

2022 Baltimore Jewish Council Candidate Questionnaire

CANDIDATE NAME: Renaud Brown

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)

After considering, since July 2019 a run for U.S. Senate, I decided to seek local office. I've been an election judge since 2012 and involved with electoral reform since July 2014 to include a resolution in Annapolis to overturn Citizens United and guarantee the right to vote in the Constitution (at the State level). Baltimore needs new policy and perhaps a new party. 77 years under Democratic rule are lackluster results. 50 years of 200- 300 plus record homicides.

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)

One challenge facing our state is codifying abortion rights. In the district I think fair housing is a top priority. I would work with my council and delegation on these issues.

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.)

Baltimore and Maryland should closely partner with the community and fund these nonprofits such as the great idea to have civilians solve patterns of crime. More policing results in more criminality. Rehabilitation is what makes an individual succeed, not confining them to a place that exacerbates the behavior.

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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.)

Maryland has banned symbols of hate and hate crimes. America has to start living with and accepting its diversity. We are moving towards a mixed race society.

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.)

Yes. Schools should look into how Baltimore City and other systems have secured its schools to avoid the open attacks like recently in Texas.

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.)

The next governor should rescind Hogan’s 2017 executive order. Israel should be at peace with Palestine. They have been fighting each other for the past 54 years. I don’t object to the Jewish community’s reach with Israel but it should involve making peace with Palestine and forging a community there as well.

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 do support boosting public schools and giving all learners the opportunity to succeed. Schools should not be private. Neither should businesses or partnerships. The program shouldn’t continue.

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

**Reduce carbon by 2030 (Maryland's Climate Solutions Act has 40% more past 2030),
more solar and wind, car, bus and truck electrification.**

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