

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 24th, 2017

## Local Activist, Bill Cook, To Take On Establishment in District 1 Council Race

The small business owner and long-time resident is a progressive activist looking to bring an independent voice to the County Council

Montgomery County — Local activist and business owner, Bill Cook, is pleased to announce he is running for the District 1 seat on the County Council. “Montgomery County needs leaders with solutions and integrity” he said. “I look forward to being an independent voice on the council who will represent the residents of our county, not the corporations or special interests. That’s why my campaign only accepts money from individuals -- actual people.”

Cook’s campaign is focused on reforming land-use decisions that he says, “...favor development corporations with little investment in schools or public spaces...our community is left with taller buildings, overcrowded schools, and unbearable traffic. I believe we can do better to serve our residents.”

Cook’s campaign is likely to face a number of well-funded establishment candidates in the 2018 election. With state delegates, ex-mayors, and other political insiders joining the race, Cook is compelled to serve and represent

grassroots activists. “I realize that for a campaign of this size, we have a lot of money to raise. Our opponents may outspend us but we’re going to outwork them. That’s why we’re getting started early - I’ll be out there this summer trying to meet as many voters as I can,” Cook said.

Cook’s campaign is participating in the County’s public election fund in hopes that it will make his campaign more competitive financially and, as Cook adds, “It’s the right thing to do. We need to get money out of politics, I’m hopeful that the new public funding is a step towards achieving that goal.”

Bill Cook has lived in the county for over 20 years, graduated Walt Whitman High School, and studied communications at the University of Maryland, College Park. Cook’s parents, siblings and their families all live in Montgomery County. “This is my home; it’s where I grew up and where I have stayed to live and work. It’s a community that I love. There’s a lot we get right here but there’s more we need to do.”

Primary Election day is June 26th, 2018. You can learn more about Bill Cook by visiting [www.cookinthecouncil.com](http://www.cookinthecouncil.com)

*For more information, photos, or video, contact Bill Cook at [bill@cookinthecouncil.com](mailto:bill@cookinthecouncil.com)*