



**Action in Montgomery**  
8900 Georgia Avenue – Silver Spring, MD 20910  
[www.ActionInMontgomery.org](http://www.ActionInMontgomery.org)

## **AIM County Executive Candidate Questionnaire**

**CANDIDATE's NAME: NANCY FLOREEN**

Action in Montgomery (AIM) is a broad-based community power organization, rooted in Montgomery County's neighborhoods and congregations. We are non-partisan, multi-faith, multi-racial, and dedicated to making our county and state a better place to live and thrive. You'll find us working for change: door-to-door and in living rooms, in churches and classrooms, in front of the County Council and at the State House in Annapolis. We have over 30 member institutions--congregations, schools and non-profit organizations--who represent over 50,000 residents of Montgomery County.

### **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

**How will you work with AIM to double both the production and preservation of affordable housing in Montgomery County by 2022?**

HIF funding is primarily dependent on a county resolution requiring that 2.5% of county revenues be used for the HIF. I would propose legislation changing that requirement to 3%. It is important that funding be mandatory and not subject to the ups and downs of budgetary issues and difficulties. In addition, I would work with the state and federal governments to get additional funds for affordable housing.

**Please provide specific information on how you would work with AIM to increase the Housing Initiative Fund to \$100M by the year 2022, put 200 units of affordable housing on public land, in the development pipeline each year, and increase the density of housing and affordable housing near transit hubs.**

Cost of land is a factor in affordable housing so using public land can help, but we need to do more to guarantee housing that's affordable to those in need. The most important action we can take together is to consult with local developers to explore opportunities to voluntarily exceed the MPDU requirements. There is already legislation requiring examination of affordable housing and child care uses for public facility projects. I believe we need an open

dialogue with developer/builders soliciting their ideas on the best way to dramatically increase construction of affordable housing units and then implementing a plan around those ideas. I would welcome ongoing conversations with AIM representatives and others interested in preserving and expanding affordable housing on this. The bottom line is, to expand affordable housing opportunities meaningfully, we must expand the supply of housing. Period. This is something I have always supported, and a major point of difference in this race.

### **IMMIGRATION**

**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 provide 20 additional immigration lawyers in Montgomery County who can provide their services to protect individuals and families from deportation?**

I am extremely concerned about the immigration policies that are being enacted at the Federal level. I will continue to ensure that our police department will not engage in enforcing ICE policies. I would be receptive to supporting funding to private non-profits that provide deportation defense for local families. We can't allow beloved members of our community to be rounded up simply because they cannot afford legal assistance. I'll ensure that a fund is established to help offset the costs of legal fees for undocumented immigrants. I also want to ensure that the county does all that it can to work with youth who may become homeless as the result of parental deportation.

### **EQUITY IN EDUCATION**

**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?**

This is a highly successful program that I support, and I think it is integral to the elimination of the achievement gap that currently exists in our schools. Budgets are not just about money, but about priorities, and I will partner with the County Council, the Board of Education, the business community and AIM to find the resources needed to methodically expand the program in Title I elementary schools to achieve the objective of extending the program to 2,400 students by 2022.

**How will you work with AIM and the MCPS School Board and Superintendent to address bullying in schools, particularly the increased bullying of Muslim students, and to ensure access to Friday afternoon and daily prayers for Muslim students?**

Everyone should feel safe in their community. Threats against students, temples, mosques and houses of worship have no place here. There will be no tolerance for bullying or hate crimes in our community with me as your County Executive. A multi-faceted program comprised of laws and policies; training for parents, students and school staff; and community engagement is required. I will work with the Council, school board and superintendent, state legislators and AIM to craft laws and policies that clearly define bullying and include cyberbullying. The definition must be easily understood and interpreted by school staff, students, families, and the community. We also need routine and repetitive training for all stakeholders (school administration, teachers, and staff; students and parents). Lastly, we must engage the

community through routine and repetitive messaging that raises awareness of how destructive bullying is to the wholesome development of our children – all children. TRANSPORTATION  
How will you work with AIM to hold WMATA accountable to NOT privatize its workforce, and NOT cut bus service in our region? \* Actually, we need more reliable and better transit service throughout our region, not less. That's why I am proposing a regional transportation authority to help develop a more comprehensive and coordinated system.

**Democracy with Accountability**

**If you are elected, will you commit to meeting with AIM in the first 30 days of your term, and to personally attending an AIM Accountability action in the first 3 months of 2019?** I will commit to meeting with AIM as soon as I can after I take office, hopefully within the first 30 days, but I cannot promise that because of all the demands that I know will be upon me. I am happy to commit to attending an AIM Accountability action in the first three months of 2019.