



AIM County Council Candidate Questionnaire

Responses from Mohammad Siddique candidate for At-Large

Affordable Housing

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

My first priority will be to plug the waste and misuse in tax dollar spending. I estimate that 8-9% can be saved annually. Part of it can be diverted to Housing Initiative Fund. I will ask for AIM feedback when it is time to allocate money.

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

I plan to work on increasing the percentage of affordable housing in new development. To achieve that goal I would like work with AIM with focus on their experience working with people they represent.

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?

By saving taxes by belt tightening, I will divert money to schools and make strong recommendations to MCPS to add Title I schools.

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?

Being an immigrant myself, I understand the agony the separated families go through. First I will make sure County police does help ICE in the deportation process. I will certainly increase the funding for legal defense of such families. AIM will be helpful in prioritizing the budgetary requirements. For private funding I will work with AIM to solicit private funding from individuals and from small businesses.

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

Yes. In addition I will work with AIM to work with faith groups to help obtain private funding for housing refugees. I have been personally involved in private funds collections for refugees.

Transportation

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

Yes I will work with AIM for protecting jobs. I do not support privatization of transportation services such as Ride On and Metro buses. I strongly support public transportation by adding BRT and such.



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

We provide funding for Metro services and in return we expect services throughout the county complimented by Metro Bus Service. It is basic principle of funding that assert your expect certain priorities implemented. I won't hesitate to emphasize that point.

Democracy with Accountability

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

Yes I do. Let us stay in touch.