

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Rebuild Maryland Coalition to Host Maryland Gubernatorial Candidates Environmental Forum**

**MARYLAND | October 26th, 2021** – Climate XChange and the Rebuild Maryland Coalition (RMC) in partnership with Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN) are hosting a virtual environmental forum to provide the candidates of Maryland’s gubernatorial race an opportunity to share how they plan to address climate and environmental issues in the state.

The forum, which will take place on November 1st at 6:00pm ET, will allow Marylanders to learn more about gubernatorial candidates, their platforms, and their policy stances. Candidates will also answer questions from key members and partners of the Rebuild Maryland Coalition – a diverse group of stakeholders working to pass just and equitable climate legislation – on how their plans aim to combat the unique environmental challenges burdening the state.

The forum will be moderated by Brooke Harper, environmental advocate. All gubernatorial candidates have been invited.

“Climate change is one of the most pressing issues of our time. We can’t wait on D.C. Maryland must advance viable solutions to combat climate change that are just and sustainable. We need a governor at this crucial time who is committed to addressing this crisis with sweeping changes to ensure that the next generations will have a future to look forward to,” says **Wandra Ashley-Williams, Regional Director, Climate XChange Maryland.**

“We hope that each candidate comes away from this forum with an understanding that Marylanders critically need our future governor to make fighting climate change a top priority and that each of them must commit to leading with equity in that fight,” says **Diana Younts, Co-Chair of the Maryland Legislative Coalition’s Climate Justice Wing.**

Maryland is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including rising sea levels, extreme temperatures, and increasingly severe weather events. The next governor of Maryland needs to be prepared to tackle converging environmental issues, and this forum gives Marylanders an opportunity to learn more about how candidates plan to rise to the challenge.

“In times like these, all members of the policy community must foster an environment to ask ourselves hard questions and have those uncomfortable conversations we often try to avoid,” says **Joshua R. Winston, Undergraduate President of Black Students in Public Policy at University of Maryland**

The forum will be held on Zoom, and individuals can [register here](#).

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**Climate XChange** is a 501(c)3 non-profit, non-partisan organization with a mission to achieve a durable, just transition away from polluting fossil fuels in the United States. With a three-pronged strategy of direct advocacy, research, and communications, we work to advance climate policy at the state level. Learn more at [climate-xchange.org](https://climate-xchange.org)

**The Rebuild Maryland Coalition** is a diverse group of stakeholders working together to pass strong climate legislation that considers frontline communities first while reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the quickest researched manner, making polluters pay to develop revenue to heal the harm. Learn more at [climate-xchange.org/maryland](https://climate-xchange.org/maryland)