



2026 Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name: Ruben Amaya

Position: County Council

District: 2

What is your position regarding the Councilmanic Courtesy norm?

While I understand that council members should be knowledgeable of their own districts, I think it's important for the council to work together to address county-wide issues. Often these issues pertain to a specific district that requires the council to intervene. The recent data center debacle is a good example of this. We must be able to recognize the need to work together to address issues that create countywide effects.

What concrete steps will you take to address the acute shortage of affordable housing in Baltimore County? Please include your position on the current Urban-Rural Demarcation Line.

I support fighting for rent control to give more power to tenants, raising standards for maintenance & service, and ending water shutoffs. I will be a staunch advocate for starter homes that help families take root in our communities and ensure they don't get priced out of the neighborhoods we call home. I do believe in preserving the Urban Rural Demarcation Line (URDL) and push for sustainable growth in surrounding communities.

What resources are under-utilized in our County that could be used to increase economic growth?

We need to use the full force of county government to fight for rent stabilization, build affordable housing, and look at ways to promote ethical development. In my district, for example, Security Square mall has not been developed for over 20 years. It's important that it's revitalized into a mixed-use space that attracts young people, working families, and businesses that want to invest in our communities. Residents living on the west side of the county shouldn't have to drive to Carroll or Howard counties to access quality grocery stores, pharmacies, or shops. Whether it's access to necessities like food and medicine or things to do on the weekend, such as sit-down restaurants and going to the movies, our residents deserve better.

What is the greatest need in the district you are seeking to represent and what are your plans to address it?



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Food deserts are a huge issues along the Liberty Road corridor. I want to look into attracting more food sources that provide long term supply for residents. This includes looking at county-owned food stores that help protect against price gouging and attract local businesses.