



AIM County Council Candidate Questionnaire

Responses from Seth Grimes 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 have many years experience in public-sector strategy development, funding source identification, coalition building, and advocacy, as an activist and Takoma Park Councilmember. I would consult and work closely with AIM to increase the Housing Initiative Fund to \$100M by the year 2022.

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

I've actually taken steps to work with AIM to do just this: In June 2017, I approached Katie Ashmore and Cynthia Marshall about a particular opportunity which unfortunately didn't pan out. (I wrote about the opportunity in the article *Affordable Housing Opportunity: Takoma Park's Washington McLaughlin Property*, <http://takomavoice.com/2017/05/11/affordable-housing-opportunity-takoma-parks-washington-mclaughlin-property/>.) I will work with AIM to identify and pursue new opportunities.

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?

Again, I have many years experience in public-sector strategy development, funding source identification, coalition building, and advocacy, as an activist and Takoma Park Councilmember. I would consult and work closely with AIM to expand the Excel Beyond the Bell Elementary program to four additional Title I elementary schools each year.

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 was one of the initiators of the move for Montgomery County deportation defense funding, in February 2017, and my campaign manager Katie Stauss is a current coalition lead. Please see my Seventh State article, *Deportation Legal Defense is the Montgomery Way*, <http://www.theseventhstate.com/?p=9483>.

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

Yes.

Transportation



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

Yes.

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

I'm a bus rider myself. See my tweet stream:

<https://twitter.com/search?q=wmata%20%22seth4mc%22&src=typd>. I understand from first-hand experience how critical strong service levels are, even though I, personally, have non-transit options. I would work with cognizant officials to maintain and even expand WMATA and Ride On service levels.

Democracy with Accountability

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

Yes