

COUNCIL COMING ATTRACTIONS



Week of May 1, 2017

Property Tax Credit for Retired Military Service Members, Off-Street Parking, Parking Lot Districts, Housing and Building Maintenance, and Business Services Center



Council Coming Attractions is a summary of some of the issues before the Council. All Council staff reports and additional information on each item scheduled for Council or Committee review can be viewed at: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/ondemand/index.html>.

Also the Council meeting schedule may change from time to time. The current Council and Committee agendas can also be viewed at: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/ondemand/index.html>.

- 🗨️ On May 2 the Council session will begin at 9:30 a.m. Two proclamation presentations are scheduled:
 - Councilmember Elrich will recognize Building Safety Month.
 - Councilmembers Rice and Katz will recognize Sean Pang, Washington Post Teacher of the Year.

COUNCIL

- 🗨️ Expedited Bill 12-17, Fire and Rescue Services – Length of Service Awards Program for Volunteers – Amendments
The Council is scheduled to introduce Expedited Bill 12-17. Council President Berliner is the lead sponsor, at the request of the Executive. A public hearing is scheduled for June 13 at 1:30 p.m. The staff report can be viewed at: http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5022&meta_id=136457.

The Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) for the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Rescue Association (MCVFRA) is an existing program that provides a small lifetime pension to local fire and rescue department volunteers who complete a certain amount of service. LOSAP provides a retirement benefit, a service-connected disability benefit, a survivor benefit, and a death benefit to qualified volunteers. Bill 12-17 would increase the retirement benefits for qualified volunteers, clarify the conditions for earning credits for stand-by duty, and require all payments to be made by direct deposit.

- On April 3, 2017, the Executive submitted a negotiated agreement between the Executive and the MCVFRA, effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020, for Council review and action. The agreement includes a provision to recommend legislation amending the LOSAP. On April 25, 2017, the Council adopted Resolution 18-784 indicating its intent to approve the negotiated agreement with the MCVFRA.
- OMB estimated that the increased LOSAP for MCVFRA's retirement benefits would cost the County an additional \$23,385 in FY18 and \$150,722 over the next six years. The requirement to pay benefits by direct deposit would save the County \$25,200 over the next six years.

 Expedited Bill 13-17, Taxation – Property Tax Credit for Retired Military Services Members – Eligibility

The Council is scheduled to introduce Expedited Bill 13-17. Councilmember Floreen is the lead sponsor. Council President Berliner and Councilmembers Rice, Katz, and Navarro are cosponsors. A public hearing is scheduled for June 13 at 1:30 p.m. The staff report can be viewed at: http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5022&meta_id=136459.

Expedited Bill 13-17 would expand the property tax credit for military retirees to include a retired member of the uniformed services, the military reserves, or the National Guard. Expedited Bill 13-17 would implement the authority granted in House Bill 1234, Property Tax - Credit for Retired Military Service Members – Eligibility, which was enacted during the 2017 Maryland General Assembly session.

 Expedited Bill 14-17, Motor Vehicles and Traffic – Off-Street Parking Regulations – Parking Facilities

The Council is scheduled to introduce Expedited Bill 14-17. Council President Berliner is the lead sponsor, at the request of the Executive. A public hearing is scheduled for June 13 at 1:30 p.m. The staff report can be viewed at:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5022&meta_id=136461.

Expedited Bill 14-17 would increase the amount of time that a person may continuously park a vehicle in an off-street public parking facility from 24 hours to 14 days.

 Expedited Bill 15-17, Silver Spring, Bethesda, Wheaton, and Montgomery Hills Parking Lot Districts – Areas Defined – Tax Exemption

The Council is scheduled to introduce Expedited Bill 15-17. Council President Berliner is the lead sponsor, at the request of the Executive. A public hearing is scheduled for June 13 at 1:30 p.m. The staff report can be viewed at:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5022&meta_id=136464.

Expedited Bill 15-17 would replace descriptions of the parking lot district boundaries with URL links to GIS maps; merge Montgomery Hills Parking Lot District and Silver Spring Parking Lot District; clarify the application requirement for tax exemptions; delete duplicative provisions; and generally amend the law governing parking lot districts.

- The County currently has four Parking Lot Districts (PLDs): Silver Spring, Bethesda, Wheaton, and Montgomery Hills.
- Expedited Bill 15-17 would delete the metes and bounds descriptions for the PLDs, and replace them with references to GIS maps maintained on the County website.
- The Bill also would merge the Montgomery Hills PLD into the Silver Spring PLD.

- According to the fiscal and economic impact statements, merging the PLDs is expected to streamline work flow processes and improve customer service by expanding flexible parking options for the increasing downtown population.
- In addition the Bill would amend County Code Section 60-6, which provides a tax exemption for certain property owners in PLDs that provide off-street parking facilities, to expressly reference the exemption application process set forth in Section 60-14.

 Expedited Bill 11-17, Retirement-Board of Investment Trustees - Consolidated Retiree Health Benefit Trust Board of Trustees - Powers and Duties - Montgomery County Group Trust
The Council is scheduled to vote on Expedited Bill 11-27. The Government Operations and Fiscal Policy (GO) Committee unanimously recommends enactment as introduced. Council President Berliner is the lead sponsor, at the request of the Executive. The staff report can be viewed at: http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5022&meta_id=136466 . Bill 11-17 would amend the County's retirement law, and the law governing the consolidated retiree health benefits trust, to permit the Board of Investment Trustees and the Consolidated Retiree Health Benefits Trust Board of Trustees to establish a group trust. The Bill would allow the participating trusts to access certain investment opportunities which may otherwise be closed to new investors due to capacity or other constraints.

 Bill 39-16, Housing and Building Maintenance Standards – Registration of Vacant Property
The Council is scheduled to vote on Bill 39-16. The Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee (PHED) unanimously recommends enactment with the following amendments: remove the requirement for a registry, but require DHCA to provide annual reports on the Department's activities related to unmaintained vacant dwellings; clarify that condominiums are within the scope of the bill; and make technical corrections. The staff report can be viewed at:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5022&meta_id=136468 .

Councilmember Hucker is the lead sponsor. Council President Berliner and Councilmembers Leventhal, Navarro, Elrich, Riemer, Rice, and Floreen are cosponsors. Bill 39-16 would require DHCA to provide annual reports on the Department's activities related to unmaintained vacant dwellings, require the payment of certain fees, and require inspections for unmaintained vacant buildings.

- According to Councilmember Hucker, there are 350 known vacant properties located in the County and hundreds more are unidentified because of a lack of reporting.
- Once a property is registered, DHCA must perform an initial inspection for housing code violations. Any subsequent DHCA inspections will be charged to the homeowner on a graduated fee schedule.
- At the Council session, Councilmember Hucker is expected to offer an amendment that would specify that any unpaid fee imposed for violations of Bill 39-16 would become a lien on the property and would be collected in the same manner as taxes. This will provide an additional tool for DHCA to enforce Bill 39-16.

 Bill 8-17, Executive Branch – Business Services Center – Established

The Council is scheduled to vote on Bill 8-17. The Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee (PHED) unanimously recommends enactment with the Executive's amendments changing the name to the Business Solutions Group and modifying the description of the functions. Council President Berliner and Council Vice President Riemer are the lead sponsors. Councilmembers Elrich, Navarro, Katz, and Rice are cosponsors. The staff report can be viewed: http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5022&meta_id=136470 .

Bill 8-17 would establish a Business Services Center in the Office of the County Executive. Staff in the Business Services Center would assist, inform, and advocate on behalf of businesses, including helping businesses interact with County Government. Staff also would provide

dedicated constituent service for County businesses in the Office of the Executive. Existing small business navigator staff would become part of the Business Services Center.

- In addition to the existing duties of the small business navigator, the Business Services Center would provide constituent services for businesses operating in the County or planning to operate in the County. These services include:
 - ✓ communicating about new and revised County laws and regulations affecting County businesses;
 - ✓ conducting public outreach;
 - ✓ providing technical publications on County policies;
 - ✓ operating workshops and conferences; and
 - ✓ convening targeted business development events.
- The Business Services Center would serve as a point of contact for businesses seeking to:
 - ✓ obtain a County contract; or
 - ✓ comply with County requirements and regulations.
- Staff from the Business Services Center would advocate for County businesses with other State, County, and local government agencies.

Bill 6-17, Technical Corrections

The Council is scheduled to vote on Bill 6-17. The Council is the lead sponsor. The staff report can be viewed at:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5022&meta_id=136472 .

Bill 6-17 would correct technical, typographical, grammatical, and codification errors in, and makes stylistic, clarifying, and conforming amendments to, several provisions in County law. Bill 6-17 contains an accumulation of technical and stylistic errors that individually were not significant enough to warrant separate corrective legislation, but which now cumulatively justify a technical corrections bill.

Resolution to extend expiration date until Dec. 31, 2017 for Bill 46-15, Human Rights and Civil Liberties - Building Maintenance Worker - Minimum Work Week

The Council is scheduled to vote on a resolution to extend the time to act on Bill 46-15, which was introduced on Nov. 17, 2015. Council Vice President Riemer is the lead sponsor of Bill 46-15.

Councilmembers Navarro, Elrich, and Hucker are cosponsors. The staff report can be viewed at:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5022&meta_id=136474 .

Bill 46-15 would require an employer to provide a minimum work week of at least 30 hours for each employee working as a janitor, building cleaner, security officer, concierge, doorman, handyperson, or building superintendent at an office building occupying at least 400,000 square feet in the County. Bill 46-15 would also apply to a County government employee working as a building maintenance worker in an office building of at least 400,000 square feet.

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Commemoration

The Council will hold a special event to commemorate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. The event will include a prepared video segment with personal stories from community members, a panel discussion about public policy issues, and a special recognition ceremony for panelists and participants. Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, which is recognized nationally throughout the month of May, acknowledges the roles that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have played in our history and celebrates their achievements and contributions. The press release for the event can be viewed at:

http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=21025 .

COMMITTEE

-  HHS Committee Meeting, May 1 at 9:30 a.m.
FY18 Operating Budget and CIP Amendments
 - Office of Human Rights
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5729&meta_id=136294 .
 - Cost Sharing – MCG, State Match Community Grants and Arts Capital Grants
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5729&meta_id=136389 .
 - Public Arts Trust
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5729&meta_id=136391 .

-  Joint PHED and HHS Committee Meeting, May 1 at 1:15 p.m.
FY18 Operating Budget and CIP Amendments
 - Housing First
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5730&meta_id=136401 .

-  PHED Committee Meeting, May 1 at 1:30 p.m.
FY18 Operating Budget and CIP Amendments
 - Recreation (continued)
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5730&meta_id=136413 .
 - Urban Districts
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5730&meta_id=136399 .
 - Board of Appeals
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5730&meta_id=136308 .
 - Office of Zoning and Administrative Hearings
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5730&meta_id=136310 .
 - Revenue Authority
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5730&meta_id=136312 .

-  ED Committee Meeting, May 1 at 2 p.m.
FY18 Operating Budget and CIP Amendments
 - Montgomery College
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5731&meta_id=136314 .
 - Community Use of Public Facilities
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5731&meta_id=136397 .
 - NDA: Montgomery Coalition for Adult English Literacy (MCAEL)
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5731&meta_id=136478 .

**ALL STAFF REPORTS FOR THE MEETINGS LISTED BELOW WILL BE
AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK**

-  HHS Committee Meeting, May 3 at 9:30 a.m.
FY18 Operating Budget and CIP Amendments
 - CIP: Libraries (continued)
 - Health and Human Services (continued)
 - Proposed Closed Session to consider matters that concern the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State, pursuant to Maryland Code, General Provisions Article Section 3-305 (a)(4). Topic is National Philharmonic grant

-  ED Committee Meeting, May 3 at 2 p.m.
FY18 Operating Budget and CIP Amendments
 - Montgomery College (continued)
 - Montgomery County Public Schools (continued)
 - MCPS-CIP amendments (follow up)

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T&E Committee Meeting, May 3 at 2 p.m.
 Supplemental appropriation and CIP amendment – DOT -\$1,802,000 for Resurfacing:
 Residential/Rural Roads
 FY18 Operating Budget and CIP Amendments
 - General Services: Fleet Management and NDA: Motor Pool Fund
 - General Services: Facilities
 - Utilities
 - Solid Waste (continued)
 - Transportation (continued)
 - Discussion with WMATA Board members
 - Review - Veirs Mill Road Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project

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Joint GO and T&E Committee Meeting, May 4 at 9:30 a.m.
 - Bill 9-17, Fuel Energy Tax – Exemptions - Amendments

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GO Committee Meeting, May 4 at 9:45 a.m.
 FY18 Operating Budget and CIP Amendments
 - Bill 10-17, Recordation Tax – Rates –Amendments
 - Property tax options: amount, rate, and Income Tax Offset Credit
 - Follow up: Self Insurance Fund and NDA: Risk Management
 - NDAs: Working Families Income Supplement, State Property Tax Services
 - CIP: General Government (continued)
 - Office of Legislative Oversight (continued)
 - To be determined

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T&E Committee Meeting, May 4 at 9:45 a.m.
 FY18 Operating Budget and CIP Amendments
 - Rapid Transit System project – US 29 BRT

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Joint HHS and ED Committee Meeting, May 5 at 10 a.m.
 FY18 Operating Budget and CIP Amendments
 - Early Childhood Services, Infants and Toddlers, Child Care Subsidies, School Health Services, Linkages to Learning, High School Wellness Center, Public Private Partnerships, Children’s Opportunity Fund, and the Kennedy Cluster Project

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HHS Meeting, May 5 at 10:30 a.m.
 FY18 Operating Budget and CIP Amendments
 - Health and Human Services (continued)
 - To be determined