Baltimore County Council | District 6

2026 General Election • Nonpartisan candidate issue guide • Prepared October 22, 2026

Council members vote on the county budget, tax rates, legislation, land use and zoning. This guide distinguishes documented campaign statements from verified legislative votes. A missing public position is not evidence of support or opposition.

Michael “Mike” P. Ertel (Democratic)

Taxation: Advocates a balanced county budget and prioritizing schools, police protection, infrastructure, and attracting employers. A specific 2026 tax-rate pledge was not established in reviewed candidate responses.

Public safety: Lists enhanced public safety and quality of life among his district priorities; cites adequate police protection, problem rental properties, and code enforcement.

Data centers: Listed as a co-sponsor of Bill 79-26, extending temporary data-center controls established under Bill 3-26. Sponsorship is not itself proof of the final roll-call vote.

Job growth: Supports attracting higher-paying employers and expanding career/technical skills training, including partnerships with CCBC.

2026 legislative voting record: Incumbent since 2022. Official 2026 legislation identifies him as a sponsor of Bill 79-26 (data-center controls) and Bill 78-26 (Inspector General clarification). Specific yea/nay votes on taxes, public safety, data centers, or jobs were not independently confirmed.

Christine L. Vondersmith (Republican)

Taxation: Identifies finances as a county issue and education, public safety and quality of life as budget priorities; no specific tax-rate position was verified.

Public safety: Identifies public safety as a budget priority; specific police staffing, prosecution, or violence-prevention proposals were not verified.

Data centers: No specific public position verified in reviewed sources.

Job growth: Supports workforce development, affordable housing and transportation to attract workers, innovation and educational partnerships.

2026 legislative voting record: No 2026 Baltimore County Council voting record; she is a challenger, not a sitting councilmember.

Relevant 2026 council legislation

• Bill 3-26: zoning regulations — data-center study.

• Bill 79-26: extension of temporary data-center controls; Ertel named as co-sponsor in an August 2026 council meeting account.

• Other relevant votes (taxes, safety, job development): individual roll calls not verified; do not infer positions from bill titles.

Sources and verification

League of Women Voters VOTE411: https://onyourballot.vote411.org/race-detail.do?id=2994411

Baltimore County Council District 6: https://countycouncil.baltimorecountymd.gov/district-6/

County legislation index: https://countycouncil.baltimorecountymd.gov/legislation/

Maryland State Board candidate list: https://www.elections.state.md.us/elections/2026/general_candidates/2026_GG_all_counties_candidatelist.html

Scope note: These are issue summaries, not endorsements. Individual roll-call votes must be checked against official council journals or meeting records; sponsorship or a bill listing does not establish a member’s final vote.