



AIM County Council Candidate Questionnaire

Responses from Craig L Rice candidate for District 2

Affordable Housing

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

We know one of the key ways to affect affordable housing is through the HIF. I believe the goal of \$100M by 2022 is a laudable one and will work to get us there, but not knowing the future economic climate nor other potential draws on our budget like healthcare costs thru Montgomery Cares because of the Trump Administration's assault on the ACA may affect our ability to get there.

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

By increasing the percentages of affordable housing required by developments, we can ensure that we exceed the goal of 20 units of additional affordable housing. Housing on public land is much more complicated as the County may need the land for other needed purposes that may also crucial to our community but am open to looking at each opportunity.

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?

Over the years, as Chair of the education committee, I have led the effort to increase excel beyond the bell programs to additional schools and will continue to do that in the coming years.

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?

We are supporting the CAIR proposal currently before the council and will continue to create more ways that we can defend our county residents from persecution.

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?

WMATA does not answer to the County Council. But we can use our positions and influence to pressure them to make decisions that support our residents, especially those who may be negatively affected by their decisions.

Democracy with Accountability

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

I commit to working with AIM as I have done in the past around a multitude of issues that affect our community. Set meetings are not the answer. We need to meet whenever we have work to do, which I've found is quite often.