

**Metropolitan Washington Council (MWC), AFL-CIO - 2018 Montgomery County, County  
Extended Answers  
Andrew Friedson, Montgomery County Council, District 1**

I. Transportation

1. I was proud to work with Senator Brian Feldman (who's early enthusiastic endorsement we are grateful to have) on the Maryland Metro Funding Act, along with Delegates Marc Korman and Erek Baron to secure dedicated Metro funding for the first time ever. We now have a historical opportunity to bring together all stakeholder groups to ensure Metro, the backbone of our regional economy, on a safe and reliable path for the long-term. Throughout my career in public life – overseeing Maryland's \$6 billion 529 college savings agency, launching a statewide savings program for Marylanders with disabilities, chairing the Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families, and ensuring fairness, transparency, and accountability at the Board of Public Works, my focus has always been on bringing together disparate groups and organizations to build consensus to achieve major progress. Labor plays a central role in that and I will always ensure that labor has a seat at the table.
2. The safety of Metro's workforce should be a paramount priority for WMATA. We will never be able to get Metro back on a safe and reliable track if we don't ensure that ATU members are able to go to work each day in a safe and reliable environment. I will use my position as a County Councilmember to push for a true safety culture, and will always be an advocate and ally with ATU and the rest of the labor community to ensure sufficient workplace protections. In order to do that, we need to make sure labor has a seat at the table.
3. As a Montgomery County Councilmember, I will look to leverage my extensive relationships and experience at the state level with leaders including Senator Brian Feldman, Senator Craig Zucker, Delegate Ariana Kelly and others to increase penalties and also fight to ensure victims have the time off and access to healthcare they need to fully recover. Finally, I will use my experience with Maryland's Pension Fund to protect defined benefits, including disability, earned through hard work and collective bargaining.
4. I will always be a strong advocate for working men and women and consistently push to make sure labor always has a seat at the table. I testified in strong support of the \$167 million in dedicated state funding through the Maryland Metro Funding Act, and intend to make that Maryland's significant financial commitment includes a collective bargaining commitment to the workers who actually move our regional workforce each day.

5. I have serious concerns about a federal control board, and frankly have serious concerns about the leadership (or lack thereof) at the federal government these days being in control of anything we care about, especially something as crucial to our regional economy, environment and quality of life as Metro. I've always advocated for labor to have a seat at the table and would be supportive of adding a labor seat to the WMATA Board.

#### J. Bail Reform

1. I strongly support Bail Reform efforts. Poverty is NOT a crime and it shouldn't be treated as one, in Maryland, the United States of America, or any civilized society.

#### K. Confederate Monuments and Memorials

1. I strongly disagree with any efforts to spend my personal taxpayer dollars, or any public money for which I am entrusted to invest in a way that benefits our community and quality of life, to subsidize the honoring of those who've committed treason against our country, and who represent the deeply immoral and inhuman enslavement of human beings.
2. Yes. Confederate symbols belong in museums to teach the original sins of our nation's unfortunate past, not to honor the memory of those who fought violently to ensure that human beings continue to be treated as property. Similarly, I believe everyone must learn about Adolf Hitler and the horrors of the Holocaust, but I would strongly oppose efforts to honor the memory of Nazis in public places with public dollars.