



# The Caribbean-American Political Action Committee

1015 18th Street, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C., 20036 | 202-349-1498 | [www.CaribbeanPac.org](http://www.CaribbeanPac.org)

## **Caribbean-American Political Action Committee (C-PAC) Montgomery County, Maryland – 2018 Candidate Questionnaire**

Please return the completed form via email to [cpac.dmv@gmail.com](mailto:cpac.dmv@gmail.com) by Friday, April 13, 2018.  
Responses will be shared with C-PAC's membership.

**Office Sought: County Executive**

**Candidate's Name: Rose Krasnow**

**Current Occupation: I retired in December. I was an Urban Planner.**

**Party: Democrat**

**Campaign contact information**

**Address: PO Box 1727, Rockville, MD 20849**

**Phone 240 429-0690, Fax – N/A,**

**Email [rose@rosekrasnow.com](mailto:rose@rosekrasnow.com)**

**Website: [www.rosekrasnow.com](http://www.rosekrasnow.com)**

\*\*\*\*\*

1. Please explain your plan or approach to improve agency responsiveness, outreach, and the quality of the Montgomery County's constituent services.

There are several things I would do to improve agency responsiveness, outreach and the quality of the county's constituent services. First, I believe the best way government can serve the people is to listen to the issues and challenges that various communities are experiencing, and then working collaboratively to find meaningful solutions. I will hold frequent meetings with constituents to hear about the issues that are important to them. I will require my department directors to attend these meetings and be accountable for finding solutions that address the issues raised.

Second, the county needs a robust customer relationship management (CRM) system. This is a system that tracks the receipt of constituent issues or requests for service and how government agencies respond. The current 311 system is a start but needs to be improved. I will link the CRM system to the current STAT process (a process in which data is collected and departments are brought before the County Executive to defend their response to the various issues raised or to explain whether they have effectively used the resources they have been given to carry out their mission.) Using these tools, I hope to bring greater responsiveness and accountability to government and how it serves our community.

Lastly, I will require that the Office of Community Partnerships keep me apprised of the various issues and challenges confronting the various minority communities, many of which believe that government does not serve them well or find the challenges of accessing the government services to be too great. It is very important to me that my government serve ALL of our community, and I will find the tools to make that happen.



## **The Caribbean-American Political Action Committee**

*1015 18th Street, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C., 20036 | 202-349-1498 | [www.CaribbeanPac.org](http://www.CaribbeanPac.org)*

2. Are there any legislative or policy proposals, which you support that would strengthen the opportunities and rights of Caribbean immigrants in Montgomery County?

Please see my answer to question 1 above. Let me reiterate that I think the most important thing I can do as a new County Executive is listen to the issues and challenges facing the various minority communities, and then collaboratively develop proposals and policies that help resolve them.

3. What do you intend to do to strengthen small business access to government contracts?

I think it is critical to ensure the success of our small, local, and minority/women business program; a program that will create goals and objectives for government contracting that I will hold Executive Branch departments responsible for achieving. Further, I will require the Office of Supplier Diversity and Inclusion to develop programs that will build small, local, and minority business capacity by offering companies training and support on how to run a business. One of the principle reasons small businesses fail is that even though they may be excellent at their trade or craft (e.g. information technology consulting, graphics design, construction trades, plumbing, etc.) they have little or no experience on how to run a business. They may need help on keeping the records necessary to get bank loans, how to manage cash flow, etc. I will make sure my government offers these services to small, local and minority businesses. I will also establish Mentor/Protege programs where new businesses can learn from established firms the skills they need to be successful.

4. What policies will you support to address the challenges facing DREAMers, the administration's suspension of temporary protective status for many County residents, and the threats facing sanctuary communities?

This is a federal issue, and I think I will be limited in what I can do at the local level. Having said that, I am open to meeting with local advocacy groups to get their perspective on how I can be of help in influencing the national debate on these issues. Our County provides a welcoming home to many, many immigrants, and I will do all that I am able to protect them. For example, I have already stated that I greatly oppose the suggestion that the next census should a question regarding citizenship.

Further, I am adamant that the County will not be the enforcer of federal law. As Mr. Leggett's administration has done, I will leave the enforcement of federal immigration law, programs and policies to the federal agencies responsible for those activities. My administration will not assist or be involved with helping federal agencies (e.g. FBI, ICE, etc.) with their enforcement activities.

5. How will you support the viability and competitiveness of the Maryland's small, minority, veteran, women, and especially Caribbean-owned business?



## **The Caribbean-American Political Action Committee**

*1015 18th Street, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C., 20036 | 202-349-1498 | [www.CaribbeanPac.org](http://www.CaribbeanPac.org)*

See my answer to question #3.

6. The Caribbean is a strong trading partner with the U.S., and there are opportunities to create economic benefits for both Maryland and Caribbean residents. How do you support strengthening business, social and cultural relations and exchanges between County residents and the Caribbean?

I will work with the Maryland State Department of Commerce and our own Montgomery County Economic Development Authority to identify opportunities for locally owned and operated businesses that focus on Caribbean products and services, those companies. I will also continue Mr. Leggett's "The World of Montgomery" program; one that highlights and promotes our wonderful cultural and ethnic diversity that we have in the County. Finally, working through the Office of Community Partnerships, I will explore opportunities to identify a "Sister City" partner from the Caribbean Basin.

7. What specific actions have you taken or will you take to support the Caribbean-American community in the Montgomery County?

As Mayor of Rockville, I reached out to the many different communities in the City to ensure that they were aware of the many services the city provided. I started the Rockville Economic Development Corporation because I did not feel that the County was working closely enough with many of the smaller businesses located within the City itself. As I have said in other responses in this questionnaire, I will meet periodically with representatives of your community to identify the issues and challenges facing you, and I will work collaboratively to find meaningful solutions that meet the needs of your community, because this will help us build a stronger county.

8. Over 3,000 children of immigrants enter Maryland schools every year. Many of them are children of color with cultural idiosyncrasies and language accents or differences, which earn them labels such as "troublesome" or as having ADHD or other disorders. Still others end up in the juvenile justice system. What are your plans to ensure that we have a cadre of well-trained, culturally competent and sensitive teachers who understand and are willing to help these children succeed in school?

I will work tirelessly with the MCPS School Board and Superintendent to focus on programs that address these issues. As you know, there is actually a teacher shortage, so we need to do more to assure that the teachers we hired get the support that they need to stay with us for more than five years, since those that stay this long tend to remain for the long term. This will help us develop the cadre of well-trained, culturally competent and sensitive teachers that we need. As County Executive my primary duty is to figure out how to meet the budgetary needs of a rapidly growing school system, but the decisions on how to spend that funding rest with the Superintendent and the School Board. However, I know the



## **The Caribbean-American Political Action Committee**

*1015 18th Street, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C., 20036 | 202-349-1498 | [www.CaribbeanPac.org](http://www.CaribbeanPac.org)*

superintendent is committed to ensuring that every child has a successful experience and outcome from their enrollment in MCPS. I will work with the community and education professionals to identify and fund those programs that provide us the highest probability of success.

9. What initiatives will you champion or support to strengthen services and programs for Montgomery County's senior citizens?

Almost one-fourth of Montgomery County's population is seniors. Many of them still work, are very active, and often are in great health. That's why we have so many terrific activities for those aged 55-and-above, and why the county needs to tailor programs in the future to meet their needs. As County Executive I will advocate for a broad spectrum of programs and services aimed at serving seniors. In addition to those currently offered which include a broad offering of services (e.g. arts & humanities to zumba classes, blood pressure screenings, flu shots) at five senior centers and thirteen 55+ active adult programs, I would support workforce development programs for those who are not ready to retire, and who may want to get the training or certifications needed to pursue a new career. I would also try to expand volunteer opportunities for seniors to make a greater contribution to our community. There is a great need for tutoring and mentoring, and county seniors are a great group to provide those services. I would actively work with MCPS and other educational institutions to develop programs would better utilize those seniors who are interested in helping both youth and adults to improve their language, math, or science skills or any other academic area that are challenges for them.

10. What issues are you most concerned about in your run for political office?

- a. We must maintain the quality of our public schools so that all students receive a great education and can either move onto college or into jobs that pay a living wage.
- b. We must start building the transportation infrastructure called for in our master plans.
- c. We must step up our economic development efforts so that we can continue to provide great services without raising taxes on our current residents.