

City of Takoma Park, Maryland

Office of the City Manager

Tel: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

email: [REDACTED]



7500 Maple Avenue
Takoma Park, MD 20912
www.takomaparkmd.gov

Suzanne R. Ludlow, City Manager

February 26, 2021

Dear Montgomery County Climate Action Plan Team,

I am writing on behalf of the City of Takoma Park to support the Montgomery County Climate Action Plan. The City of Takoma Park's goal of net zero emission city-wide by 2035 closely mirrors the County's goals to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 80% by 2027 and 100% by 2035. We know that neither of us can reach our goals without cooperation and joint efforts.

Reviewing the draft Climate Action Plan has made clear the tremendous effort Montgomery County has invested in centering equity, the expertise of community members, and ambition towards bold unprecedented actions. In particular, we commend including electrification of existing residential and commercial properties combined with the efforts to create a 100% renewable, green power grid. We also commend the goal of creating a regional transportation system that is free from greenhouse gas emissions.

There are several things we feel are missing from the plan and look forward to being developed. These includes estimates for the timeline in which specific actions will be implemented, legislative priorities for County Council, and the level of investment to which the County Council will commit. In some areas there is a lack of detail that could be clarified, such as the description of which authority is required for actions.

We are very encouraged by plans already being brought to the County Council, including the upcoming Building Energy Performance Standards, and the creation of the Inter-Agency Climate Leadership team. The model of the County integrating climate and sustainability into every department is a model that all jurisdictions will be able to use.

Takoma Park looks forward to working closely to support Montgomery County while we work to reach our own climate goals. Considering the needs of the smaller jurisdictions in your plan will allow for more successful planning overall. Please keep Takoma Park in mind for pilot projects, opportunities, and the involvement of stakeholders in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Suzanne R. Ludlow".

Suzanne R. Ludlow
City Manager

cc: Takoma Park City Council