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What office are you seeking?: **Montgomery County Council District 1**
Where can voters learn more about your positions?: **www.dalbinosorio.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 93,000 acres of beauty, and it is evidence that Montgomery County cares about the environment. It is important because it provides communal space that allows members of the community to come together and purchase fresh produce. The Reserve also provides the economy with a boon, as it is the only place in the Washington DC/Maryland area that employs over 10,000 people who are working on a project of this size.

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

I believe that the Council should retain stewardship of the County's natural resources provided that we can demonstrate that we are taking into account the interests of society, future generations, and other species, as well as of private needs, and accepts significant accountability to society. We are in a war for our planet's survival, and if we cannot be trusted with our role in it then it should not be up to us to manage the County's resources.

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

My vision for the future of the Agricultural Reserve is to keep it as is, and to expand their workforce. I'd like to see the creation of more greenhouses to encourage more produce being grown on the Reserve. In order to achieve that vision, I'd partner with the local colleges to create a pipeline between the schools and the Reserve so students interested in science can be hired as interns and then employees.

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?

The biggest challenges facing the Reserve are resource depletion and the degrading and undervaluing of farmland. If elected, I would not vote for any project that would build upon the reserve. I would invest funding into increasing the Reserve's capacity to produce more natural food.

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

I think elected officials would do well to implement policies that help preserve open space and protect air and water quality. Elected officials need to do a better job of partnering with rural communities to provide places for community members to enjoy recreational activities, and to create tourist attractions that bring

investments into the local economy. Elected officials need to support policies that increase walking, biking, and that invest in public transit options to help reduce air pollution from vehicles while saving people money.

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

The County should use solar-powered waste compacting bins to manage its solid waste. Recycling needs to play the biggest role, and we need to begin to use data to improve the policies we support. This is a 21st century war, and we need 21st century tools to fight it.

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 do support a policy that provides equity for Reserve cluster schools, and I believe that we need to expand the role County's schools play in the support of a healthy local food system. We need to have our students eating lunches created from local agriculture. We need to infuse our Reserve with students that believe the planet is worth fighting for.

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?**

As long as the Reserve is not destroyed or harmed, then this plan makes sense. These endeavors will also stimulate the economy, which I am in full support of.

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 support transit-oriented development, but not at the expense of our natural resources. I support M83 and BRT expansions.