



## Montgomery County 2022 Candidate Questionnaire - Reardon Sullivan

### Personal Information:

**Name** Reardon Sullivan

**What Office Are You Seeking in the 2022 Election?** County Executive

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

<https://www.reardonsullivanformoco.com/> <https://www.facebook.com/ReardonSullivanforMoCo/>

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 93,000 acres of protected space that needs to be protected so to be enjoyed by all for its beauty and especially with regards to its role of providing sustenance for a better environment and climate. It can be considered one of the most visionary decisions ever made by the county. It is Montgomery County's "Central Park", that sets the Montgomery County apart. The protection of the Ag Reserve is central to maintaining the quality of life in our county.

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

Montgomery County needs to support area farming and agriculture in the Ag reserve. Perhaps increased education starting with special programs at Poolesville HS would be an excellent way to help support and protect the area. Such strong visions must include continued tight restrictions so future decisions that threaten to whittle away the beauty tha tis the Ag reserve.

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

The Ag Reserve needs to be supported by renewed commitment to our parkland and natural resources. I strongly support the development of the White's Ferry as a destination through negotiation assistance and financially support working with Loudoun County to get the ferry open and running again.

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

As an engineer, I understand the importance of safe water and that it is particularly key since our water source is an aquifer which has its own particular threats that we must always protect through perpetual monitoring of the water to ensure there is no decontamination or infiltration of pollutants.

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

I believe that the needs to follow the latest LLED guidelines for communities and give special recognition to projects that achieve LEED gold or higher certification for communities focusing on natural systems and ecologies.

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

We should make Montgomery County nationally recognized hub for agricultural education which will further help us support local farming. This effort should be extend programs at Poolesville High School. Such a program could be more than "farming" and could make the County leaders in a fields that include farming, veterinary associated services, nutritional training, and so much more especially when coupled the life sciences industry in the county.

### **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?**

The first steps in improving transportation would be to build M-83, use state money to widen 270 and provide reversible lanes. The capacity of the American Legion bridge needs to be a priority.

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

The current County Executive has NOT kept his promise regarding the incinerator.

The bottom line is that w need to reduce our creation of solid waste.

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

I do not favor Thrive 2050. The level of unintended consequences due to infrastructure, parking, paved space etc. is immense.

### **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?**

Our County has become a place where people do not feel safe in their homes and children are not safe in school. Montgomery County Public Schools have devolved from being one of the top public school systems in the nation, to not even being top in the State of Maryland. Our local economy has stagnated and fallen behind other jurisdictions in the region. Our residents and business owners feel over-mandated, controlled, and subordinate to local leaders who are tone deaf to the real issues addressing the County.

County residents are fed up and have grown weary with the current County leadership that has given us the same failed policies and played musical chairs with the same people for 12 years with no real progress. County residents are seeing the worsening violent crime, decline in school performance, increasing debt, and no business and job growth.