Sierra Club Baltimore County 2020 Endorsements

For Question 1, Constitutional Amendment, State Budget Process

Right now the Maryland General Assembly is the most-constrained state legislature in the country when it comes to influencing a state’s budget. The General Assembly has authority to reduce or eliminate items in the Governor’s proposed budget but does not have authority to move funds from one item to another. Voting For Question 1 will authorize the General Assembly to reallocate funds from one item to another while keeping the overall budget balanced.

For Baltimore County Question A, County Charter, Citizens’ Election Fund System

A Fair Elections program for local elections will make it possible for candidates to run for office without having to rely on large or corporate donors. Baltimore County Executive John A. Olszewski, Jr. and the County Council have placed on the ballot a charter amendment to create a Citizens’ Election Fund System that provides matching funds for small individual contributions, similar to systems already in place in Montgomery County and being set up in Baltimore City. This will make it possible for candidates to seek local offices without becoming indebted to special interests.

By authority Charles Skinner, Treasurer, Sierra Club MD Chapter PAC