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MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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COUNTY COUNCIL CANDIDATE JUSTIN M. KISKA RELEASES STATEMENT ON THE MONOCACY RIVER PLAN

FREDERICK, MD (February 28, 2018) – Frederick businessman Justin M. Kiska, Republican candidate for one of the two At-Large seats on the Frederick County Council has released a statement addressing the controversial Monocacy River Plan.

"I believe like many people in Frederick County, I had seen a few articles and heard a little about the Monocacy River Plan but never paid too much attention because I didn't think it had anything to do with me. As I heard more though, and started to dig into it a bit deeper, I realized there is a much bigger issue here that could impact every resident in the county.

"While I fully understand and support the need to preserve our natural resources, the proposed revisions to the Monocacy River Plan go well beyond a concern for cleaning up the river or the quality of the water. This has become an issue of individual property rights versus outright government overreach.

"The update of this over twenty-five year old plan can easily be called a 'government land grab.' What makes it a land grab? The plan proposes unnecessary regulatory action that directly impacts private property, causing harm to landowners without compensation or their consent.

"Numerous governmental regulations are already in place to protect the Monocacy, including existing county buffer ordinances that restrict land use on property located within a certain distance of the water. However, if these buffer zones exceed reasonable boundaries, it results in a decrease in property value and land utility. These excessive buffer zones continue to be a major point of contention.

"I'm in no way saying there shouldn't be some amount of oversight when it comes to land bordering a major waterway, but the regulations must be reasonable and justifiable. The revisions to the plan as they stand now go well beyond reasonable and justifiable. As the current County Council reviews the plan, the Council members need to make it clear that private property rights must be protected from government overreach."

Justin M. Kiska is the President and Managing Director, and one of the owners, of The Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre in Frederick, MD and the former President of the Board of Directors of the Golden Mile Alliance. Having grown up in Frederick County, he attended The George Washington University in Washington, DC, and is a former Special Assistant and Scheduler to former Transportation and Labor Secretary Elizabeth Dole. A lifelong Republican, he is currently running for one of the two At-Large County Council seats in this year's election.

To learn more about Justin Kiska and his campaign for Frederick County Council, visit www.JustinKiska.com and follow the campaign on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/KiskaForFrederick.

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