



WHEATON URBAN DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Luisa Montero-Diaz
Director

May 1, 2017

The Honorable Roger Berliner
President, Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: Operating Budget, FY18

Dear Council President Berliner:

The Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee (WUDAC) is writing in support of County Executive Leggett's recommended FY18 budget for the support of the Wheaton Urban District. Wheaton has seen some notable successes in the past year, including re-designation as an Arts and Entertainment District and the beginning of construction activities on the new MNPCC headquarters building and Town Square.

WUDAC would like to note that, while we are excited about the positive momentum building in Wheaton's downtown, these developments place additional demands on the staff of the Urban District for coordination with the affected businesses, communication with the community, adaptation of traditional events to new venues during construction and other activities. This trend will only continue as construction is completed and programming for and maintenance of the Town Square begins. In addition, to achieve the objectives of the Wheaton Arts and Entertainment District Strategic Plan, it will be necessary to provide additional resources to the Urban District.

Therefore, we recommend that the County Executive and County Council plan for expanded funding for the Wheaton Urban District in the FY19 and future budgets. We would also like to state our support for Councilmember Navarro's request on the FY18 Reconciliation List to fund five additional police officers, three of whom would be assigned to Wheaton (District 4D). Wheaton has experienced several high-profile incidents in the past year that have raised concerns among members of the

community and contributed to a perception that Wheaton is not safe. As redevelopment proceeds, it is critical that people throughout the County and the region feel and are safe in Wheaton.

Thank you for your continued support for the revitalization of Wheaton's Urban District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leah V. Haygood". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Leah Haygood, Chair
Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee

cc: County Executive Isiah Leggett
Council Members:
Hon. Nancy Navarro
Hon. Tom Hucker
Hon. Sidney Katz
Hon. George Leventhal
Hon. Marc Elrich
Hon. Craig Rice
Hon. Hans Riemer