



Montgomery County Council

For Immediate Release

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FOR INFORMATION: Justina Ferber 240-777-7938

COUNCIL SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR POSITION ON MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Deadline 5:00 P.M., March 30, 2005

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The Montgomery County Council is seeking applicants to fill a vacancy on the Montgomery County Planning Board. The term of John M. Robinson, Democrat, will expire on June 14, 2005. Mr. Robinson has indicated that he will apply for reappointment.

No more than three members of the Planning Board may be from the same political party, and all members must be residents and registered voters of Montgomery County when appointed. Members serve four-year terms and are limited to two full terms. This position can be filled by a Democrat (D), Republican (R) or a voter who declines to affiliate with a party, or is a member of another party officially recognized by the Board of Elections. Current members are: Derick Berlage, Chairman (D); Allison Bryant (R); Wendy Collins Perdue (D); John Robinson (D); and Meredith K. Wellington (R). Annual compensation for Board members is \$25,000.

The Planning Board serves as the Council's principal adviser on land use planning and community planning. Planning Board members also serve as Commissioners of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Some of the Board's responsibilities with regard to planning are: 1) preparation and amendment of the County General Plan; 2) preparation and amendment of the Master Plans and functional plans; 3) formulation of subdivision regulations; 4) preparation of or recommendations on text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance; 5) implementation of the subdivision process by reviewing and approving all preliminary plans, site plans, and other plans for development; 6) advice on the planning implication of capital facilities and programs of the County Government, Montgomery College, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, and Montgomery County Public Schools; and 7) approval of the work program and the annual operating budget for the Park and Planning Department and Central Administrative Services.

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The Planning Board sits as the Park Commission and approves the annual operating budget and Capital Improvements Program for the County park system, land acquisition contracts and major development contracts for parks, development plans for individual park facilities, policies for park operations, and park user fees. These functions require a meeting at least once each month.

The Montgomery County Planning Board meets all day every Thursday. The entire Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission meets the second Wednesday of every month. Two full days a week are spent in meetings. Additionally, substantial time is required for preparatory work and other activities related to Planning Board responsibilities.

Letters expressing interest, including a resume listing professional and civic experience, should be addressed to Council President Thomas E. Perez, County Council Office, Stella B. Werner Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850, and must be **received no later than 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 30, 2005**. It is the Council's policy not to consider applications received after the deadline. After the March 30 closing date, Councilmembers will review the letters of application and select applicants for interviews to be held in June.

The names of all applicants are published and available for public review, and interviews are open to the public. A financial statement of assets, debts, income, and family property interests will be required of all applicants; only the appointed candidate will be required to make the financial statement available to the public.

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