



## Montgomery County 2022 Candidate Questionnaire - Marc Korman

### Personal Information:

**Name** Marc Korman

**What Office Are You Seeking in the 2022 Election?** Delegate

### Where Can Voters Learn More About Your Positions Or Contact Your Campaign?

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Please Answer the Following Questions- responses will posted in their entirety and will not be edited.

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

The Ag Reserve is a national model that protects a "greenbelt" across the northern tier of Montgomery County--1/3 of the County--and protects an ecological, environmental, recreational, and economic jewel for the county and region.

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

The Agricultural Reserve has been a great success but, amazingly, it is still relatively unknown even within Montgomery County. I want the story of the Ag Reserve to be told so that all of those in the region--but especially those in the County--understand and take advantage of this resource.

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

As a state legislator serving on the Appropriations Committee is partnering with our County leaders to support our County resources and parkland. That often comes through our funding commitments to the county. I have also worked as a state legislator on ensuring that Program Open Space is re-paid from the Great Recession-era funding raids and the dollars can be devoted to state and local parks, ag land, and more.

### What role will you play with regard to ensure that we safeguard our drinking water supply both surface and groundwater?

As a state legislator, our role includes considering legislation regarding clean water. In recent years, some surprisingly controversial bills have involved ensuring clean well water and I have voted in support of bills to require testing and, ultimately, remediation of well water.

### What are your top priorities to help the County address climate change? What role will the Ag Reserve play?

The state legislature has taken great strides on climate change but the next steps not undertaken yet are:

1. Fixing the renewable portfolio standard so the energy that counts as "renewable" is actually clean.
2. Expanding our successful power plant cap and trade program to the transportation sector.

3. Further electrification of the economy, including buildings.

The Ag Reserve is a terrific "carbon sink," and can be heavily involved in healthy soils efforts to capture carbon.

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

Increased economic development and support. Again, in my part of the county the Ag Reserve is relatively unknown so getting the word out about these local opportunities is paramount.

**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?**

No, my transportation focus has been on mass transit efforts and maintaining the significant road network already in place.

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

The County has expressed its commitment to ending the use of incineration which is the correct policy, but efforts need to be made to reduce the amount that is simply going into landfills. Expanding recycling opportunities and scaling composting pilots countywide is critical, even if it is done for an economic loss.

**What are your views on the general plan update "Thrive 2050," both the process and the draft now before the Council?**

Not serving or seeking to serve on the County Council, I will defer to my colleagues on Thrive 2050 for purposes of this questionnaire.

**Do you believe that the way that local government branches, state entities, and the public currently interact can be improved? If so, what steps would you take?**

Of course, there is always room for improvement even if we work hard together currently. One current opportunity is to lock in some of the silver lining gains of COVID--such as the ability to testify and engage virtually--even as we go back to more in person activities.