis subsequently?

I will not commit to a specific date but will commit to meeting with AIM as often as possible in my schedule. When I was Mayor of Kensington and Deputy Secretary of State, I had an open-door policy and a strong outreach program. I would continue that same style wit AIM and other organizations and residents.