



# GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE

## GBC's 2020 Baltimore City Election Coverage Mayoral Candidate Questionnaire

### **CANDIDATE: ZULIEKA BAYSMORE (R)**

The Greater Baltimore Committee has identified key policy priorities to drive discussion in the 2020 Citywide Elections. The priorities are:

1. Prioritize enhanced coordination across criminal justice agencies and support evidence-based crime reduction strategies to improve public safety.
2. Implement strategic and inclusive economic development strategies to attract and retain businesses and residents.
3. Exert solid, steady leadership to stabilize Baltimore City government and create a culture of integrity, transparency, and efficiency.
4. Support education and workforce development programs that prepare Baltimore residents for family-supporting jobs in high-growth industries and create programs or initiatives to attract talent to Baltimore City.
5. Utilize policy, funding, and intergovernmental coordination strategies to enhance Baltimore City's transportation and mobility infrastructure and operations.

*Disclaimer: As a 501(c)4 organization, the Greater Baltimore Committee does not endorse candidates for public office. The information contained on this page and all engagement activities surrounding the election are for educational purposes only.*

1. Prioritize enhanced coordination across criminal justice agencies and support evidence-based crime reduction strategies to improve public safety.
  - What are three actions that you would take in your first year to improve public safety?

*1) I would invite Governor Hogan to declare a "State of Emergency" in order to have the state reassign at least 300 outside Law enforcement to assist on the ground our BPD.*

*2). I would give my authorization for Police Commissioner Harrison to use the "Eye In the Sky" Plane Technology in order to help track down suspects when violent crime is committed in our City since we can get the usage free over the next 2 years. Doing this while gathering data for the cause and effectiveness of the usage of the system.*

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3). I have already identified over 30 community programs that are working and that are structured here in the districts of Baltimore city that is experiencing the most violent acts of crime and put some of the \$25 Million Dollars in the A.B.C. Org on the ground to fund these individuals and grassroots org so they can hire paid staff this will also create job opportunities.

- As Mayor, what steps would you take to improve coordination across federal, state, and local criminal justice agencies and with the Judiciary?

Since the US Attorney's Office has already joined with the Feds, State and local law enforcement and has formed the Baltimore Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force in which they will be working together and building a new Office Building within the City of Baltimore to operate. As Mayor I will also have all 14 City Councilmembers meet and be responsible for gather data in each on of their district and report statistics on a weekly, monthly and quarterly basis. As Mayor will shall work as a team and meet on a weekly basis. With these statistics it will help also to grade the effectiveness of the work on the ground and if the plan and team is working and getting results on the grounds of Baltimore City. I will also be touring on a weekly basis in those troubled communities of the City and speaking to business owners as well as the cops on the beat. I have already did a Live Podcast warning the Drug Dealers here that I will not tolerate Open Drug Marketing in my City once I become Mayor. I have already had an impact on the Belvedere Ave Bel Park Towers Building where I have done live podcast and report suspects.

- What are your plans to address "squeegee kids" and panhandlers in City intersections?

1). I have already spoke to over 20 of these young people. To help them realize that there is a real danger working in the street with on coming traffic. Therefore, I have already hired 2 to help with my campaign with my signs and working the polls and canvassing. I want to work with school guidance councilors to help them on line and obtain their work permits. As Mayor I will then hire a few as DPW workers on the weekend to help beautify our City.

2) I have also spoken to several of my colleagues that own small businesses in the City that would hire them part time if they are discipline and dressed appropriately and ready to work.

3). I have also spoken to the V.P of two prime developers for my Rehab and new development initiatives to create over 10,000 affordable housing projects throughout the City. I know how to get this done because I worked closely with the Metropolitan Redevelopment Council in Washington DC and we were able to get the redevelopment completed within 15 years. Which by the way created over 30K new job opportunities.

4). After helping former Mayor Pugh by giving her my outline in 2018 to hold a 2 day working summit to end homelessness here in Baltimore City. My outline she used it without meeting with me and brought Sec of HUD Ben Carson into the city without bring me to the table and he loved the outline which got her Dept of Housing an additional \$30 Million in their budget in 2018 in which Housing only spent \$4.8 million and then she diverted \$30 million to a non profit in Oct of 2018, Thats when I felf compelled to run against her for the Mayoral position. I have a vision for a New Baltimore City and I know together we can acheive it.

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2. Implement strategic and inclusive economic development strategies to attract and retain businesses and residents.

- What strategies or programs would you put into place to encourage businesses and residents to move to Baltimore City?

*If I give you all of my Vision you won't need me for Mayor. Because I come from the Financial World I have investors ready to invest in Baltimore City but not unless Baltimore City has the right Leadership with the right mindset and skillsets to get things done, and that is focused. They know I am that Leader. I have been promoting Baltimore City since I and my husband 3 time boxing champion Living Legion Kenneth Baysmore arrived here in 2013. I am well known as the 1st Female to become a Sports Manager and Promoter in 1987 I have been in print and network media all over the World. So I am also a Promoter that has worked worked with all the top promoters in the US, Mexico and Europe for 17 years in the area of Professional Boxing.*

- What strategies or programs would you put into place to encourage existing businesses and residents to stay and expand in Baltimore City?

*I am the number 1 producer at Kemper Life in the Altantic Region I earned the Olympic Gold Last year and number 6 in the Nation. I have also been number 1 producer in the fastest growing Financial Services Brokerage Company in America PFA Premiere Financial Alliance in 2018. My background as a number 1 RVP Regional Vice President in Primerca from 1985 to 1988 has given me the background to be an influencer here to residents and businesses. I have already been servicing over 500 residents of Baltimore MD over the past 4 years. Therefore, people respect me because I also educate them on how to become more financially healthier. I am ready to be Mayor of Baltimore City.*

- Do you have ideas or suggestions to reform the property tax structure in the City?

*My plan is to create 1000s of tax payers through my redevelopment and revitalization plans over the next 8 years.*

- What are your top three priorities or programs to grow Baltimore's tax base?

*Same as above if I give you everything you would not need me as a Mayor. It will be my Leadership skills and mindset and focus and my ability to work with everyone and have them at the table to get this done to completion.*

3. Exert solid, steady leadership to stabilize Baltimore City government and create a culture of integrity, transparency, and efficiency.

- Baltimore City is at a crossroads and in need of strong, ethical leadership. Why are you the best candidate to lead the City into a new decade and chapter?

*I am the best Leader out of the 30 candidates due to my 36 years of Corporate, Finance and Pioneer experience and expertise as a Leader in my Industries I've worked. I have also from the age of 19 been mentored by some of the best Mentors one could possibly be blessed with in ones life. I have been a*

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*former CEO of a Automated Production Company for 10 years in housed with the Booker T Washington Foundation in Washington DC. I have been the number 1 Regional Vice President in A.L. Williams. I have worked on Capitol Hill for 7 years and know how to work with both sides of the table. I have been a pioneer women breaking into the all mens World of Professional Boxing for 15 years now we have over 1000 women licensed around the World. I am a Leader for a New Baltimore City. I am a God fearing Woman and Child of God. I live my life to serve the people and help people and I am totally transparent and will hold myself as well as others that make up the team in this City Accountable. Judge Harry T. Alexander once told a person I was managing their boxing career "Zulieka when she says something it's like the Bible". I you don't want to know the truth don't ask her. I am a person above and have always lived my life for good and honest.*

- What are three actions that you would take to improve transparency and efficiency in City government?

*I will work with all the City Council members and President as well as all 54 Agency Heads as I am now going with the Board of Ethics & Structure to assure that even the public will know what is going on in City Hall and with the tax payers and federal, state dollars and I will hold everyone accountable. We shall not have anymore redirecting of funds that are earmarked for our schools and to pay the City's debts when I become Mayor.*

- Several charter amendments have been proposed and are pending legislative review and approval.
  - What is your position on the composition and function of the Board of Estimates?

*We shall work together the Charter must be amended in various areas due to we are now in another decade. The City and the former leadership and the condition of our City must change. With that the Charter must also keep up with the times we are living and what we are experiencing in our City. I will work with everyone to make sure that the people of Baltimore City are thoroughly informed about what changes are being made so they will make a educated vote on propositions that are put on the ballot.*

- Do you think that the Baltimore City Charter should require a Chief Administrative Officer? Please explain your answer.

*No, I think we require a Administrator that will be assigned to the Mayor in order to assist and work together to make sure there is good communications with Agency heads, follow up on issue and must have at least 7 to 10 years experience as a Assistant to a Chief in which that is what the Mayor is a Chief, CEO. These are titles but with those titles and responsibilities we must make sure they will not conflict or interfere with one another but work in harmony and enhance one another.*

- How would you structure your Administration (ie, CAO, Deputy Mayors, Chief of Staff, etc.) to provide the most efficient delivery of City services?

*Once again I have been a former President & CEO of a Company with over 180 employees and a Regional Vice President with over 30 Executives and Mid Managers. I know how to structure and when I become Mayor this will be a number 1 prorities the day I'm sworn into office. I have the know how.*

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4. Support education and workforce development programs that prepare Baltimore residents for family-supporting jobs in high-growth industries and create programs or initiatives to attract talent to Baltimore City.
  - Under the recommendations of the Kirwan Commission, Baltimore City stands to receive an additional \$500 million annually in State education aid by Fiscal 2030. In order to receive this additional funding, Baltimore City must increase its investment as well, by \$330 million annually by Fiscal 2030. According to Maryland Department of Legislative Services figures, Baltimore City currently spends less than 15% of its budget on education compared to a statewide average of 36%. What is your plan to meet the increased obligation of Baltimore City? Please be specific in identifying areas or agencies that will see reduced appropriations as well as revenues that may be increased.

*This question would be a guess and I don't guess I would have to see each agencies and the City's budget look at debt and if any what money is not being used that could met the above obligation. This is only if I support Kirwan as of now I am not conviened of the benefits for our children nor am I conviened of tranparency measures and accoutablity with a Broad of Education we are not overseers of and that have had ethnic problems as well as mishandling of tax payers dollars in the past. With documents being destroyed and leaders being indicted. I have read some of the report and see nothing that will measure if the money will make the difference in the production of higher achieving students. I believe Charter Schools and school choice would serve the parents and students of Baltimore City better.*

- Currently, 0.2% of the City's budget is dedicated to workforce development. What is your position for funding workforce training and adult education programs to reduce unemployment and adequately prepare City residents for jobs in high-demand industries?

*Through my 3 Initiatives.*

- What role should the City play in attracting and retaining top talent to fill in-demand jobs in high-growth industry sectors?

*With the experience I have and the connections I've even made here in Baltimore City I have identified many that can fulfil top positions. I have been and hired Executive Staff in my lifetime and with technology this will not be an issue.*

5. Utilize policy, funding, and intergovernmental coordination strategies to enhance Baltimore City's transportation and mobility infrastructure and operations.
  - What are three things you would do to improve transportation and mobility in the City?

*I have already answered this questions above*

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- Do you support enhanced investment in transportation infrastructure, including that for pedestrians, bicycles, and scooters?

*I support safe trails for bikes and scooters I picture a more advance form of curbing for such mobile forms of transportation. As we continue to excel in Going Green we must develop and design our City to reflect more 21st Century by ways for this form of transportation. Since I have traveled around the World I have had the privledge to see how the rest of the World is working on solutions for those types of modes of transportation. I can bring this and incorporate this into my Revitalization and housing New Development and Skill/Labor Job Initiatives.*

- What is your position on the creation of a regional transit authority to oversee the transit network?

*As we build we need to expand our public transportation it is past time. We have only now 602K population here in the City. The re structure that occurred 2 years ago left alot of residents behind when it comes to convience in public transportation.*