

## 2022 Baltimore Jewish Council Candidate Questionnaire

**CANDIDATE NAME:** Samuel I. “Sandy” Rosenberg

*Briefly tell your personal story and why you are seeking this elected public service position. (Please limit your answer to no more than 250 words)*

I have lived in Baltimore all of my life. I have had the honor of representing the diverse communities of my legislative district for forty years. Building coalitions among those communities has been and continues to be an essential and fulfilling part of my work and is very much in the Jewish tradition. Whether it is a major policy issue or a neighborhood concern, I give it the same effort.

*What are the 2 or 3 biggest challenges facing Maryland (or your district), and briefly describe how would you address those challenges over the next four years? (Please limit your answer to no more than 250 words)*

A woman’s right to choose and our safety from gun violence are imperiled by Supreme Court decisions. I will continue to work on these issues in Annapolis by researching the issue and building coalitions. Redeveloping the Pimlico Race Track site to preserve the Preakness and benefit the entire Park Heights community is a task that I will pursue to the finish. When fully funded and implemented, the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future will have a profound impact on our children’s education. I will work to see that this happens in every school in my district.

*Baltimore and Maryland are blessed to have so many committed foundations and non-profits. How can government better support the work of these non-profits in providing the care and services needed by vulnerable Marylanders? (Please limit your answer to no more than 100 words.)*

I will continue to be an advocate for government funding for the vital services and facilities that the Associated and similar organizations provide for the community.

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*Over the past several years, we have seen a rise of hate and antisemitism in schools, college campuses, and the general community. What could you as an elected official do to help combat this alarming trend?*

*(Please limit your answer to no more than 100 words.)*

**I expect to introduce legislation extending our hate crimes law to include domestic terrorism directed at any of the groups protected under our law. I introduced the bill that created Maryland's hate crime law and have been working on this issue ever since.**

*Do you support continuing the initiatives begun by the state over the past several years to provide security grants to faith institutions, schools, and other entities that are threatened by hate crimes?*

*(Please limit your answer to no more than 100 words.)*

**Regretfully, incidents in Pittsburgh, Charleston, Uvalde, and elsewhere make it imperative that we continue to provide this assistance.**

*For more than three decades, Maryland and the Jewish community have jointly invested in developing a flourishing business relationship between our state and Israel – creating jobs and economic activity both here and there. As part of that relationship, Governor Hogan signed an executive order in 2017 prohibiting all executive branch agencies from entering into contracts or conducting official state business with any entity unless they certify that they will not engage in a boycott of Israel during the duration of the contract.*

*<https://governor.maryland.gov/2017/10/23/governor-larry-hogan-signs-executive-order-strengthening-marylands-opposition-to-bds-movement-against-israel/>*

*Do you support maintaining and enforcing this executive order?*

*(Please limit your answer to no more than 100 words.)*

**I support Governor Hogan's executive order and would urge the next Governor to maintain this policy. I was the principal co-sponsor of House Bill 949 (2017), which was instrumental in the Governor's decision to issue the executive order.**

*Over the past several years, Maryland has created the BOOST program – a scholarship opportunity to assist low-income families in attending non-public schools. Do you support continuing the BOOST program?*

*(Please limit your answer to no more than 100 words.)*

**I have supported the BOOST program from its outset and have been an effective advocate for increased funding. I will continue to do so.**

*What are your 2 or 3 biggest priorities to help protect the environment?  
(Please limit your answer to no more than 100 words.)*

I have introduced legislation to prioritize spending a certain portion of our environmental remediation budget in those communities that have been most harmed by poor environmental decisions over the decades. HB 1033, Environment and Energy - Investment in Overburdened Communities (2022)

I will continue to work to reduce the risk of lead paint. My efforts in this regard have greatly reduced the irreparable harm to our children from this preventable disease.

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