



AIM County Council Candidate Questionnaire

Responses from Richard Gottfried candidate for At-Large

Affordable Housing

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

I cannot commit to this specific amount requested at this time. I will be looking at the budget in total and with the agreed council's priorities in mind and with our residents interests in mind. The housing initiative fund is an important piece in our budget and will be considered with all of the other important pieces in our budget.

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

I cannot commit to this specific project at this time. I have other ideas to accomplish affordable housing, such as possible public-private partnerships with purchasing existing homes and increasing "design for life" programs where you add a room to your existing house so that our aging population can age in place with their families.

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?

I cannot commit to this specific project at this time. I do support this idea. I look forward to discussing this idea with your group.

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?

I cannot commit to this specific project at this time. I am open to discussing this idea with all interested parties.

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

I cannot commit to this specific project at this time. I am open to discussing this idea with all interested parties.

Transportation

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

I cannot commit to this specific project at this time. I am open to discussing this idea with all interested parties.



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

I will be open to discussing this suggestion with WMATA. I do agree with the need to research the effectiveness of our buses since many of our buses are empty when driving their bus routes and to reallocate those empty buses to where the buses are really needed.

Democracy with Accountability

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

Yes, I agree to meeting with all groups and associations in the County on a quarterly basis either in my office or at your meeting place!