



Isiah Leggett, County Executive
Timothy Firestine, Chief Administrator Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director
Robert Nelson, UCAB Chair

January 9, 2015

County Executive Leggett Holding Public Forums on the FY16 Budget



County Executive Isiah Leggett Invites You to Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Forums. Five budget forums are scheduled. All meeting time are from 7 pm to 8:30 pm. Download the presentation at [FY16 Operating Budget Forum Briefing \(pdf\)](#).

This is a great opportunity for the community to provide input for the County's budget for fiscal year 2016 which begins on July 1, 2015 and ends on June 30, 2016. Come out with your questions and suggestions! The remaining forums are scheduled as follows:

- Wednesday, January 14, Silver Spring Regional Services Center, One Veterans Place, Silver Spring.
- Tuesday, January 20, Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring.
- Thursday, January 22, Mid-County Community Recreation Center, 2004 Queensguard Road, Silver Spring
- Monday, January 26, Bethesda Chevy Chase Regional Services Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda.

All of the forums will begin at 7:00pm.

Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible, but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If these or other services or aids are needed to participate in this activity, call 240-777-6507, TTY 240-773-3556 or email a request to Karen.falcon@montgomerycountymd.gov

The County Executive announces his Recommended Fiscal Year 2016 Operating Budget on March 16. The County Council approves the operating budget at the end of May.

Join Montgomery County's conversation about the FY16 Operating Budget on social media and help raise awareness by using #MontCoFY16budgetforum.

County Executive Leggett Installed as President of 2015 MACo Board of Directors

MACo is a non-profit and non-partisan organization that serves Maryland's counties by articulating the needs of local government to the Maryland General Assembly. The Association's membership consists of county elected officials and representatives from Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City. MACo's members determine Association policy and positions on executive and legislative proposals through an elected [Board of Directors](#) and a volunteer Legislative Committee. Through MACo's advocacy, training, education programs, and annual conferences, members are provided with endless opportunities to improve their capacity to serve their residents.

MACo is the only organization serving the needs of county elected officials and governments across the state. MACo's main office is located in downtown Annapolis. To learn more, visit <http://conduitstreet.mdcounties.org/2015/01/09/2015-maco-board-of-directors-installed>

Montgomery County Council to Hold Public Hearing on Tuesday, Jan. 13, on Bill to Create Development Ombudsman

The Montgomery County Council will hold a public hearing at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 13, on Expedited Bill 58-14 that would create a new non-merit position of Development Ombudsman in the Office of the County Executive.

County Executive Ike Leggett proposed creating the new position in his inauguration remarks on Dec. 1. He said the position is needed to facilitate the approval process of commercial and residential development projects deemed high priorities by the County and to resolve conflicts that arise related to the entitlement process, permitting and general regulatory procedures.

The Development Ombudsman would act as a facilitator for commercial and residential development projects by working as an intermediary to address challenges, issues and concerns during development. The ombudsman would promote regulatory efficiency, accessibility, transparency, predictability and consistency across agencies and departments. He or she also would identify systemic challenges in the entitlement process, permitting and general regulatory procedures and would facilitate necessary changes that bring about tangible improvements that save both time and costs.

Those interested in testifying at the public hearing should call 240-777-7803. The deadline to sign up is 5 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 12. Call 240-777-7910 to obtain copies of the bill or go to www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council

The Council Agenda is subject to change any time after printing or during the Council meeting. Please contact the Council Office or visit our website to obtain updates.



Winter Classes - Free English Classes for Adults

The Literacy Council of Montgomery County will again offer **free** English classes to adults of Montgomery County. These classes will be offered at several locations throughout the county. Beginning, intermediate and advanced classes will be offered. Class levels vary according to enrollment. For the full list of locations, visit <http://www.literacycouncilmcmd.org/downloads/ESL%20Class%20Flyer%20Winter%202015.ENGLISH.pdf>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Attending an orientation is required but does not guarantee a seat in a class. Arrive on time! Orientations are three and one-half (3 ½) hours. If you come late, you will not be admitted. Students will be admitted to an orientation first-come, first-served. Space is limited. *Please do not bring children to orientation or, if admitted, to class.*

Calling All Global Citizens!

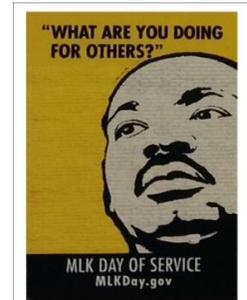
Annual Meeting
Tuesday, January 13
 5:30 to 7 PM
 Rockville Memorial Library
 21 Maryland Ave. Rockville, MD



Connecting Our Community to the World

Montgomery County's edge in the 21st century global marketplace is that we are a talent magnet for people from across the country and around the world. Join us on January 13 as we celebrate the diverse cultures and cuisines that make Montgomery special. To strengthen your cultural competence as a 21st Century Global Citizen, come and learn more about Montgomery's wonderful Sister Cities in Morazán, El Salvador; Gondar, Ethiopia; Xi'an, China; and Hyderabad, India. See more at www.montgomerysistercities.org.

Make Martin Luther King Day a day on . . . not a day off!
Sign up Now for Montgomery County's MLK Weekend of Service
January 19, 2015



Each of us can contribute to strengthening our community by volunteering in Dr. King's honor on January 19 and throughout the year. **Get details at <http://www.montgomeryserves.org>**
Questions? Please email servicedays@montgomerycountymd.gov or call (240) 777-2600.

MCDOT Issues Request for Proposals to Two Finalists for MD 355/Rockville Pike Crossing Project at Medical Center Metro Station; Project Expected to Improve Traffic Flow and Promote Pedestrian Safety along Congested Corridor

Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) Acting Director Al Roshdieh has announced the release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) to design and build the Maryland (MD) Route 355/Rockville Pike Crossing Project, which will relieve traffic congestion and promote pedestrian safety at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda. The Crossing Project was conceived by MCDOT to address BRAC-mandated growth at Walter Reed, which brought a 45 percent increase in personnel and a doubling of visits to the Bethesda campus.

More at http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/apps/News/press/PR_details.asp?PrID=14394



**Good Neighbors
 Clear Their Sidewalks
 of Ice & Snow.
 Be A Good Neighbor.**

County residents are required by law to clear sidewalks in front of and alongside their properties within 24 hours of the end of a snowstorm. But don't just do it because it's the law. Do it for school kids. Do it for older adults. Do it for folks who depend on transit. Do it for yourself and your family. Good Neighbors Clear Their Sidewalks of Ice and Snow. Check montgomerycountymd.gov/safesidewalks for more information

Be a Good Neighbor!

**Poverty in Montgomery County
A Public Forum & Community Resource Fair**

presented by The Montgomery County Community Action Board in Partnership with the City of Gaithersburg

**Wednesday, January 28 6:00 PM
The Activity Center at Bohrer Park
506 South Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg**

The Community Action Board, in partnership with the City of Gaithersburg, will host this public forum and resource fair called *Raise Your Voice! Poverty in Montgomery County* and will provide members of the community with the opportunity to participate in small focus groups about important issues impacting low-income County residents, including child care, housing, transportation, and jobs. The event is free and open to the public. **Free child care and food will be provided.**

Members of the community can register for the event online at <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-action-forum-raise-your-voice-tickets-14908226908?aff=es2&rank=0> or by calling (240)777-1697. Local organizations can sign-up for an information table by calling (240)777-1708.

For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news>

For other news and meeting agendas, visit:

County Council <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/cs/templ.asp?url=/content/council/news/news.asp>
Planning Board http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/news_releases

Also check out the latest from:

Department of Public Libraries <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library>
Department of Recreation <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/rectmpl.asp?url=/content/rec/index.asp>
Department of Transportation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html>
Department of Environmental Protection <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/deatmpl.asp?url=/content/dep/dephome/index.asp>
Department of Permitting Services <http://permittingervices.montgomerycountymd.gov/DPS/general/Home.aspx>
Montgomery County Volunteer Center <http://www.montgomeryserves.org>
Office of Community Partnerships <http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs100/1102184431012/archive/1117215431562.html>
Commission for Women <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw/index.html>