

Section 1: Candidate Information

• Full Name (Required)	Tamara Davis Brown
• District running for (Required)	Prince George's County Council, District 9

Section 2: Questionnaire

How will you ensure that Prince George's County government leads by example in hiring, retaining, and promoting employees with disabilities, and what accountability measures will you implement?	I will ensure that the County leads by example in hiring, retaining and promoting employees with disabilities by first ensuring that all job postings are sent to the Commission for Individuals with Disabilities for publicizing. I also want to ensure within the bounds of the law that some job descriptions specifically include disabilities as a requirement for hiring and promotion in the County. I will work with Commission to be a stakeholder to help hold the County accountable for implementing these measures.
What comprehensive employment initiatives will you champion to create meaningful career opportunities for county residents with disabilities?	Aside from the ones mentioned in the previous question, I want to have all job applications and descriptions, within the bounds of the law, allow for persons with disabilities to highlight their abilities or special accommodations needed. Once hired, I will work with the CAO/HR to ensure that accommodations are met. The Commission can be helpful in this regard as the oversight body.
What comprehensive, county-wide accessible transportation solutions will you develop beyond existing paratransit services?	We should: (1) expand the fleet of paratransit services, including adding drivers; (2) make The Bus more accessible so that riders with disabilities can also access that service without the need for reserving paratransit services; and (3) improve the call center with technology for more responsive scheduling. We also should work with Metro to expand the routes of paratransit services especially in District 9. Finally, we should also investigate how programs like VIA and other paratransit services are working in other jurisdictions to get best practices and determine if a venture with them is worthwhile.
How will you ensure that all new transit infrastructure exceeds ADA minimum standards and truly provides accessible, reliable public transportation?	Aside from the suggestions in the previous question, I will need to rely on the Commission to assist with recommendations for exceeding ADA minimum standards for accessible and reliable public transportation.
What specific actions will you take to increase the supply of affordable, accessible, and integrated housing options throughout Prince George's County?	I support expanding affordable and integrated housing around our County's 15 Metro stations. I specifically support the affordable initiative that Gov. Moore announced at Morgan Station Blvd. Metro Station and will work with our state legislators to ensure that the housing development is not only affordable but integrated and accessible for persons with disabilities. I will work with the state to expand that housing stock to the remaining County Metro stations.
What policy changes will you advocate to improve healthcare access including provider training and accessible medical facilities?	It is my hope that current healthcare training includes working with persons with disabilities. I also believe that all medical facilities are accessible. If not, I will rely on the Commission to help me identify those facilities for immediate compliance.

How will you expand integrated, trauma-informed mental health services specifically designed for children and adults with disabilities?	The Council also sits as the Board of Health so I will definitely be a proponent of expanding integrated mental health services for youth and adult. I will specifically seek a budget line item for hiring of skilled persons that can provide such services.
How will you ensure that first responders receive regular training on interacting with and supporting people with diverse disabilities?	My hope that such training is already in place. When I met with the first responders for the endorsement interview, I was made aware that some budget items for training were cut. I plan to restore them and work with colleagues to persuade them why the training is necessary and I will include training for interaction with persons with diverse disabilities.
How will you ensure adequate funding and accessibility of programs that help older adults maintain independence when they acquire disabilities?	All of these funding and budget decisions must be a matter of priority for the Council. I will be a proponent of funding for independent living for persons with disabilities. I will work with the Commission as a partner to identify what funding sources are needed for our seniors to help them when and if they become disabled.
What will be your top three legislative priorities to advance disability rights and full inclusion in our county? (Please list and briefly describe your top three priorities.)	The largest hurdle that County has is maintaining its properly balanced budget so my top priorities will be: 1. Ensure funding is available in line items that are inclusive of disability accessible, especially in transportation and housing. 2. I will work with the Commission to advocate for legislation that improves the hiring, retention and advancement of careers in the County for individuals with disabilities. 3. If necessary, I would champion legislation more accessible services in the County's healthcare facilities. (Non-legislatively, I will work with our federal partners (Congress reps) to ensure all facilities, not just healthcare, are ADA compliant.

Consent & Submission

Consent checkbox (required)

I consent to my responses being shared publicly in full.



Campaign Website or Contact Information:

www.tamaradavisbrown.org