

Timestamp	First Name	Last name	City	State	Zip code	Are you representing yourself?	If not, who are you representing?	Remarks	File Upload (optional)
2026-10-13 8:38:14	Katie	Kenny	Millersville	MD	21108	Yes			
2026-10-16 16:36:13	Sarah	McGroarty	Severn	Maryland	21144	Yes		Dear County Council Members, I am a registered nurse employed by the Anne Arundel County Department of Health, serving as the sole registered nurse at a large public high school. I am requesting a comprehensive review of our county's School Health Services Program, with student safety at the forefront. I serve a school population of more than 2,000 students and approximately 200 staff members, including over 300 students with known health conditions. Despite significant medical responsibilities, my health room staffing and scheduled hours have been reduced. School nurses and health assistants manage medical emergencies, chronic illnesses, medication administration, and complex healthcare needs, often with limited staffing, supplies, and access to additional clinical support. These challenges warrant a broader examination of how school health services are staffed, funded, and supported. Compensation, benefits, employment classifications, and workforce retention also deserve attention. When experienced school health professionals leave, students lose continuity of care and trusted relationships. I respectfully request a review of staffing standards, emergency preparedness, clinical resources, and workforce sustainability. I also ask for improved coordination among the Department of Health, AACPS, and emergency medical services to ensure clear procedures and reliable support. Our students deserve safe, consistent medical care, and the professionals providing that care deserve the resources necessary to deliver it. Please see my attached testimony for additional context and recommendations. Respectfully, Sarah McGroarty, BSN, RN	
2026-10-18 19:18:14	RISA	GANEL	ODENTON	MD	21113	Yes		I'm a Jewish resident of Anne Arundel County. It is essential that any form of antisemitism not be tolerated, including antizionism which is a hate movement. Please do everything possible to make our Jewish community safe. If I could have been at the meeting in person, I would have, but I am leaving for a trip to Israel tomorrow. Thank you	

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2026-10-18 19:20:36	Liz	Glass	Annapolis	MD	21403	Yes		Good evening, Council President and members of the Council. The last time I addressed this Council, it was to ask for security funding to protect synagogues and other houses of worship. Tonight, I am once again here to ask for protection. Last Monday evening, my husband, Michael, and I attended an Annapolis City Council meeting to speak about antisemitism. We initially decided not to speak after all and tried to leave quietly. But someone noticed the necklace Michael was wearing, with a pendant in the shape of Israel, and began harassing him. Others joined in, and the situation quickly escalated. People screamed at us and told us to leave—which is exactly what we had been trying to do. We hadn't even said a single word. Yet somehow, simply because we wore Jewish jewelry, they had already decided they didn't want to hear what we had to say. This came after two hours of listening to speaker after speaker praise Phil Ateto for his ability to listen to and amplify all voices. Many of those same people were holding posters that read, "What Would Phil Do?" One man aggressively bumped Michael with his chest. When I tried to reenter the chamber to reach him, people physically blocked my way. Eventually, a police officer helped me back inside. I decided it was too important to remain silent, so I lined up to speak even though I felt unsafe and scared. As I walked toward the podium, someone shouted, "Here comes the IDF!" I am a Jewish woman who lives in Annapolis. I am not a representative of the Israeli military. But to that crowd, my Jewish identity was apparently enough to make me one. After two hours of listening to accusations against that military, and that Israel is "a predator state" I understood exactly what they were suggesting. And again, I felt unsafe and scared. As we waited for our turns at the podium, a man speaking into the microphone warned that if Michael were allowed to speak, there would be a bigger problem downstairs than there had been in the chamber. The room erupted in applause. A threatening statement about my husband had just been made from a government microphone. And the audience applauded.	

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2026-10-19 10:56:17	Matt	Minahan	Edgewater	MD	21037	No	Growth Action Network	So Long, Farewell . . . From the “All Good Things Must Come to an End” department, I want to acknowledge and salute you all on this final meeting of the 2023-2026 Anne Arundel County Council. You have been smart and careful stewards of change here in the County in many ways. Your major accomplishments, in collaboration with the County Executive include: •Establishing the County’s first Public Campaign Finance program, used by two candidates this election cycle and we hope by all candidates in the future •A good start on ethics reform •Placing on the ballot a charter amendment for staggered terms for members of the PAB •Improving public safety by increasing the number of positions and salary increases for police, fire, and the 911 center •Improving the educational system in the County with funding for school construction, and most importantly increasing the number and salaries of teachers and aides. •Creating the Resilience Authority •Passing 4 budgets, three of them unanimously •Reducing the property tax rate •Increasing the rainy-day fund •Achieving and maintaining the County’s AAA bond rating •Approving unanimously all 9 regional plans implementing Plan 2040 •Addressing the housing shortage in the County with several bills. More on that in a moment However, you’ve left on the table a significant agenda for the future. We wish you had taken up the Impact Fees bill. These fees were set in 2005 and 2006, three years before the minimum wage was last raised in 2009. Since then, the true cost of development has been borne by every citizen and taxpayer in the County as inflation in construction goods and materials have more than doubled, giving a free pass and a huge subsidy to developers In housing, we wanted less density, and more open and recreation areas, and a much higher yield than the 10 and 15% of affordable housing and hope the next Council acts quickly. The previous Council, which included many of you, watered down the Forest Conservation Act, reducing the replacement requirement to just 80% instead of the 100% that Annapolis and other jurisdictions require. That matters here in the shores of the Chesapeake Bay where trees are our most important hedge against storm water runoff and air pollution A recharted Planning Advisory Board would add an important independent review of the County’s development actions. It will definitely gain a measure of independence from the administration by staggering the terms of its members. But it needs to be chartered and adequately staffed to provide an independent, citizen-leading review of all land use legislation and making a public recommendation to the Council on every piece of land use legislation. And finally, we hope that Resolution 1-27 will enable all residents of the County to speak up and be heard by the Council without having to be physically present in chambers. Remote access and participation in these proceedings levels the playing field and gives voice to the many who don’t have the time or the means to get here at 7 o’clock on Monday. It’s not just a matter of convenience. It’s a matter of justice and equity . . . which should be a very high priority in “The Best Place for All.” Finally, I want to thank each of you for commitment to a better Anne Arundel. This is hard work – a lot of it. Each of you has been open and mostly receptive to the comments and	

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2026-10-19 10:57:48	Amy	Bird	Annapolis	Maryland	21403-2809	Yes		My name is Amy Bird. I have been a 28-year resident of Anne Arundel County, most recently a 2-year resident within the City of Annapolis, in Eastport. I am also a member of the small, but hardy, Jewish community that resides in Anne Arundel County. In my long residency within this County, I have seen and heard polite, but dismissible, forms of antisemitism from members of the community. A comment from a coworker that someone had "Jewed" her over a deal, a child that crossed himself when he saw my young daughter wearing a Star of David, always backhanded, always hurtful, always dismissed in the interest of keeping the peace. Today, I cannot dismiss a hurt to keep the peace. On October 12th, at the Annapolis City Council meeting, Michael and Liz Glass were the victims of an antisemitic, mob mentality, that we are now witnessing throughout the world. No longer are we seeing incidents of the one-off passive, subtle micro-aggressions that we once turned the other cheek to avoid an uncomfortable encounter. What happened on October 12th was dangerous, had group consensus, and was, frankly, sanctioned by a community willing to see themselves as the victims, rather than the victimizers. Michael and Liz had every right to speak freely, without harassment, intimidation, and with the full-throated support of the City Police and Council. Those that sought to silence them likewise had every right to speak - what they did instead was the very antithesis of speech. Incidents like this are only the beginning if our leaders don't clearly and full-throatedly condemn such moments and lead by example. As I sit here watching the riots in Europe, it is easy to see the dangers and warning signs that only fester when our community leaders turn a blind-eye. Believe us when we tell you that we are frightened. Care for us when we tell you we need your help. Do not sit idly by and hope this problem will work itself out. We need engagement with the community and an example set, not just for your Jewish constituents, but for all constituents who are targeted. The mob will only grow if we let it. Please don't ignore our pleas for leadership and help.	



Growth Action Network

of Anne Arundel County, Inc.

P.O. Box 748 • Arnold, MD 21012 • www.growthaction.net

So Long, Farewell . . .

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- Establishing the County’s first Public Campaign Finance program, used by two candidates this election cycle and we hope by all candidates in the future
- A good start on ethics reform
- Placing on the ballot a charter amendment for staggered terms for members of the PAB
- Improving public safety by increasing the number of positions and salary increases for police, fire, and the 911 center
- Improving the educational system in the County with funding for school construction, and most importantly increasing the number and salaries of teachers and aides.
- Creating the Resilience Authority
- Passing 4 budgets, three of them unanimously
- Reducing the property tax rate
- Increasing the rainy-day fund
- Achieving and maintaining the County’s AAA bond rating
- Approving unanimously all 9 regional plans implementing Plan 2040
- Addressing the housing shortage in the County with several bills. More on that in a moment

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construction goods and materials have more than doubled, giving a free pass and a huge subsidy to developers

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The previous Council, which included many of you, watered down the Forest Conservation Act, reducing the replacement requirement to just 80% instead of the 100% that Annapolis and other jurisdictions require. That matters here in the shores of the Chesapeake Bay where trees are our most important hedge against storm water runoff and air pollution

A rechartered Planning Advisory Board would add an important independent review of the County's development actions. It will definitely gain a measure of independence from the administration by staggering the terms of its members. But it needs to be chartered and adequately staffed to provide an independent, citizen-leading review of all land use legislation and making a public recommendation to the Council on every piece of land use legislation.

And finally, we hope that Resolution 1-27 will enable all residents of the County to speak up and be heard by the Council without having to be physically present in chambers. Remote access and participation in these proceedings levels the playing field and gives voice to the many who don't have the time or the means to get here at 7 o'clock on Monday. It's not just a matter of convenience. It's a matter of justice and equity . . . which should be a very high priority in "The Best Place for All."

Finally, I want to thank each of you for commitment to a better Anne Arundel. This is hard work – a lot of it. Each of you has been open and mostly receptive to the comments and suggestions made by GAN and other citizen-led organizations and advocates. We have appreciated being able to work with you as legislation moved through the sausage machine.

To Pete Smith and Shannon Leadbetter, we have appreciated your responsiveness and willingness to hear us out on matters of importance and to work with us. We will miss you and your contributions to the Council.

To Allison Pickard, we have agreed on many matters and not agreed on a few. Your energy and commitment to a better Anne Arundel is clear, as is your success as a thought leader and legislator on some of the most important matters facing the County. If there is a County Executive title in your future, we look forward to a warm and collaborative relationship with you and your staff, working in strong partnership on the major elements of GAN's mission -- environmentally sustainable land use, quality of life, and unfettered citizen access to the farthest reaches of government.