

Our Revolution Baltimore City/County

Baltimore City Endorsement Questionnaire

Candidate Name: Jackie Addison

Office and District Running For: City Council District 13

1. What is your vision and plan for public safety and reform of the police and the criminal justice system?
 - a. I believe that we need an all hands on deck approach to public safety. The Mayor should create a plan for organizing all of the city government to contribute to violence reduction. The council, unfortunately, does not have local control of the police department. Therefore, it is limited in what it can do to address violence. Nevertheless, the oversight it can provide it through the bully pulpit. I would be an advocate for addressing gun violence as a public health crisis. We must also understand the toll Fentanyl plays in the high death rate in our city.
 - b. The BPD must first operate constitutionally before the city will see violence reduction. The consent decree is helping turn the department around. The BPD leadership should be given time to reform and the resources to fight crime. We need to home-grow more officers.
2. What can you do, within the powers of the office you are running for, to improve education for all Baltimoreans and provide educational equity?
 - a. The Kirwan Commission is going to infuse much-needed dollars into Baltimore schools. As COuncilmember, I will ensure the budget is allocating the maximum funding required to receive the maximum benefit in the funding formula.
3. How will you address blight and revitalize communities while avoiding gentrification?
 - a. We must rebuild our city. If the people who live here are part of the transformation, we can avoid gentrifying and allow residents to grow with the neighborhood. We do want new residents to settle here, and

that will mean some change, but some change can be beneficial to current residents as well.

4. How will you ensure that communities in the Black Butterfly receive equitable investment?
 - a. Council President Scott's equity legislation will embed certain equity-based processes and metrics into how the government makes decisions. Under this authority, I will fight for those areas to get investment.
5. How would you improve transit, transportation, and the ability for people to get around in the city? Would you support the creation of a Regional Transit Authority to provide transit independence from the state?
 - a. I do support a regional transit authority. We are siloed in Baltimore city, especially if you live in poorer and blacker areas. Deprioritizing cars on certain streets makes sense to improve the quality of life in neighborhoods, support local businesses, and increase walkable accessibility to all. We have to find a way to fund more rail.
6. How will you address the environment, climate justice, and the climate crisis locally, including not only reducing/eliminating greenhouse gas emissions within the city but also protecting the people and infrastructure from the consequences of the climate crisis? Will you declare a state of climate emergency?
 - a. I supported the Council's ban on plastic bags because we have to live more sustainably. Global warming is real and happening. We should close the incinerator if possible and launch new city-run recycling and composting plants if we do not have them and expand them if we do.
7. How will you improve public health within the city? Please address racial and economic health disparities and social determinants of health. Some things to consider:
 - a. The high asthma rate;
 - i. Our asthma rate is much higher than in many other cities. We have to improve air quality. Many residents live downwind from an incinerator. This pollution may be a contributing factor.
 - b. Food insecurity and food deserts;
 - i. There are no grocery stores for 2 miles in any direction from the Oliver community. We have to consider instituting public markets in these areas and support local vendors with fresh produce. If the government loses money in this venture, that positive residual is still that your residents have fresh produce. This is a no brainer.
 - c. Disparities in life expectancy;

- i. Life expectancy in black Baltimore is more than 10 years lower than white ones. Crime and poverty contribute in a big way.
- d. The effects of trauma and violence.
 - i. Many residents are dealing with the trauma associated with violence. Councilman Cohen's Trauma Responsive Care Act will help the government improves its response.
- e. Lead in water and housing.
 - i. Lead in our schools, homes and water is a contributing factor to the crime. We know toxic lead paint exposure impacts an individual's cognitive abilities. We must make eradicating all lead paint from the city a priority. I believe the last cost estimate to do this is over \$100 million.

Embedding equity into government decisions will improve the delivery of services to east and west Baltimore. The government has not contributed to improving these areas. In fact, we know, the government has been the cause of much of the poverty and crime, whether vis redlining black areas, racial covenants, police and political corruption, and outright favoritism. The factors listed above are the result in part of government failure and contribution to them. We must change the way the government operates in Baltimore by being more deliberate about changing the conditions in these areas.

8. How will you improve economic opportunities for all residents of Baltimore? What programs would you create or reform to improve access to well-paying jobs?
 - a. The Board of Estimates hands out millions of dollars in contracts every year. We have to utilize the local and minority and women-owned business preferences in contracting. I would support a worker or employee-owned business preference ordinance as well.
9. What reforms to the structure and functioning of the city government would you implement?
 - a. I would support Council President Scott's bill to create a City Administrator.
10. How will you improve the quality of life for city residents? Some things to consider:
 - a. Community art;
 - i. Invest in the arts.
 - b. Community centers and recreation;
 - i. I support opening rec centers on Sundays. I applaud opening them on Saturdays.
 - c. Illegal dumping;

- i. The city and state should have dumping sites for residents. Let's make it easier for people to recycle unwanted things.
 - d. Beautification of streets and neighborhoods;
 - i. Making places more green helps improve the environment. We should follow the Sierra Club's goal to increase the tree canopy by 40% by 2037.
 - e. Improving infrastructure;
 - i. Advocate for funding for more rail. The Federal government has to step up.
 - f. Trash pickup and recycling.
 - i. Give everyone a composting can and a trash can to be collected by the city.
- 11. How will you address the needs of immigrants, both documented and undocumented? Will you ensure the safety of our undocumented neighbors?
 - a. Baltimore does a good job here. We can start offering a municipal ID for residents who need one.
- 12. How will you address the need for equitable and affordable housing?
 - a. I support the Perkins project. We should invest in rebuilding the stock and eliminating the 5-year backlog/wait time.
- 13. How will you balance providing services, including water, to all citizens while planning and paying for infrastructure upgrades/repair and replacement?
 - a. I am happy to see we are getting a new DPW Director. The Water Accountability and Equity Act will help residents with high bills. The bills are scheduled to increase by about 10% a year over the next few years.
- 14. Is there anything else you'd like us to know?
 - a. I am a resident of Belair Edison. I have served the community on the Democratic State Central Committee. We are knocking doors daily, talking to residents to hear their issues and build more relationships while letting them know about my candidacy. I have received a very warm reception and am grateful for the support I am building. I hope my answers conveyed my knowledge of the issues and the strength of my candidacy to do this work for the residents of the 13th Councilmatic District. Thank you for considering me.

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