

Greg Holmes for Prince George's County Executive

Candidate Questionnaire Responses

PUBLIC SAFETY

How do you propose to make neighborhoods, transit stations, and public areas safer? What specific strategies do you plan to launch or enhance?

Public safety means more than responding to crime — it means creating the conditions where people never have to experience it. My Security pillar addresses neighborhoods, schools, and public spaces holistically.

I will prioritize community-oriented policing that rebuilds trust between residents and law enforcement. I will invest in lighting, infrastructure, and activation of public spaces near transit corridors. And I will expand youth intervention and mental health diversion programs that address root causes before they become public safety crises.

I believe safe communities are built, not just patrolled — and that economic investment and neighborhood stability are the most durable crime prevention tools available.

AFFORDABILITY & COST OF LIVING

What exact plans do you have to decrease day-to-day costs or increase financial support for residents? How will you offset the loss of federal funding for healthcare, especially for people who need to use the Exchange?

Families in Prince George's County are being squeezed from every direction, and I will not wait for federal relief that may never come. My Affordability strategy operates on three fronts.

First, I will grow the commercial tax base, so the burden doesn't fall disproportionately on residents. Right now, 90% of the county's tax base comes from residential property, and that is not sustainable. By attracting employers, commercial developers, and technology sector investment, we can expand revenue without raising resident tax rates.

Second, I will pursue aggressive use of the county's underutilized Foreign Trade Zone status and Opportunity Zone designations to incentivize business investment and job creation.

Third, on healthcare specifically, I will work to protect and expand county-level wraparound services and explore regional partnerships to cushion the impact of federal funding withdrawals on Exchange enrollees and vulnerable populations. I will also leverage my private-sector network and nonprofit experience to connect residents with workforce development pipelines (i.e. [SPARK²](#)) that increase earning power and financial stability from the ground up.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY

Do you want new, fresh, younger, more progressive legislators, or do you feel that everything is ok as it is? Why or why not?

I am not a product of the Prince George's political machine and that is precisely the point. I have no debts to the networks that have recycled the same faces and rewarded loyalty over results for decades. I am running specifically because residents deserve leadership that is accountable to them, not to a donor class or a political apparatus.

My signature proposal is a Charter Amendment to establish a permanent, independent Office of Inspector General (OIG), shielded from political interference, answerable directly to residents, and equipped with subpoena power and whistleblower protections to investigate fraud, waste, abuse, and corrupt procurement and hiring practices across all county departments and contractors. This is not a promise to "look into it." It is a structural change to the architecture of county government that no future administration can quietly undo.

On fresh leadership, I actively support bringing new, younger, and more diverse voices into county government. Accountability cannot depend on who holds office. It must be built into the system itself.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & FISCAL MANAGEMENT

What specific strategies will you use to help local businesses? How will you demand fiscal accountability, when just this week, we had 2 episodes of corruption and misuse of county funds?

Every candidate promises fiscal accountability - I will build it in structurally. The corruption in the current administration are symptoms of a system with no independent watchdog and no real consequences. The OIG Charter Amendment directly addresses that gap.

My approach to economic development is specific and private-sector-informed: I will redirect the county's economic identity away from residential sprawl and toward commercial development, technology innovation, and employer attraction. I will fully activate the county's Foreign Trade Zone, pursue institutional anchors like universities and medical centers as economic drivers, and deploy a technology equity fund to support minority-led businesses in the tech sector.

For local businesses specifically, I will streamline permitting and procurement processes, create direct pipelines between county contracts and locally-owned firms, and use a model like SPARK² — workforce development tied directly to employer hiring needs — to grow a skilled local labor pool that makes Prince George's County attractive to serious investors.

EDUCATION

Given the tight fiscal climate, what parts of the Blueprint for Education will you push to implement over the next 4 years? How do you propose to fund these aspects?

I believe a strong education system is foundational to every other priority — economic growth, security, and affordability all depend on it.

I am committed to protecting the Blueprint's highest-impact provisions, with a focus on the elements that directly strengthen workforce readiness: early childhood education, college and career readiness pathways, and teacher recruitment and retention.

One of my signature initiatives is transforming every middle and high school in Prince George's County into a STEM school. Our students deserve to graduate not just with a diploma, but with the technical skills and critical thinking abilities that today's economy demands. This is how we close the opportunity gap and position the next generation of Prince Georgians to compete - and win - in a technology-driven world.

On funding, my answer is the same as it is for every county priority; you cannot fund quality services on a residential-only tax base. Growing the commercial tax base, attracting employers, and expanding the county's technology and innovation economy is how we generate the sustained revenue needed to fully implement the Blueprint without placing the entire burden on property taxpayers. I will also pursue strategic public-private partnerships that extend educational opportunity and workforce credentialing beyond the traditional school system.