AFL-CIO continued:

1. This isn’t an easy question but I will give my opinions. First if elected in District 15 I’ll be able to push my State Senator Brian Feldman’s ideas and proposals in the House. I believe like everyone that we must have permanent funding from all local jurisdictions and have a set funding formula that is based on use. This will be the fairest way to determine funding as it also will be useful in each section paying a fair and equal amount for their use of the system and upkeep and maintenance of the system. I think we should look at the system as a metropolitan asset because it is. As an example I look at my state giving all these benefits to lure Amazon and think of the businesses and other areas that will benefit if Amazon locates in Montgomery and feel as if they should also share in the giveaways. The present system of no system has to be fixed.
2. We have the most unsafe system in the country and we have to fix it immediately. This will take money and as this system serves our nation’s capital as well as the DMV workers and residents that the government should be paying more to the system than they are.
3. We need formal arbitration and mediation for all complaints and incidents. We can use the National Labor Relations Board or another but we must provide our workers with protection and financial relief I these cases.
4. I would love to say this comes from the public becoming better but we know that isn’t going to happen. I would both try to make the system operate better as a way to eliminate many of the less serious issues but we must have a far greater police presence both on the trains and in the stations to protect our workers as well as our riders.
5. I have not read the ATU contract so I do not know what is in it now but I do know any benefits already in the contract must be protected and adhered to by WMATA. I also know I will support the ATU in their current negotiations. I will opposed any attempts to privatize the system as it has not been done anywhere in this country for a system this large. I will use examples of how well the union run systems operate in other major cities and they can run the same here with similar benefits. I lived in New York when there was a transit strike and have seen the results of transit strikes in other cities and they are not pretty but normally work in achieving the workers’ rights. This would be a last resort but from what I know we are almost at the last resort with WMATA now.
6. I am against such a board and believe we should have a labor member on the board.

Bail Reform:

1. Yes and will say there should be no bail system in Maryland for any non-violent crime. DC did away with bail in the 90’s, New Jersey did away with it last year, New York is about to do away with it and Pennsylvania did away with it this month. We must do away with it now.

K. Confederate Monuments:

1. I am in favor of removing all major monuments, flags, symbols, statutes from public areas.
2. They should be removed.

Signed electronically,

Tony Puca

3/30/2018