

Name: **Jordan Cooper**
Address: Bethesda
What office are you seeking?: Delegate District 16
Where can voters learn more about your positions?: www.Cooper4MD.com

2 **Someone new to Montgomery County may ask, "What's the Ag Reserve and why is it important?" What's your answer?**

The Agricultural Reserve is an area that encompasses nearly a third of the upper portion of Montgomery County that is zoned for low density development in order to preserve the open, agricultural nature of the upcounty area.

3 **What are your priorities regarding stewardship of the County's natural resources (water, forests, open spaces) and parkland?**

Keep them clean and open to the public.

4 **What is your vision for the future of the County's Agricultural Reserve? Briefly, how would you achieve that vision?**

Preserve it as it is under current regulations.

5 **Can you identify some of the top challenges to the Reserve's local agriculture and what actions you would take, if elected, to address them?**

Fighting new commercial, residential, and transit development would certainly seem to pose the greatest challenges to the Ag Reserve. I would continue to try to preserve what we currently have.

6 **What more can be done to support our local farm businesses and rural communities?**

Reduce their healthcare costs so that they can invest more in their farms and communities.

7 **How should our County manage its solid waste? What role should incineration, composting and recycling play?**

We should continue to have multiple waste streams including incineration, composting, landfills, and recycling.

8 **How can we expand the role the County's schools play in the support of a healthy local food system and the success of local agriculture? Do you support a rural schools' policy that provides equity for Reserve cluster schools**

acknowledging the unique nature of schools in region set aside for farmland and open space preservation?

I support locally sourcing food for school lunches where possible.

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- 9 Currently the County is exploring how best to support a strong agricultural economy through agritourism and new farming enterprises such as on farm breweries and wineries. What are your thoughts about how best to advance on farm activities within the context of the master plan?

I support those efforts.

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- 10 What are your regional transportation priorities? Do you support M83 and an additional Potomac bridge and outer beltway through the Reserve or adjacent rural zones?

I do not believe these proposals are tenable given present conditions.