

# COUNCIL COMING ATTRACTIONS



## **Week of January 29, 2018**

**Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Savings Plan, Spending Affordability Guidelines,  
Roadway Solicitation and WSSC Rates**



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> .

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> .

The Council meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. with two proclamation presentations.

-  Council President Hans Riemer will present a proclamation recognizing Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Awareness Day.
-  Councilmember Craig Rice will present proclamations recognizing two Blue Ribbon Schools: Farmland Elementary and Ronald McNair Elementary.

## **COUNCIL**

### **Resolution to approve FY18 Savings Plan**

On January 30 at 10:25 a.m. the Council will vote on the fiscal year 2018 Savings Plan. The County Executive proposed the FY18 Savings Plan to address an estimated budget gap of \$120 million, primarily due to lower-than-expected income tax revenues. The FY18 Savings Plan called for \$60.7

million in operating budget savings. (The corrected amount is \$58.7 million.) The plan also recommended \$13.5 million in capital budget savings.

The Council's six Committees have reviewed all elements of the Executive's proposal. Their recommendations for FY18 savings are now before the Council for a vote. The Committees recommend \$53.3 million in operating budget savings and \$9.3 million in capital budget current revenue savings. The staff report provides detail on the Committee recommendations on circle pages 35-47. The staff report can be viewed at:

[http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=169&event\\_id=7508&meta\\_id=148294](http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7508&meta_id=148294)

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

### **Amendments to the FY17-22 Capital Improvements Program**

On January 30 at 9:45 a.m. the Council will hold a public hearing on amendments to the fiscal years 2017-22 Capital Improvements Program. These amendments reflect the County Executive's recommended FY18 Savings Plan. The staff report can be viewed at:

[http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=169&event\\_id=7508&meta\\_id=148292](http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7508&meta_id=148292)

In January the Executive transmitted current revenue recommended reductions in the FYI 17-22 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) as part of his proposed FY18 Savings Plan. These include specific reductions for County Government projects. For Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), Montgomery College, and M-NCPPC (Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission) the Executive recommended a general current revenue cut for each - \$3,019,000, \$3,168,000, and \$1,180,000, respectively - but left these agencies to recommend how these cuts would be achieved on a project-by-project basis. Subsequently M-NCPPC submitted specific reductions for its projects, totaling \$1,180,000. MCPS recommended a reduction of \$330,000 in Technology Modernization and Montgomery College recommended a reduction of \$1,900,000 in the Information Technology College.

### **Spending Affordability Guidelines for FY19 Operating Budget**

At 1:30 p.m. the Council will hold a public hearing on the Spending Affordability Guidelines for the fiscal year 2019 Operating Budget. The deadline for Council action is the second Tuesday in February, which this year is February 13. Council staff recommended setting the ceiling on the aggregate operating budget of agencies at \$4,892.8 million, or 2% above the aggregate operating budget in FY18. In order to exceed this amount in the budget in May, the support of a supermajority of Councilmembers is required.

The staff report can be viewed at:

[http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=169&event\\_id=7508&meta\\_id=148296](http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7508&meta_id=148296)

Each September, the Council begins with a study of the economic indicators that help predict the condition of the County economy. With the assistance of staff and fiscal experts, the Council estimates what the County's resources will be: revenue from property taxes, from the County income tax, transfer and recordation taxes, from State and Federal grants, and other sources. Based on this information, the Council sets a limit on what the County can plan to spend. The guidelines place a ceiling on property tax revenues, a ceiling on the total operating budget excluding certain grants and enterprise funds, and allocate the projected revenue among the agencies. Agencies are required to attach a prioritized list of reductions if they submit a budget that exceeds the spending affordability limit.

### **Bill 39-17, Streets and Roads – Roadway Solicitation and Distribution – Prohibition**

Also at 1:30 p.m. the Council will hold a public hearing on Bill 39-17, Streets and Roads – Roadway Solicitation and Distribution – Prohibition. Bill 39-17 would prohibit a person from standing in a roadway to solicit, sell, or distribute any material to motorists under certain conditions and generally regulate

solicitations on County roadways. Councilmember Rice is the lead sponsor. Councilmember Berliner is a cosponsor. The staff report can be viewed at:

[http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=169&event\\_id=7508&meta\\_id=148298](http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7508&meta_id=148298)

## COMMITTEE

### **Energized Public Spaces Functional Master Plan**

On January 29 at 2 p.m. the Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee will meet to review the Energized Public Spaces Functional Master Plan. The Planning Board draft of the master plan can be viewed at:

[https://www.montgomeryparks.org/uploads/2017/09/2017\\_eps-fmp.MCPB\\_DRAFT.pdf](https://www.montgomeryparks.org/uploads/2017/09/2017_eps-fmp.MCPB_DRAFT.pdf)

The staff report can be viewed at:

[http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=169&event\\_id=7570&meta\\_id=148276](http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7570&meta_id=148276)

The main purpose of the Energized Public Spaces Functional Master Plan is to create outdoor spaces where people of all ages, ethnicities, and incomes can meet, play, relax, exercise and enjoy nature in areas where more people live and work. These parks and open spaces will integrate the public network of streets, transit and other infrastructure, creating a framework around which sustainable future development can occur. This non-traditional master plan applies an innovative methodology to identify areas in the County with the highest need for parks and open spaces and recommend opportunities to increase the amount of parks and open space in those communities.

### **Zoning Text Amendment 17-13, Exemptions – Public Taking**

The PHED Committee also will review ZTA 17-13, Exemptions – Public Taking. Councilmember Nancy Floreen is the lead sponsor. ZTA 17-13 would address structures located on a lot whose total area has been reduced by a public acquisition. It would make such structures legal and allow them to be repaired, altered, or reconstructed under certain circumstances, but not enlarged. The staff report can be viewed at:

[http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=169&event\\_id=7570&meta\\_id=148278](http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7570&meta_id=148278)

### **Zoning Text Amendment 17-10, White Flint 2 Parklawn – Overlay Zone**

The PHED Committee also will continue its review of ZTA 17-10, White Flint 2 Parklawn – Overlay Zone. Council President Hans Riemer is the lead sponsor at the request of the County Executive. ZTA 17-10 would establish the White Flint 2-Parklawn Overlay zone with development and land use standards, and procedures for development approvals. Staff revised ZTA 17-10 in an attempt to implement the Council's Sector Plan objectives. Councilmember Floreen proposed revisions at the last Committee meeting. The Committee members requested a full draft of the proposed amendments. The table on pages 1 and 2 of the staff report summarizes the differences between ZTA 17-10 as introduced, the staff December 4 draft, and Councilmember Floreen's recommendation. The staff report can be viewed at:

[http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=169&event\\_id=7570&meta\\_id=148280](http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7570&meta_id=148280)

### **Discussion – Options for Preserving Affordable Housing (PILOTs and Rental Agreements)**

The PHED Committee will close out its meeting with a discussion of the ways that the Department of Housing and Community Affairs helps to develop and preserve affordable housing. Beginning in March, the Committee will work through proposed amendments to the Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit (MPDU) law. While the term MPDU is often used generically for a new affordable housing unit in the County, it is a specific type of unit. Recent master plan meetings have not only included questions about the percentage of MPDUs that should be required but also requirements for preserving existing affordable housing and entering into rental agreements to maintain affordable rents. The recent Rental Housing Study contained information about a number of affordable housing tools including MPDUs, the right of first refusal, and Low Income Housing Tax Credits. The Committee will discuss these tools and other ways to produce and

preserve affordable housing. The staff report can be viewed at:

[http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=169&event\\_id=7570&meta\\_id=148282](http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7570&meta_id=148282)



### **Spending Affordability Guidelines for FY19 Operating Budget**

On February 1 at 10:30 a.m. the Government Operations and Fiscal Policy (GO) Committee will meet to review the Spending Affordability Guidelines for the fiscal year 2019 Operating Budget. For more information, see page 1, or visit:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/about/budget.html>

The staff report will be available on January 29.



### **Discussion – WSSC Rate Structure recommendations**

On February 1 at 10:30 a.m. the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment (T&E) Committee will meet to discuss the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) Rate Structure recommendations. WSSC has been reviewing its volumetric rate structure over the past year and is considering making changes to the rate structure that would take effect July 1, 2019. They have asked the Executive and Council for feedback by April on several options for changes currently under consideration. At the Committee meeting, WSSC senior leadership and its consultants who have worked on this review will provide a briefing and answer questions for the T&E Committee. The staff report will be available on January 29.