Welcome to this Voters’ Guide

The League of Women Voters offers this Voters’ Guide to assist citizens as they prepare to vote in the primary election. The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or political party.

All candidates were asked to provide biographical information and to respond to a nonpartisan questionnaire. Candidates running for the same office were asked identical questions. Responses from state and local candidates who will appear on the ballot are printed exactly as submitted to the LWV. We did not edit for content, spelling, or grammar. Presidential candidates’ responses were limited to 750 characters. More information about the presidential candidates is found in that section. All other candidates’ responses were limited to 400 characters and any additional material was cut off at that point. If a candidate did not respond by the deadline, "No response received by deadline" is printed.

Additional information on the candidates is available at VOTE411.org. This site may include answers received after the deadline. If the candidate submitted a campaign website or social media site, it is listed under her/his name.

The League assumes no responsibility for errors and/or omissions.

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Three Ways to Vote

1. **Vote Safe, Vote by Mail**
Because of the risk of transmitting COVID-19 wherever large numbers of people are gathered, voters are strongly encouraged to vote by mail. Vote in person only if you cannot vote by mail.

Ballots will be mailed to voters on the active voter registration list and will be accompanied by an envelope with prepaid postage for returning the ballot. **Be sure to sign the oath on the envelope, or your vote will not be counted.**

Voters will receive a Republican or Democratic ballot if they are affiliated with one of those parties. See the information on the next page about “closed-primary” elections. If you do not receive a ballot and believe you are eligible to vote in this election, please contact the Cecil County Board of Election at 410-996-5310.

**Ballots must be postmarked or returned to a secure drop box by 8:00 pm on Election Day, June 2.** The State Board of Elections website includes a form to check that your ballot was received. Drop boxes will be available at the following locations from May 21 through June 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vote Center:</th>
<th>Ballot Drop Off Only:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cecil County Administration Building</td>
<td>Rising Sun Town Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 Chesapeake Boulevard</td>
<td>1 E. Main Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elkton, MD 21921</td>
<td>Rising Sun, MD 21911</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Protect your ballot** - Do not give your ballot to anyone who offers to collect ballots. Put it directly in the U.S. Mail or in a Board of Elections drop box.

2. **Limited In-Person Voting on Election Day**
To ensure that all voters have an opportunity to vote, **in-person voting will be available at the Vote Center listed above from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm on June 2.**

Voter registration will be available, as will marking devices for use by voters who would have difficulty reading and/or marking a paper ballot. Voters who did not receive a ballot in the mail and voters who cannot mail the ballot they received should also go to the Vote Center.

3. **Absentee Voting**
If you asked for an absentee ballot for this election, you may have received it already. If you have, please follow the instructions you received. Vote your ballot, **sign and date the oath**, and place both the ballot and the oath in an envelope. Be sure the envelope is addressed correctly and includes your ballot number.

If you would prefer to receive your ballot electronically, please call or email your local board of elections. When your ballot is ready, you will receive an email with a link to your ballot.
You must print your ballot and the sign the oath. If you do not see an email from the State Board of Elections, check your spam folder.

“Closed-Primary” Elections

Maryland is a “closed-primary state”. Only the Republican and Democratic parties will be choosing their candidates in the upcoming election. Other political parties will choose their candidates by other methods.

What does a “closed-primary” mean for voters? In partisan races, voters registered as Republicans may vote only for Republican candidates and voters registered as Democrats may vote only for Democratic candidates. All registered voters may vote in non-partisan races such as Board of Education. If there are no non-partisan races on the ballot in a given county, independent and third party voters will not vote until the general election in November.

Resources for Voters

To review voter registration record, request replacement voter notification card, identify voting district, view sample ballot, learn the status of absentee or mail-in ballot, or receive other assistance from the State Board of Elections: voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch or call 1-800-222-8683

To register as a new voter or update name, address or party affiliation (by May 27): voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration

To request absentee ballot delivery by mail (by May 26) or by download (by May 29): elections.maryland.gov/voting/absentee.html

For information about access for voters with disabilities: elections.maryland.gov/voting/accessibility.html

For candidate photos and updates, personalized ballots, candidate forum dates and other election information from the League of Women Voters: VOTE411.org

Hear rumors about the election?
Visit – http://www.elections.state.md.us/press_room/rumor_control.html

Offices and Candidates are listed on the following pages in ballot order. Website and social media sites are those provided by the candidates to the Maryland State Board of Elections unless updated by the candidate for this Voters’ Guide.
U.S. President

**DUTIES:** The President is the head of state of the United States of America; the Chief Executive Officer; and the Commander in Chief of all military forces. The powers of the President are prescribed in the Constitution and federal law. The President appoints the members of the Cabinet, ambassadors to other nations and the United Nations, Supreme Court Justices, and federal judges, subject to Senate approval. The President, along with the Cabinet and its agencies, is responsible for carrying out and enforcing the laws of the United States. The President may also recommend legislation to the United States Congress.

**TERM:** Four years. Limit of two terms.

**BASE SALARY:** $400,000 per year.

**Criteria for Participation in VOTE411.org:** All presidential candidates who will appear on Maryland’s ballot are listed below. The League of Women Voters of the United States, through the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF), established criteria to determine which candidates to invite to respond to questions for the Voters’ Guide.

Candidates qualified for invitations from LWVEF to provide responses to specific questions if they met the following criteria:

- The candidate must have made a public announcement of her/his intention to run for President.
- The candidate must have met the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act’s minimum contribution threshold requirements for qualifying for matching funds, based on the most recent data publicly available on the Federal Election Commission’s website.

LWVEF is required to have at least two candidates for President from the same party meet the above criteria before they are invited to answer the League’s questions and to have their responses printed in a voters’ guide.

**Questions**

**ELECTIONS AND VOTING:** What policies do you support to improve and secure elections and voting in our country?

**COMMON GROUND:** Please explain where you see opportunities for Democrats and Republicans to find common ground on the very serious issues facing our country.

**IMMIGRATION:** What, if any, steps will you take to reform current immigration policies?

**GUN VIOLENCE:** Please explain the policies, if any, you support to address gun violence in America.

**CLIMATE CHANGE:** What, if any, actions would you work towards in your first 100 days to address the threats facing the US due to climate change?
Republican Candidates
Republicans may vote for 1

The League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVED) requires that at least two candidates for President from the same party meet the above criteria before launching a Voters’ Guide covering that party. At this time, only one candidate running for the Republican Party’s nomination for President has met the LWVEF criteria listed above. Therefore, no Republican presidential candidates have yet been invited to participate. As soon as any two Republican candidates meet the criteria or the party’s national nominating convention occurs, LWVEF will invite the qualified candidate(s).

Both the Republican candidates for U.S. President listed below appear on the Maryland ballot.

The following candidate met the LWVEF criteria for participation in VOTE411, but see the full description of the invitation process above.

Donald. J. Trump

The following candidate did not meet the LWVEF criteria and has withdrawn or suspended his campaign.

Bill Weld

Democratic Candidates
Democrats may vote for 1

All of the Democratic candidates for U. S. President listed below and on the following page appear on the Maryland primary ballot.

The following candidate met the LWVEF criteria for participation in VOTE411 and provided responses to the League’s questions. These can be found at VOTE411.org. LWVEF guidelines do not allow printing responses from just one presidential candidate.

Joe Biden

The following candidates met the LWVEF criteria for participation in VOTE411 and provided responses to the League’s questions. These can be found at VOTE411.org. They have withdrawn or suspended their campaigns.

Cory Booker

Pete Buttigieg

Tulsi Gabbard

Amy Klobuchar
Bernie Sanders
Elizabeth Warren
Andrew Yang

The following candidates did not meet the LWVEF criteria and were not asked to provide responses to the League’s questions. They have withdrawn or suspended their campaigns.

Michael Bennet
Michael Bloomberg
Julian Castro
Deval Patrick
Tom Steyer
Marianne Williamson

U.S. Representative, Congressional District 1

DUTIES: Representatives make laws along with the members of the Senate and may conduct investigations on issues of national importance. Laws that impose taxes always begin in the House of Representatives. Representatives can recommend that the Senate remove from office a public official accused of a crime.

TERM: Two years

BASE SALARY: $174,000

HOW ELECTED: Elected by voters in each congressional district. Maryland has eight of the 435 Representatives, based on the state’s population in the 2010 Census.

Website: www.house.gov

Questions

GOALS: Why are you running for this office?

IMMIGRATION: What, if anything, would you change regarding immigration policy?

HEALTH CARE: Would you vote to continue the Affordable Care Act as it is, expand it, or eliminate it? Please explain.
ENVIROMENT: What should be the federal government’s role in addressing national and global environmental concerns?

GUN SAFETY: What policies do you propose to reduce gun violence?

ECONOMY: How would you address the growing income gap in our society?

DISCRIMINATION: What initiatives would you propose to address bias based on race, gender identification, sexual orientation, religion, or disability?

STUDENT LOANS: What actions would you support to reduce burdensome student loan debt?

Republican Candidates
Republicans may vote for 1

Jorge Delgado

Campaign Website: http://www.delgado4maryland.com
Campaign Facebook: http://facebook.com/votedelgado
Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/votedelgado
Campaign Instagram: @votedelgado

GOALS: After carefully considering my opponent’s dismal record and hearing the disappointment of voters in our district, I weighed my policy experience working on Capitol Hill and decided the only way to change the status quo and give Republicans in Maryland’s 1st Congressional District a clear choice, was to challenge the incumbent.

IMMIGRATION: Jorge adamantly opposes sanctuary cities, which are unlawful. When we lose control of our borders and we are unable to safely vet those entering our country, it becomes a matter of national security which strains our resources. In order to help protect and secure our borders, Jorge strongly supports building the wall, utilizing high-tech tools, additional funding for judges and Border Agents.

HEALTH CARE: From newborns to seniors, Eastern Shore families need access to safe, affordable healthcare. Jorge is committed to combating surprise billing, lowering prescription drug prices, as well as protecting and preserving Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

ENVIRONMENT: Jorge opposes seismic blasting off Maryland’s coast. He is a strong supporter of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, a program that provides critical resources, without federal taxpayer dollars, for coastal conservation and restoration. Most importantly, Jorge knows Maryland must hold its neighboring states accountable for any harm caused that adversely affects our beloved Chesapeake Bay.

GUN SAFETY: Jorge strongly supports law abiding citizens 2nd Amendment rights and ability to defend themselves. He believes our Police should have all the proper resources required to protect our communities. We must also ensure that we are properly funding threat assessment centers and mental health facilities. Our community challenges need local input & diverse partners to find solutions to complex problems

ECONOMY: Jorge is a strong supporter of the free enterprise system. It has been the greatest source in upward economic mobility and allowing people to reach their full potential.

DISCRIMINATION: As a Hispanic Republican, Jorge hopes to show through his actions that we all can break barriers. Discrimination has no place in our society.

STUDENT LOANS: Students need upfront and clear information of the harm that debt will
create on their future. With over $1T in student loan debt, it is a looming crisis that will create severe challenges when it bursts. Students should be aware of other opportunities such as trade schools, community colleges, and other alternatives that may better meet their long term goals.

Andy Harris

Campaign Website: http://www.andyharris.com
Campaign Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/harrisforcongress
Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/Harris4Congress

GOALS: I am running for re-election to make sure that everyone in the First District will have a representative in Congress who pays attention to what the people need from the federal government, listens to them, and can provide timely and effective constituent services when problems arise for them with any federal agency, like Social Security, the VA, Medicare, or the IRS.

IMMIGRATION: We need to be sure that we have an adequate supply of temporary foreign workers for industries important to the First District, like the crab picking industry and the tourism industry. I have been a leader on these issues in Washington, since so many small and family-owned businesses in the district depend on those workers, especially when the economy is so good and employees are so hard to find.

HEALTH CARE: We need to make health care more affordable - that was the main problem with the Affordable Care Act. We need to bring down the cost not only of insurance (maintaining coverage for any pre-existing conditions), but of health care itself. We have to bring down the high cost of prescription drugs, and we should have price transparency for all medical services and drugs.

ENVIRONMENT: By encouraging the use of exploration and production of natural gas to replace coal to generate electricity, the federal government brought down CO2 use in America for the third year in a row, exceeding the reduction of many countries in the Paris Climate Accords. We need to encourage the use of clean energy, especially exploring new advances in nuclear power generation which are safe and clean.

GUN SAFETY: Gun crimes must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. In Baltimore City, where Maryland’s strict gun control laws have failed to stem the tide of handgun murders, we should send in federal law enforcement and prosecutors to help find and prosecute everyone who commits a felony with a handgun, and everyone who illegally possesses or attempts to buy a gun. We should enforce current laws.

ECONOMY: The successful economic policies of the Trump administration have resulted in a $5,000 increase in the median family income in America over the last five years, and the lowest unemployment rate in half a century, with record low unemployment for African-Americans and Hispanics. Strengthening our economy and resisting socialist policies are the best way to increase incomes.

DISCRIMINATION: There are enough laws on the books, but in many countries in the world, there is an increasing problem with religious discrimination, especially against religious minorities like Christians, Jews, and Muslims. I applaud the President’s efforts to fight religious discrimination world-wide, and more needs to be done. Congress should be a partner with the administration in these efforts.

STUDENT LOANS: Lower cost higher education alternatives need to be developed. With the new digital age, online education is underutilized. We need to consider a new, less expensive plan for college - such as the first 2 years online, at one-fifth to one-tenth the cost. The last 2 years, and graduate education could still be on a physical campus. We also need to encourage career training in high school.
Democratic Candidates
Democrats may vote for 1

Allison Galbraith

Campaign Website: http://www.flipthefirst.com
Campaign Facebook: http://facebook.com/AllisonforMD/
Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/AllisonforMD

GOALS: I met Andy Harris. I’d gone to him concerned repeal of ACA protections would make it impossible to obtain private insurance and keep my small business. He told me he didn’t think “most people” would mind if women paid more for health insurance. My background is in policy and federal acquisition; I didn’t think they’d mind if I took his job. Representatives should work for all of us. I will.

IMMIGRATION: We need sensible, humane policies which treat immigrants with respect and compassion. The Eastern Shore relies on foreign workers and H-2B visas to sustain MD’s $355M seafood industry. Each one helps to create 2.5 jobs, while shortages devastate the economy. We require a comprehensive long-term solution as part of a more adaptable and responsive visa system and expanded pathways to citizenship.

HEALTH CARE: ACA offered relief for many, but is far from perfect. We can protect and expand ACA, Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP while striving for quality, affordable, universal healthcare, including reproductive/mental health, dental, long term care, and Rx coverage. This would improve health outcomes, lower costs, enable job mobility/entrepreneurship/retirement, and ease burdens on small biz and caregivers.

ENVIRONMENT: Pollution, global warming, sea level, and extreme weather events do not respect political boundaries. It is a global crisis; the U.S. has a responsibility to be a leader in tackling environmental issues at all levels. Let’s rejoin the Paris Agreement, transition to clean, renewable energy, build sustainable communities, strengthen environmental laws, curb climate change, and protect our planet.

GUN SAFETY: I’d work to repeal the Dickey and Tiahrt Amendments, which hinder efforts to research gun violence and trace guns, fully fund law enforcement efforts at ATF and gun violence prevention research at CDC, require universal background checks, prohibit possession by domestic domestic abusers, and promote a gold standard of responsible ownership among owners while penalizing negligence, and more.

ECONOMY: First and foremost, we must ensure that the very wealthiest among us are paying their fair share—a Prime subscription shouldn’t cost more than Amazon pays in federal taxes. We must raise the minimum wage to a living wage. But we must also address inequality through an intersectional lens, and acknowledge and address how inequality disproportionately affects women and people of color.

DISCRIMINATION: We must enforce existing discrimination laws, and ensure that we are properly addressing complaints of discrimination in the public and private sectors. We should also federally legislate these issues so that bias based on race, gender identity, sexual orientation, etc. isn’t permitted just because you crossed from one state into another. We also must finally codify the ERA into the Constitution.

STUDENT LOANS: Advanced education is increasingly necessary to compete in today’s job market; meanwhile Americans owe ~$1.6T in student debt. I’d work to ensure educational opportunity—college, trade schools, continuing ed, professional training, etc.—is accessible to all. A comprehensive solution to student debt must be explored also, including loan forgiveness program options and lending reform.
Mia Mason

Campaign Website: http://miadmason.us
Campaign Facebook: http://Facebook.com/mia4md
Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/mia4md
Campaign Instagram: instagram.com/mia4md

GOALS: I’m running to represent Maryland District One by restoring Accountability, Equality, and Integrity as sworn to the Oath of Office. Our current representation works against our citizen’s healthcare concerns, their fundamental civil rights protections, and leads education systems into despair. Therefore, we seek to renew the primary goals of communities to have better education, jobs, & healthcare.

IMMIGRATION: Families need a legal pathway system to help represent those at trial or for those who seeking immigration rather than deportation. We’re looking to reduce costs for families who are separated and burdened with little regard for those who are actual citizens. We do not believe in deportation for small infractions, only those with felonies as major crimes. We're a nation of immigrants since 1607.

HEALTH CARE: We seek to expand ACA to Medicare for All. Our Goals are ensuring providers meet all standards of Medicare for all, with expansion to all ages. We are protecting pre-existing conditions & ending exclusions that allow discrimination of care or denial of treatment and medicines. Private insurers & employers should be in compliance to have healthier workers by 2030. Thus, you can keep your plan too.

ENVIRONMENT: First, we must sign to Paris Accords again. Then enact legislation to have our Federal EPA comply with protecting our environment, and not delegate responsibilities to private sectors. We must fund our Chesapeake Bay protection fund to assist our communities, councils best, and companies to reward their efforts in protecting our Bay, State, and Planet in Solar, Wind, and Energy Storage utilities.

GUN SAFETY: We would propose adding all weapons permits, training, and carry status on the back of driver license or Real ID for easy reading. License additions shall include your guns as authorized to carry by type, a designation of your training certification for those weapons, and any FFL Status. Doing this provides a reduction of paperwork, additional permits, & can allow joint multi-state authorizations.

ECONOMY: For Education, we support the Kirwan commission reporting and seek to support the state from a federal level as needed. For Infrastructure, we would seek innovation companies, manufacturers, and small businesses to keep our twelve Counties thriving. For Wages, we would co-sponsor House Bill 582 Raise the Wage Act and seek passage of Senate Bill 150 for a federal minimum wage of $15.00 per hour.

DISCRIMINATION: Currently, 38 states support the Equal Rights Amendment. Therefore, I would sponsor a bill to our House of Representatives to introduce the Constitutional Amendment again. We seek to protect all our Civil Rights Act of 1964. As a member of the LGBTQ community, we seek to protect everyone for their national origin, race, gender identification, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or religion.

STUDENT LOANS: For student loans, we seek to reduce interest rates to be no higher than ten percent ever for private loans to for-profit schools. Forgive those loans of our veterans and communities who are applying for assistance. Ensure the Department of Education holds any and all colleges accountable. DOE should also seek to provide a pathway to make non-profit colleges tuition-free for all our communities.
GOALS: We need leadership that already has an established process for evaluating problems and legislation. I call it ‘the nursing process.’ I am well versed. I truly believe I am the leader who can bring a consistent approach to the needs of Maryland’s First Congressional District.

IMMIGRATION: Pause ICE for 6 months. Give Illegal immigrants one chance to properly get on the path to citizenship. I like ankle monitors for asylum seekers to empty the holding cells. I want an immigration process as easy to understand as the picture menu at a fast food restaurant.

HEALTH CARE: I like the ACA as it is. I would only suggest adding my “Primary Care for All Citizens” legislation. This starts with an expansion of Medicare part A to include primary care service and move from a reactive healthcare model to proactive healthcare model. Proactive is cheaper and has better outcomes.

ENVIRONMENT: The federal government needs to ensure that a scientist or a science competent leader is the head of the EPA. This should be a position that requires a confirmation hearing. America should be the forerunners of environmentally friendly, and we are way behind. We can start by re-entering the Paris Agreement.

GUN SAFETY: Establish an independent entity to monitor background check for gun owners and perform private gun vaulting in domestic cases. Highly encourage gun safety and responsibility from an early age, such as in the Boy Scout and the Eddie the Eagle program. Make mass shootings an act of domestic terrorism.

ECONOMY: Stabilizing student loans and healthcare costs will help stimulate the economy. As well, investing in green ventures can and will bring economic stability to tourist and arming regions.

DISCRIMINATION: For high crimes against humanity through discrimination and hate, I propose an offender registry. Just like sex offenders. I will lead by example and make my office as inclusive and as representative of the district as possible.

STUDENT LOANS: Get everyone into government-controlled student loans to stop the predatory nature of the current system. I also think making community colleges free would help students decide their educational path without acquiring as much debt because they decided to change their major.
Delegates and Alternate Delegates
to the Republican National Convention
Congressional District 1

Maryland will send a total of 38 delegates to the Republican National Convention, which will be held August 24-27, 2020 in Charlotte, NC. Each of the Congressional Districts will elect 3 delegates and 3 alternates. The presidential contender receiving the greatest number of votes in each District will receive the votes of all three of that District’s delegates. Each voter may vote for up to 3 candidates for delegate and 3 candidates for alternate.

In addition to the 24 delegates elected by the voters, 11 at-large delegates will be selected at the Maryland GOP convention by members of the State Republican Central Committees or their proxies. The votes of at-large delegates will be allocated to the presidential contender receiving the greatest number of votes in the primary statewide. Finally, three party leaders (the National Committeeman, the National Committeewoman, and the chairman of Maryland’s Republican Party) will attend the convention and vote by virtue of their positions.

Candidates were asked to respond to two questions. Due to the number of candidates, the list of candidates, their answers and the links to their social media sites may be found at VOTE411.org.

Female and Male Delegates
to the Democratic National Convention
Congressional District 1

Maryland will send a total of 119 delegates and 8 alternates to the Democratic National Convention, which will be held August 17-20, 2020 in Milwaukee, WI. Voters from each Congressional District will vote for 7 to 9 delegates per District, for a statewide total of 65 elected delegates. Male and female delegates will be selected separately. Congressional district-level delegates will be selected based on the proportion of the vote won by the presidential candidate to whom they are pledged.

In addition to the 65 delegates from the Congressional Districts, there will be 23 delegates who are automatic party leaders and elected officials (PLEO) based on the positions they hold. Finally, the Democratic State Central Committee will select 10 additional party leader (PLEO) delegates and 21 at-large delegates. Additional details about the delegate selection process are posted on the Maryland Democratic Party website.

Candidates were asked to respond to two questions. Due to the number of candidates, the list of candidates, their answers and the links to their social media sites may be found at VOTE411.org.
Cecil County Executive

**DUTIES:** The County Executive is the chief executive officer of Cecil County. The County Executive directs all county departments and proposes plans and initiatives, oversees programs, develops the budget and proposes legislation to the County Council. The County Executive prepares an annual progress report.

**TERM:** 4 years

**HOW ELECTED:** Each Council Member is required to live in his/her District. Terms are staggered, so that Districts 2, 3 and 4 are elected in Gubernatorial Elections, and Districts 1 and 5 in Presidential Elections.

**Questions**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?

**BUDGET:** What programs within the county’s budget should be increased or decreased?

**DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE:** What changes, if any, are needed in the county’s land use policies?

**EDUCATION:** What steps will you take to improve support for the public schools?

**EMPLOYMENT/ JOBS:** What steps should the county government take to encourage economic development and job growth?

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING:** What steps would you take to increase the availability of affordable housing for county residents?

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** How would you address issues such as traffic congestion, transportation needs, and improvements to public facilities in the county?

**Republican Candidates**

Republicans may vote for 1

**Bill Coutz**

No response received by deadline.

**Danielle Hornberger**

No response received by deadline.

**Alan McCarthy**

No response received by deadline.
**Ewing McDowell**

**Campaign Website:** http://www.ewingmcdowell.com/
**Campaign Facebook:** http://www.facebook.com/McDowellForCecil/

**QUALIFICATIONS:** 40+ yrs of business experience, 20 of those in int'l business. 4+ yrs of leadership in the Hogan Admin. Extensive leadership roles in local orgs. Past Pres. of County Farm Bureau, MD AG ED Foundation, and Cecil Babe Ruth Baseball, among others. Vast GOP involvement, including 2007 MD Republican of the Year. This broad base of leadership and experience gives me the skills to lead the county.

**BUDGET:** The Cecil County Budget needs a full and complete enterprise analysis to evaluate any and all opportunities for streamlining and consolidation. There will be opportunities to establish public/private partnerships to trim budget expenses. Budget expenditures must be limited to the services County Taxpayers expect to receive when they pay their taxes, like Education, Public Safety and Infrastructure.

**DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE:** The current Cecil County Comprehensive Plan is sound but is due to be updated. The last update of the Plan took place in 2010. By state law, the Comp Plan must be reviewed every 10 years. The process takes months to complete. I will guarantee the Plan will be reviewed as soon as I take office in December 2020. The Comp Plan review should be done by a citizen group and confirmed in an open forum.

**EDUCATION:** The State of MD currently controls most of the decisions affecting CCPS. The most effective way to increase support for our public schools is to have local input from parents, teachers, and taxpayers for the type of schools they want. Citizen involvement is as important as money. Every effort must be made to put the maximum amount of financial support directly in the classroom.

**EMPLOYMENT/ JOBS:** For years CCPS has received millions of tax dollars to promote and teach a STEAM education program. Then the children of the Cecil County Taxpayers have had to seek jobs outside our county because the county has not attracted or grown the companies needed to support STEAM jobs and fulfill their employment needs. Cecil County must establish an incubation center to attract next-generation companies.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING:** Currently, excessive fees and regulations make affordable homeownership impossible for many in Cecil County. It now costs tens of thousands of dollars in fees before building a new home can even begin. I will slash many of the fees, permits, and paperwork currently required to build, own and maintain a home or a business in Cecil County.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Bainbridge economic development projects will be my highest priority. I plan to continue to expand Rt 40 sewer and water. I will support the new Belvedere Rd I-95 interchange and the economic growth it brings. All major intersections on Rt 40 must be totally redesigned to improve traffic flow and safety. Improved digital services for all. Expanding MARC train service to connect to SEPTA.

**Democratic Candidates**
Democrats may vote for 1

**Jeff Kase (Unopposed)**

No response received by deadline.
Cecil County Council

DUTIES: The five-member Board of County Council Members and the County Executive make up the governing body of Cecil County. Council responsibilities include confirming appointments made by the County Executive for individuals to head each principal operating department and individuals to serve on boards, commissioners or committees; enacting the annual Budget and Appropriations Ordinance, levy the amount of taxes required by the budget and approving budget amendments.

SALARY: $25,000

TERM: 4 years

HOW ELECTED: Each Council Member is required to live in his/her District. Terms are staggered, so that Districts 2, 3 and 4 are elected in Gubernatorial Elections, and Districts 1 and 5 in Presidential Elections.

Questions

QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?

BUDGET: What programs within the county’s budget should be increased or decreased?

DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE: What changes, if any, are needed in the county’s land use policies?

EDUCATION: What steps will you take to improve support for the public schools?

EMPLOYMENT/ JOBS: What steps should the county government take to encourage economic development and job growth?

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: What steps would you take to increase the availability of affordable housing for county residents?

INFRASTRUCTURE: How would you address issues such as traffic congestion, transportation needs, and improvements to public facilities in the county?

County Council District 1

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for 1

Bob Meffley

QUALIFICATIONS: Forty years as a business owner working with residents and commercial developers has prepared me to plan and complete a variety of projects at the county and state level. I am currently in my forth year as a councilman for Cecil County and President of the council. Cecil County has a current growth rate of 11.4% which is the highest rate of any county in the state of Maryland at this time.
**BUDGET:** Public safety would be my first choice for additional funding. This would include our Sheriff’s office and our first-responders. It is important to continue investing in our public schools because our children represent our future. Finally, I hope drug prevention and treatments efforts work so effectively we can reduce spending in this area.

**DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE:** We need to take a hard look at our Comprehensive plan. Our existing plan restricts our municipalities, creating a financial burden on our smaller municipalities. The current plan does a great job of outlining future expansion in the county, but needs to be more flexible on town issues.

**EDUCATION:** We have tremendous support for our school system at this time. Going forward I am concerned that county wealth has increased while student enrollment has declined, therefore funding from the state will decrease. This will be another burden on the taxpayers of Cecil County. Cecil County Public Schools do an excellent job with the funding that they receive now.

**EMPLOYMENT/ JOBS:** We have installed water, sewer, natural gas and high speed internet in our growth corridor already. Not only does this attract businesses but we also have created Enterprise Zones within the county. Enterprise Zones encourage large businesses to locate here. We have also decreased hookup fees for large housing projects and businesses. We are in the process of installing a new exit ramp off I95

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING:** We have applied for grants to renovate existing residences for first time home buyers. We also have some new developments that are designed for a variety of income levels.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** We meet with county and state officials while major projects are in their planning stages. Maryland State Highway Administration and Cecil County Public Works monitor traffic on on major highways. We are working with the State of Delaware to find a solution to the truck traffic coming from 301 and traveling through our small towns. Additional funds received will go to repair roadways.

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**Democratic Candidates**

There are no Democratic candidates for this race.

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**County Council District 5**

**Republican Candidates**

Republicans may vote for 1

Jackie Gregory

No response received by deadline.

Don Harmer

**Campaign Website:** http://www.HarmerForCountyCouncil.com  
**Campaign Facebook:** http://Harmer For Cecil County Council

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have been a county businessman 36 yrs., hold a B.S. Finance from UM College Park, a member/chair of our county’s Parks Board for 10 yrs., our Planning Commission 2 yrs+., a Private School Asst. Athletic Director for 15 yrs, a member of Drug
Free Cecil Coalition 6 yrs and was a Coach/Board member for our county Youth Soccer League for 22 yrs.

**BUDGET:** Programs addressing Substance Use Disorder/Opioid Misuse/Mental Health and Hygiene should be expanded to combat their negative effects on our school system, workforce, and our economic viability. We need targeted efforts involving pre-education for our youth, promotion of healthy lifestyles, and law enforcement. This is one of our highest priorities.

**DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE:** Our current Comprehensive and Strategic plans are well designed to meet our current needs. Periodically visiting their goals and directives to assess competing and conflicting land uses remains key to proper planning and goal setting. They are living documents.

**EDUCATION:** Keep improving governance and transparency. Keep sharing the problems AND successes, the costs and funding of our school system. Build a strong collaboration between our parents, teachers, school administration, and local government where all can be on the same page. We will all be better prepared at decision time.

**EMPLOYMENT/ JOBS:** Increasing the availability of high value and diversified employment is a huge priority for Cecil County. Removing barriers such as the lack of water, sewer, and natural gas infrastructure are essential to the attraction of new employers. We need to understand the market for our resources and we need to be ready for business.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING:** This is a tough issue to solve. Each community area has different needs. Options such as tax incentives, building mandates to developers, and community revitalization need to be weighed out. Some work, some do not. Bottom line: Home quality and affordability is important for the mental health and financial stability of our citizens.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Community growth and diversification demand a long range, multi-year plan of action for a transportation system’s development to solve congestion and our citizens needs to move around. Using the defined growth corridor, the area around where most people will work and find everyday needs, such as food and health care, would be my concentration point.

**Democratic Candidates**

There are no Democratic candidates for this race.
Support the Voters’ Guide

We hope that you have found the Voters’ Guide helpful in selecting candidates for this election. We invite you to support our efforts to provide more citizens with information about candidates and the election process. Please consider a tax-deductible contribution to the League of Women Voters of Maryland Education Fund (LWVMD-EF).

$150__ $100__ $75__ $50__ $25__ other__

Send a check to: LWVMD Education Fund
121 Cathedral Street, Suite 2B
Annapolis MD 21401

Or donate online at: www.lwvmd.org

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We invite you to be a part of making our communities FAIR, VIBRANT, and STRONG! Join the League and be directly involved in shaping the important issues in our state. Membership in the League is open to men and women of all ages. With more than 98 years of experience, local Leagues in 16 of Maryland’s counties and in all 50 states, the League is one of America's most trusted grassroots organizations.

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