

# The People's Voice, LLC

## Ethics Ballot™

3205 B Corporate Court Ellicott City, MD 21042

March 5, 2018

### 2018 Howard County Candidate Questionnaire

#### – County Council

Thank you for taking the time to fill out The People's Voice (TPV) / Ethics Ballot 2018 Candidate Questionnaire which will be used in the TPV endorsement process.

**Publication:** Your answers are considered "on the record." They will be circulated to members and may be published on the [TPV website](#).

**Endorsement Process:** TPV will endorse in several local races for the Primary Election in 2018, and will likely add more races to The Ethics Ballot for the General Election. Go to [www.ethicsballot.com](http://www.ethicsballot.com), "Ethics Ballot" tab, and click on "Criteria/Logos", for further details on endorsement criteria.

Please return questionnaires via email to [ethicsballot@gmail.com](mailto:ethicsballot@gmail.com) by Thursday, **March 15, 2018 at 1:00PM**. We will acknowledge receipt of the returned questionnaire. Please email any questions you have and a Board Member will respond.

#### Candidate Information

Name	Deb Jung
Phone	410-627-7005
Website	<a href="http://www.votedebjung.com">www.votedebjung.com</a>
Campaign Account Name	Friends of Deb Jung
Treasurer	Judith Center
Chairman	Ben Bialek
Campaign Manager	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Funds Balance	Approximately \$17,500

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### Questionnaire - County Council Candidates

1. Why are you running for this office? What qualifications do you uniquely bring to hold this office?

I am running because I care deeply about Howard County. I have a long history of community and school involvement and believe that my personal knowledge of District 4 will enable me to make a positive difference in improving the quality of life for all Howard County residents.

I am greatly concerned about school funding and equity. I believe that developers should pay their fair share for infrastructure, including new schools and roads. We also need to provide appropriate assistance to those who may need it the most, including those living in poverty, our aging population, new immigrants, people with mental health problems, and our citizens who are fighting drug addiction.

As a successful attorney in the non-profit sector for over 25 years and a community activist, I will bring important advocacy, drafting, analytical, and negotiation skills to the County Council. I have a history of bringing people together to find common ground and working to find solutions. One of the most important responsibilities of the County Council is oversight of the Executive Branch and I have been trained to conduct due diligence and ask tough questions. My performance on the various County boards and school organizations that I have served demonstrates a commitment to transparency in everything I do, as well as my ability to work hard and get the job done.

2. Describe why you feel you have a viable campaign.

Since I filed for County Council on April 4, 2017, I have canvassed the homes of thousands of Democratic voters to introduce myself and listen to their concerns. In addition, I have attended hundreds of events in District 4 and in other parts of the County to learn about the concerns of our citizens and better understand the critical issues our County faces today. Because of my community leadership, I have a grassroots network of support in District 4, including dozens of volunteers. I believe that this sustained presence has given my campaign traction and built momentum. I have raised approximately \$21,500 with approximately \$17,500 cash on hand at this time. An overwhelming number of my contributors have contributed \$250 or less.

While the late filing of a well-resourced opponent creates a funding challenge, many in the District are aware of her role in the mismanagement of the HCPSS budget (problematic still today), the renewal of Superintendent Foose's contract (costly to the County taxpayers), and her mishandling of the mold problem in our public schools.

I am confident that I will have the resources to effectively get my message out through direct mail. Most importantly, I will continue to canvass, meet members of District 4 at events, and pursue a ground game that relies on personal touch and interaction.

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3. How do you believe one eliminates the appearance of conflicts regarding campaign contributions?

More than ever, I believe in the necessity of public financing of campaigns and am pleased that Howard County will have such a system in place for the 2022 election. In fact, I handed out information at polling places about the public financing referendum question and testified before the County Council in favor of the bill that would put the public financing system into place, in keeping with the will of the majority of Howard County voters. Public financing can help candidates run for office without having to solicit contributions from those who might have business before the Council.

In the meantime, to avoid the appearance of conflicts in land-use matters, I do not plan to solicit or accept contributions from corporations that are planning to build residences in Howard County that will impact school overcrowding. While not in any way intending to disparage homebuilders, I believe it is important to avoid even an appearance of a potential conflict, particularly in light of the fact that the County Council sits as the Zoning Board in this County. This is an academic question at this point since no one from the homebuilder industry (including its trade association) has offered to contribute to my campaign to date.

4. If you are elected, or reelected, what are your top priorities for 2019?

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As a council member, one's primary responsibility is enacting a balanced budget that adequately funds the county government and reasonably meets the needs and expectations of residents. From my canvassing experience, it is clear that a strong school system, more public transportation to help relieve traffic congestion, public safety, affordable housing, and the need for a strong social safety net (particularly among our senior and disabled population) are among the top concerns of District 4 residents. I would scrutinize the operating and capital budgets and related programs accordingly to make sure that they are both effective and efficient in responding to these priorities.

Executive Branch oversight is also a key Council responsibility and I pledge to do everything in my power to bring transparency and accountability to the Downtown Development process and any additional requested TIF assistance. I previously testified before the County Council against changes to the TIF on the grounds that it lacked transparency. I also view moving forward on Phase Two of the Development Regulations as a priority, particularly with respect to criteria related to New Town zoning and improved processes for citizen involvement in land-use decision making.

Environmental protection and natural resource stewardship are important priorities to me. I support continuation of the Watershed Protection Fee along with the Countywide Implementation Strategy for Stormwater Management and the Howard County Climate Action Plan. We also need to ensure that the County uses its purchasing power, land ownership, and funding power to meet renewable energy goals and advance the recommendations of the Energy Task Force.

I will also do everything possible to ensure that Howard County remains a welcoming community, including: oversight of the recently promulgated Department of Police Policy (OPS-10) intended to safeguard immigrants from being unfairly targeted in police actions based on immigration status; oversight of the County's policy to promote equal access to government services through the Limited English Proficiency policy; and joining organizations such as "Welcoming America" and "Cities for Citizenship" that promote public policy initiatives to further inclusiveness and citizenship efforts. Montgomery County and Baltimore City already are members of both organizations. Our efforts need to be publicized and the tone of government needs to start from the top

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5. How would you have voted on the APFO bills, and the amendments regarding roads tests, affordable housing, capacity limits, and categories to add to APFO? If seeking reelection please discuss your votes and reasons. In 2019, would you sponsor legislation to implement any positions you herein outlined, that differ from current law?

I testified before the County Council in support of strengthening the original APFO legislation. I would have voted for Jen Terrasa's amendment to lower school capacity limits (Amendment 7) but I do support the capacity limits in the final version of the bill as a reasonable compromise.

While I understand that an APFO can conflict with other desirable public policies (such as affordable housing), the "safety valve" amendment (though improved from the initial version) remains imperfect since it does not provide a clear legal standard for Council action other than the consideration of certain criteria. The criteria are limited, and the elements of a required PILOT are not specified. This language may well need to be further clarified. If elected, I will do everything possible to ensure that this does not become an egregious loophole.

With regard to the roads test, I am not sure why that provision was necessary and, since I was not privy to discussions about its merits, probably would not have voted for it. I do think that the final version of the bill should have included an express provision that traffic mitigation projects needed to be substantially complete before occupancy or similar final permits are issued. This seems to be left to the specifics of an executed development agreement.

I was pleased to see that specific requirements for environmental facilities was added to the APFO. I understand and share the concern regarding the adequacy of police, fire, and health facilities. Perhaps this amendment will succeed in the future if additional objective criteria can be developed.

6. Did you seek the endorsement of the MD Builders Assn? Did you meet with the MD Builders Assn, wherein you noted how you would vote, or would have voted, on APFO Bills or amendments? If so, what positions did you communicate?

I have not sought the endorsement of the MD Builders Association nor received it. I attended a breakfast at their invitation after I had testified in favor of a strengthened APFO, so the group was aware of my position.

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7. Do you believe the HCPSS budget should have a lower level of increase, or be fully funded? If fully funded, where do you suggest the County budget cut elsewhere to accommodate? If lowered, where do you suggest the HCPSS budget be cut?

Education is a top priority for me and I believe that, to the extent reasonable, my job is to try to leverage available funds to ensure that HCPSS has the financial resources to meet the needs of our students. In addition to its importance in nurturing young minds, I view the school system as a major economic driver for the County.

Because funds are limited, the budgetary system can only work if there is communication, cooperation, and transparency among all stakeholders. The school budget is clearly subject to pressures beyond its control such as large enrollment increases, increasing numbers of low income and limited English proficiency students, and the high costs of special education. Past fiscal mismanagement and lack of transparency and oversight by prior Boards of Education (of which my primary opponent Ms. Siddiqui played a key role) have made the current problems even worse.

I am not running for County Council to micromanage the HCPSS budget, so I will leave priority-setting with regard to the HCPSS budget to those more intimately involved in that process, the School Board and the school district leadership. By any measure, Howard County is a leader in funding its school system. Both the School Board and the County will need to look for efficiencies each year. With consideration of enhanced K-12 funding expected in Annapolis next year, our State legislators need to work with legislators in Montgomery County and other similar jurisdictions to ensure that Howard County gets increased categorical funding (not reduced by County wealth) to help address our needs. Similarly, I believe that our State delegation needs to pursue legislation that will allow the County to increase development impact fees to help offset the cost of rapid growth in our public schools.

Depending on the estimated growth in County revenues, it may be that, as a last resort, we need to consider modest revenue enhancements to meet the growth that our school system is experiencing. We have no flexibility with regard to income rates (currently set at the maximum limit allowed by State law) and the property tax can be a regressive source of taxation, particularly with regard to fixed income homeowners. Other available revenue sources to the County do not yield large amounts of money.

Any such revenue enhancement will require public support. The new School Board, with the appointment of Dr. Martriano as superintendent, appears to be making progress in putting the HCPSS on a more sustainable financial footing and regaining public confidence. If progress continues to be made and we can get assistance from Annapolis, I am open to considering revenue enhancements such as those suggested by the County Executive's appointed Spending Affordability Commission to support our school system.

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8. Do you believe developer fees should be increased in the County? Do you believe developers should be allowed to voluntarily pay increased school fees to proceed in closed school districts? If so, at what levels?

Yes. I believe that developer fees should be increased in the County and that to the extent changes in rates require General Assembly approval (such as the school facilities surcharge), state law should be amended to authorize the County Council to set the rate and conditions for the fee imposition. As a general matter, I do not support allowing developers to voluntarily pay increased school fees to proceed in a closed district since the required fee would probably be a small portion of the amount required to create the additional capacity. One exception might be where the Office of Law concluded that failure to allow the developer to proceed would constitute an unconstitutional "taking" of property. In my view, new residential growth generally does not pay for itself. Howard County is expected to generate \$15.2 million in developer fees in FY 18. I believe that the adequacy of our existing fees need to be comprehensively updated and that in some instances a change to a per dwelling fee (as opposed to a square ft. amount) may be appropriate.

9. Do you believe the current annual residential allocations unit maximums are too high, too low, or should be unchanged? If you believe they should be changed are you willing to sponsor legislation in 2019 to do so?

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I am not sure if this question is referring to the general allocations contained in Plan Howard 2030, as amended by CB 2-2018 or the allocation chart on the Howard County website. The general allocations contained in Plan Howard 2030 were amended by CB-2-2018. I am not familiar enough with the broader areas to opine about whether the amended allocation plan will alleviate the overcrowding in our public schools. The allocation chart that shows *Housing Unit Allocations by Allocation Area* allows for a total of 3910 allocations in 2018, of which 2130 were requested. I am unable to determine whether this number is too high, too low or just right given all the factors that would go into making a well-reasoned prediction about such a complex matter. I have been informed by a number of people that Howard County has averaged around 1,000 newly built dwellings each year for a number of years.

*Under Howard County Code Sec. 16.1102. - Housing unit allocation concept; housing unit allocation chart, it is stated:*

*(b) (3) Preparation and adoption.* The Department of Planning and Zoning shall prepare and update the housing unit allocation chart for consideration and adoption by the County Council. Once each year, and more often if the Council determines that amendments are appropriate, the county council shall adopt the housing unit allocation chart by resolution, after a public hearing. Whenever the housing unit allocation chart is adopted or amended, the [[open/closed]] SCHOOL CAPACITY chart shall be adopted or amended concurrently to be consistent.

According to this section of the Code, the County Council automatically reviews the housing allocation chart and decides whether the allocations are appropriate. The chart is then adopted by resolution. Given this section of the Code, it does not seem necessary to sponsor legislation to change the housing allocations. If this question is referring to the allocations contained in PlanHoward 2030, as amended, then it does appear that legislation is warranted when changing those allocations. Certainly, if overcrowding in our schools continues, the County needs to address the issue directly, either through reallocating where units can be built, lowering the number of overall units allocated, school redistricting, or a combination of these approaches.

10. Do you believe there should be an increased number of Council Members? If so, how many, and how do you propose they be elected?

I do not believe the number of Council members should be increased at this time.



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11. What is your position on TIF's, and specifically the TIF for Downtown Columbia/Howard Hughes? What is your position on how much affordable housing should be required by Howard Hughes (HH) on their own property? Many believe the norm being 10-15%, and HH is providing 4%, discuss.

TIFs can be a useful tool in a jurisdiction's toolbox to attract a developer to a distressed area that would not occur "but for" this type of financing assistance. Although I was not privy to the discussion between the County and Howard Hughes, I believe that the downtown redevelopment would have occurred in any event (albeit possibly at a slower pace) because of the wealth and economic activity in Columbia and Howard County. By issuing TIF bonds with the debt service to be defrayed by the tax increment of increased assessments in the special taxing district, the County has assumed downside risks if the economy slides or the redevelopment otherwise fails. The County is banking on a strong economy that will allow it to receive tax revenue benefits significantly in excess of its debt service repayment obligations. If this occurs, those revenues could defray unrelated general fund expenditures in the future. The County is, in a sense, subsidizing the borrowing cost and the return on investment of Howard Hughes Corporation in return for this master planned development moving forward as proposed.

I testified in support of the bill to repeal the TIF on grounds of lack of transparency when it was learned that the TIF no longer included the parking garage. I feel that the Council and the public have not been kept adequately informed about the implementation of the TIF financing agreement, whether or not financial assumptions have proven true, and how and to what extent the TIF bond proceeds have been spent. I pledge to bring more County Council accountability and oversight on Downtown Redevelopment in the future. I am skeptical about using the TIF mechanism for subsequent phases of the project and would prefer more traditional and straight-forward economic development incentives, if needed, such as grants or loans if necessary.

With regard to affordable housing on property owned by Howard Hughes, it is my understanding that the 2010 General Plan amendment called for around 15% affordable housing in Downtown Columbia. Given the public subsidies to the redevelopment, I believe that 10-15% is appropriate. I am equally concerned that the affordable housing units be scattered among all residential buildings and not concentrated in those built through tax credit programs.

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12. What do you believe are the best methods to use to provide affordable housing?  
What do you see as any current difficulties in accomplishing those goals?

I believe strongly that people who work in Howard County should be able to live in Howard County, just as James Rouse envisioned, and that affordable housing should be scattered throughout the County in a way that promotes economic integration. This includes our aging low-income housing stock which needs to be replaced.

The County needs to budget additional local funds for rent subsidies to reduce the waiting lists for individuals and for non-profits that are seeking to create affordable housing, particularly for seniors and developmentally disabled adults. Additionally, we need an in-depth review of the Moderate-Income Housing Unit (MIHU) program to determine how well it is working and whether additional market incentives or programmatic changes could be incorporated to make it more effective. An increase in the transfer tax would help fund more MIHUs.

There are a number of obstacles to providing more affordable housing: the high cost of housing in Howard County which diminishes the stock of affordable housing; county residents who strongly resist having affordable housing located in their neighborhoods, and a lack of funding to support a robust affordable housing program. I think it is important to work with our entire community to resolve some of these issues through dialogue and dissemination of accurate information.

13. Do you believe Howard County should be a sanctuary County?

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While I supported Council Bill 9-17, at this time, I do not believe that Howard County needs to legislatively declare itself a sanctuary jurisdiction. Subsequent to the veto of that legislation, the Howard County Police Department adopted policy OPS-10 on May 12, 2017 which achieved many of the key objectives of the legislation.

Under that policy, it is clearly stated that the Police Department has “no statutory authority to enforce civil violations of federal immigration laws”. In addition, criminal investigations or enforcement based solely upon an individual’s citizenship or immigration status are prohibited. I believe that this regulation is critical to creating a safe environment for our County’s immigrants - one where immigrants do not feel threatened by the on-going efforts of the Trump Administration to remove them from our community. Importantly, it lays a foundation for establishing trust in local law enforcement.

OPS-10 also contains a reporting requirement on implementation of the policy. If I am elected, I will ensure that there is Council oversight regarding this procedure and that the letter of the law, as well as the spirit are being followed. If problems exist in implementation of OPS-10, I will not hesitate to introduce new “sanctuary” legislation. Additionally, I strongly oppose any “delegation” of so-called Section 287 authority by the Department of Homeland Authority to the County to enforce federal immigration law. Howard County should also strive to become a “Welcoming Community” as discussed in the answer to Question 4.

14. Do you support allowing developers to build residences on parkland, whether by swap, gift or purchase?

Generally, no. It is hard for me to envision any time when it would be appropriate to gift parkland to a developer. It is possible, however, to envision a situation where land that is owned by a developer that connects to a park property and is environmentally sensitive is conveyed to the County in exchange for property of more marginal environmental value.

15. Would you support restricted development in areas that the County has designated as part of the Green Infrastructure Network?

Generally, no. As I understand the Green Infrastructure Network (GIN), these hubs and corridors are some of the County’s most ecologically sensitive areas and are needed to preserve habitat connectivity for plants and wildlife. To the extent these areas are in private control, the County should consider employing easement acquisition or similar strategies or ensure in the Site Development Review Process that any negative environmental impact is minimized.

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16. Are you in favor of implementing the Development Regulations Assessment recommendations? What, if any, suggestions did you make during this process so far?

I am strongly in favor of moving forward to Phase 2 of the Development Regulations Assessment and generally support the recommendations to simplify, consolidate, and modernize the development regulations within a unified framework. I personally attended three of the public forums that Clarion hosted and a representative attended another. I concur with Clarion's view that the New Town zoning and land-use decision-making processes, need to include clearer criteria and more straight-forward processes for citizen involvement.

While I understand that the Zoning Board cannot and should not be involved in site plan review detail, I believe that significant variations from the General Plan (such as major changes in building heights) should be made by elected officials and not delegated to appointed officials or staff. I also believe that the Design Advisory Panel is an important part of the development review process that should be retained and perhaps strengthened.

Although the APFO was not part of the scope of Part 1, I did feel that Clarion was somewhat dismissive of the effectiveness of Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance regarding the phasing or timing of development and the provision of public facilities. I believe that the adequate public facilities ordinance is key to ensuring that growth proceeds in a rational way and does not overwhelm our community. I also disagreed with Clarion's apparent view that Howard County should rely more on staff in our development processes. In my view, such an approach would reduce accountability and undermine trust. We need more accountability, not less.

I am hopeful that Phase 2 will take a hard look at the various land-use decision-making processes from the perspective of citizen involvement and broaden the type of testimony permitted in quasi-judicial proceedings. I also believe that establishment of a People's Counsel to assist the public in land-use matters should be considered.

17. Have you ever testified before the County Council? If so, describe some positions you have taken.

Yes, in 2017, I testified before the County Council on legislation to strengthen the adequate public facilities ordinance, to repeal the TIF law, and in support of the public financing legislation.

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18. The Clarion Zoning study showed we have only 1% of land in Howard County in each of B1, B2, M1 and M2. There continues to be a push to place high density residential development. How would you balance the need to retain commercial zoning with the desire for residential development? Are there incentives you would consider to make sure we have enough commercial zoning in the future, as markets change?

This issue crops up in a variety of contexts. In District 4, the proposed Kimco Hickory Ridge Village Center redevelopment has shown the tension of adding substantial high density residential to support “revitalized” commercial activity without overwhelming the neighborhood, further constraining parking, and creating substantial congestion and pedestrian safety issues. In most cases, the balance to be achieved is very site and neighborhood specific.

I believe that many people prefer to engage in commercial activities near to where they live. Unfortunately, there has been little retail choice and creativity by commercial developers in creating a mix of retail that is inviting and appeals to the surrounding community. If the wrong mix is created, the surrounding community will avoid the new commercial development and the proposed residential housing will simply be a new revenue stream for the developer- the new commercial uses will end up primarily serving the new housing and not the surrounding community.

I do not have specific incentives to offer that would address the issue of adequacy of commercial zoning. Most jurisdictions appear to lean heavily on tax incentives to lure new businesses, but I don't know if there is a need for such incentives in Howard County at this time. I do believe that this issue should be considered by the next County Council as part of a study that examines the overall retail outlook in the County. This could be done in conjunction with the review of the New Town Village Center zoning and other commercial zoning classifications as part of the Development Regulations Assessment Phase 2.

19. How would you expedite or improve the Ellicott City master plan, or other storm water management requirements/recommendations to further protect that area? Do you believe downtown Ellicott City could be made ADA compliant?

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It is critical that any plan considered or put into place contemplates the resiliency of this community in the future. The County is currently reviewing the Ellicott City Watershed Master Plan, including hydrology and other relevant studies and comments. The recent flooding caused by the extreme microburst is symptomatic of the climate change we are unquestionably experiencing and is a vivid example of what can happen if we think narrowly about commerce with minimal regard to environmental considerations. The loss of retail and service jobs from the catastrophic July 2016 flood that hit Old Town Ellicott City is an excellent example of why we need to consider the environment and our economy as one.

I do think all options should be considered, including designating undeveloped and flood susceptible areas within the Tiber-Hudson sub watershed (a relatively small area) as a Tier IV growth tier, at least as a temporary measure until a more comprehensive strategy is in place. I believe that a heightened hydrology and stormwater management focus is appropriate. Before any development project can move forward, the developer should pay the full costs of a professional hydrology study and be required to take all stormwater management mitigation measures necessary to minimize flooding risks from the project.

Moreover, because many existing structures in Ellicott City should be retrofitted and the geography is tight, we need to look at the recommendations of the Commercial Stormwater Solutions Work Group with regard to incentivizing commercial property owners through tax credits, grants, and loans to make necessary stormwater management improvements. I would be supportive of additional funds for that purpose.

One intriguing idea that was discussed late in the Development Regulation Assessment process was the possibility of using an overlay zone to protect environmentally sensitive flood prone areas. This would require an extensive mapping effort (to the extent it does not already exist) with opportunity for landowner input. This type of approach is similar to that used in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas legislation in the mid -1980's and may warrant consideration.

I think it would enhance downtown Ellicott City to make it ADA compliant, as well as attract more tourists and shoppers. However, it may be cost prohibitive for small merchants still recovering from the flood to create ADA compliant entrances. The County could consider some fixes that might help those with mobility issues, but I would need to review this issue more closely to understand the extent of the problem and the cost of trying to bring an entire downtown up to code.

20. Describe positions you have taken, or votes you have made which you feel are the most important with regard to the Council position. Describe how you championed these causes or how you publicized your position. Include information about any votes or positions you have made that you regret, or about which you feel differently.

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I have not held elected office before. With regard to the Council position, I believe that my support for a strengthened APFO and transparency in the Downtown Development process are good indicators about how I will approach the job if elected. I have developed and publicized my various positions by canvassing neighborhoods in District 4, attending countless meetings and events, and responding to issue-based questionnaires during this campaign. In addition, I have listed my priorities on my website and Facebook and will be updating that information soon.

I believe in and am comfortable with my positions knowing that the legislative process by its nature involves bringing together people with different perspectives. I am not running for this Office to advance a political career. Many people in District 4 know that I care deeply for the wellbeing of the District and Howard County and that I have worked hard in our schools and on volunteer County boards as a leader and consensus problem solver to make this community a better place to live

21. How much time do you think should pass before an elected official, according to Ethics Laws/Regulations, can be compensated by a private company that could have benefited from the decisions of the official?

I assume that the thrust of the question involves post - County employment restrictions directed to elected officials who become lobbyists or otherwise provide advocacy services before the legislative body or executive branch. It is my understanding that a 1-year ban is in place currently.

I am not aware of any elected county officials who are engaging in such activities, so I am not sure that new legislation is called for at this time. If such legislation was deemed necessary, I would support a two-year ban on such activities for County elected officials, similar to what is currently in place for former U.S Senators. I believe that the perception of a revolving door undermines people's faith in government, A two-year ban would counteract that to some extent, as well as lessen the ability to leverage relationships and information gained in County service to assist others in their dealings with County Government

By Authority, The People's Voice PAC, Lisa Markovitz, Treasurer

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Supplemental Question sent after filing of new Mulching Bill, Answers due Wed. April 11.  
Please state your views about CB21 (Mulching Bill) below.

By Authority, The People's Voice PAC, Lisa Markovitz, Treasurer