



## Montgomery County 2022 Candidate Questionnaire - Matt Wade

### Personal Information:

**Name** Matt wade

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

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

www.mattwade4moco.com

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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 over 90,000 acres of protected rural and farm land. The intent of the AG reserve is to promote agriculture as its primary use. Agriculture contributes over \$287 million to our county's economy.

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

In simplest form my vision is to preserve the reserve. I would make decisions that take that into consideration the impact on the reserve.

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

I grew up in this county. We used to swim in the creeks and the water was clear to the bottom. My priorities would be to work towards fresh air and clean water again.

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

I will be a steward of our land.

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

The AG reserve plays a large role in the health of our climate. Input from AG reserve interests should be incorporated into any new plans.

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

More can be done by providing local farms businesses and rural communities equivalent amounts of resources other areas receive. While population may not be as dense the impact the area has is greater than other sectors of our community.

**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?**

Regional priorities should include the best and highest use of solutions factoring in the impact on the environment. M83 was proposed in the 1960's, TDR's were provided in the 1980's. People hopefully made the best plans they could with what they knew at the time. As times change and the county change we need to discuss these changes and the impact. To date it appears public input and reason has helped moderate projects

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

This is a topic that experts in this field should share their views and plans.

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

I believe in planning for the future. The draft is approximately 170+ pages. Details of any project are important, in regards to what is in a plan but also what may be omitted. Any proposed zoning changes need to be clearly stated. Our infrastructure and sewers are 50+ years old in some areas. Putting any burden on them, streets, schools etc must be part of any plans. Currently offices are underutilized and the office environment may never be the same as we knew.

Providing flexibility and adaptive use of commercial buildings to multifamily could address some of the housing concerns and eliminate the idea of encroaching on protected areas.

**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?**

Yes it can be improved. There needs to be full transparency and information should be shared with our neighboring governments. The goal shouldn't be for one side to "win" The goal is we all win together.