



2022 Endorsement Questionnaire - Prince George's County Council
[All Responses Will be Made Public]

Candidate Name: Krystal Oriadha
Contact Email: votekrystaloriadha@gmail.com
Council Seat Sought: County Council District 7

1. How does your life experience qualify you for the office you seek?

I have spent years advocating for policies and legislation that support and protect all the residents within Prince George's County. I co-founded the grassroots organization PG ChangeMakers, which works to address community issues around housing, food insecurity, health care, police reform, and education. I have also worked for Federal and Local Government agencies, Fortune 500 Companies, and Nonprofits on policies and issues that directly affect our communities.

2. What have the primary sources of your campaign's fundraising been, both in this campaign and past campaigns?

I ran and continue to run a grassroots campaign, relying on the donations from residents, unions, and foundations that align with my ideals.

3. In 2018, the Prince George's County Council approved a small-donor public financing program for Council and Executive races to come into effect for the 2026 election. As yet, the Fair Election Fund Commission has not been set up and no funding has been allocated to the program. Do you support the small donor public financing program? If elected to the Council, will you work to ensure the program is funded each year leading up to the full funding needed for the 2026 election?

I do support the small donor public financing program and when I am elected I will work to ensure the program is funded each year leading up to the full funding needed for the 2026 election.

4. In 1992, through a citizen-driven referendum, a two-term limit was placed on council

members which the council repeatedly attempted to repeal over the years and repeatedly failed. As a result of the addition of two at-large seats on the council in 2016, the two-term limit has been diluted with council members allowed to jump from at-large to district seats and back without limit. Do you think district membership on the council is significantly different from at-large membership? Would you support or oppose the reinstatement of strict two-term limits?

While I do think there is a difference between the district membership and at large members of the county council, I support the reinstatement of the strict two-term limit.

4. What is your position on the Maryland MAGLEV train proposal?

I am opposed to the Maryland MAGLEV train proposal.

5. There is a great shortage of affordable housing in Prince George's County. What role can the County government have in creating policies that will provide affordable housing for residents at all income levels? How will you engage on this issue?

The government can play a pivotal role in ensuring the creation of more affordable housing within our county- stopping the fast paced march to gentrification. I will continue to promote increasing affordable housing through policies that will cause affordable housing with each new development within the county.

6. As part of the Maryland Police Accountability Act of 2021 (HB670-2021), the Maryland General Assembly requires each county to set up a Police Accountability Board (PAB). Prince George's County Council must pass legislation to fulfill this State mandate.

- a. Do you support incorporating the functions of the existing Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel in the PAB?
 - a. Yes.
- b. How would you ensure that the composition of the PAB reflects the community?
 - a. I support the PAB having members of the community and would advocate for every member of the PAB being a member of the community.
- c. Do you support a PAB with subpoena powers and paid investigators to effectively review complaints of police misconduct filed by members of the public?
 - a. Yes.
- d. Do you support adequate funding to staff the PAB to investigate the number of complaints filed, including budgeting for independent legal counsel?
 - a. Yes.

7. The County Council approved a councilmanic district map that was very different from the map created by the independent Redistricting Commission appointed by the council. The map was found illegal by two separate levels of our judicial system. Please share your thoughts on the Council's map, public opposition to the map, and the judicial finding.

The council's inappropriate decision to approve a redistricting map that moved several candidates out of their districts was right to be found illegal by the courts. I disapprove of the map, I stood in opposition with the public, and I applaud the judicial finding.

8. The County has a massive backlog in school maintenance, renovation, replacement, and expansion, which former Board Chair and education stalwart, Dr. Alvin Thornton, has attributed in large part to 20 years of historical racial discrimination towards Prince George's students.

- a. The County's solution to part of this problem has been to engage in a Public-Private Partnership for the construction and maintenance of six middle schools - the first county in the entire country to engage in a P3 for school construction. Do you think that using private capital with significantly higher interest rates that places the burden on Prince George's taxpayers is a viable model to address historical racial discrimination or should the State make Prince George's schools whole through State funding.
 - a. I do believe that Prince George's county schools should be built- through state funding and without a higher interest rate on Prince George's county residents.
- b. What is the solution to fixing the huge remaining backlog in school maintenance, renovation, replacement, and expansion?
 - a. The School system and County should partner to set aside dedicated funds for maintenance and include county resources and departments to help address the backlog.
- c. What actions do you think the County should take to ensure that school capacity matches current and future demand?
 - a. The county Council can ensure that all homes or developments built have to come with a mandated school construction compensation that will address our needs.

9. Should the Prince George's School Board be restored to a fully elected body? Why or why not?

Yes, I have always supported a fully elected school board, because the people of Prince George's county should have the right to make the decisions on who represents them on the school board.

10. Through legislation and through zoning and land use decisions, the Council plays a decisive role in county planning, and that planning drives transportation demand, demand for services and facilities, environmental and public health impacts, greenhouse gas emissions, and many other impacts. The Zoning Ordinance Rewrite eliminates the requirement that developers file Conceptual Site Plans (CSPs) for certain kinds of projects. CSPs provide critical opportunities for public review and comment on land use proposals early in the development process. Will you commit to working to restore the requirement for CSPs as soon as possible?

Yes, I will commit to restoring the requirement of CSP'S as soon as possible

11. The County Council often uses Zoning Text Amendment bills to rewrite the Zoning Ordinance on the fly and to help developers advance certain projects without going through the normal public review process. ZTAs weaken the Zoning Ordinance and undermine the public's right to know and to have a meaningful say on development proposals. Will you commit to working to end or severely curtail the use of ZTAs and to ensuring that:

- a. Any ZTA bill filed includes a list and map of all of the potentially affected properties, as well as analysis of the potential impacts on communities, the environment, agricultural lands, and demand on public services and facilities?
 - a. Yes.
- b. For each potentially affected property, the Council notifies all adjoining property owners, local community associations and watershed organizations, and local municipalities, by

first-class mail and no less than 60 days prior to any public hearing on the ZTA?

a. Yes.

12. In May of 2021, the County Council unanimously passed CR-027-2021 in support of a single payer Medicare for All system at the federal level, becoming the first county in Maryland to support the federal legislative initiative. The resolution cited the increase in racial health disparities due to the pandemic that only a single-payer system could address. The resolution also pointed out that Medicare for All “would reduce County spending on healthcare and enable local governments across our state to invest additional dollars into education, environmental protection, housing assistance, and other critical services.” Will you join the County Council in calling on our Congressional delegation to support and enact federal legislation for a single-payer system?

Yes, I will join the county council in calling on our congressional delegation to support and enact federal legislation for a single-payer system.