

COUNCIL COMING ATTRACTIONS



Week of March 25, 2019

Veirs Mill Corridor Master Plan, Vision Zero, Public Campaign Financing, Equal Pay, Law Enforcement Trust and Transparency, Tenant Health and Safety, Clean Energy and MARC Rail Communities Plan

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> .

Please note that the Council meeting on March 26 will begin at 1:15 p.m.

COUNCIL



Veirs Mill Corridor Master Plan

On Tuesday, March 26 at 2:15 p.m. the Council will discuss the Veirs Mill Corridor Master Plan, which focuses on pedestrian safety, compatibility with adjoining land uses, potential redevelopment opportunities and improved connectivity. The plan extends approximately four miles, from the City of Rockville to the Wheaton Central Business District and Vicinity Sector Plan boundary. The Council held a public hearing on the plan on Feb. 7 at the Holiday Park Senior Center to hear directly from residents in their own community. The Veirs Mill Corridor Master Plan seeks to:

- improve connectivity between transit and community uses and facilities;
- enhance safety for all users of Veirs Mill Road;
- support the existing residential scale and character; and
- introduce limited redevelopment opportunities to strengthen the existing neighborhood centers and identity.

The plan recommends retaining most existing multi-family residential developments but recommends rezoning garden-style apartments in the Twinbrook area to “facilitate the redevelopment of higher density

housing” close to transit. With concerns that redevelopment could increase the affordability of housing in the area, the Committee is recommending “no net loss” in market-affordable housing for the area, meaning that current affordable housing units will be replaced one-to-one with units that will be required to offer rents that are affordable to families earning 80 percent or less of the area median income for 20 years.

Gwen Wright, director of the Planning Department; Carrie Sanders, Area 2 chief; Jessica McVary, planner coordinator; and Lisa Govoni, housing planner are expected to attend the meeting. The Council staff report can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20190326/20190326_10A.pdf

Vision Zero: Veirs Mill Corridor

The Council will discuss Vision Zero, a long-term plan that aims to eliminate fatalities and severe injuries on Montgomery County roads by 2030. The County’s plan puts resources in place to reduce severe and fatal collisions on County roads by 35 percent for vehicle occupants, bicyclists and pedestrians by November 2019. This discussion will focus specifically on the Veirs Mill corridor considering the current master planning of this area. The Council staff report can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20190326/20190326_10C.pdf

Public Campaign Finance

At 7:30 p.m. the Council will hold a public forum on the County’s Campaign Finance Program. Residents are encouraged to testify regarding their observations, opinions and experiences to help inform the Council’s future deliberations on this matter. In 2014, the Council enacted Bill 16-14 establishing a voluntary public campaign financing system for candidates for County Council and County Executive.

- Beginning with the 2018 election, a candidate for County Council or County Executive could seek matching funds for small dollar contributions of \$150 or less from a Public Election Fund.
- During the program’s inaugural election cycle, 68 candidates ran for either County Executive or County Council.
- Of the 38 candidates that filed an intent to use public campaign financing for one of these offices, 23 candidates ultimately obtained public financing.
- Two-thirds of Councilmembers that won an elected office in 2018 chose public financing, as did the County Executive.
- The County ultimately spent approximately \$5.2 million during the 2018 elections on public financing (\$4.1 million during the primary election and \$1.1 million during the general election). The public forum will focus on potential improvements to the current program.

A copy of the press release is available at:

https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=22896

PUBLIC HEARINGS

All public hearings will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26.

Bill 4-19, Personnel - Merit System - Requesting Salary History Prohibited

The Council will hold a public hearing on Bill 4-19, Personnel - Merit System - Requesting Salary History Prohibited. Councilmember Evan Glass is the lead sponsor. All other Councilmembers are cosponsors. The goal of this bill is to help eliminate wage inequity between genders for Montgomery County Government employees. A Government Operations and Fiscal Policy (GO) Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 4. The Council staff report can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20190326/20190326_3.pdf

Key search terms for this legislation on the Council's website include: equal pay, salary history, wage gap and pay disparities. #MoCoEqualPay is being used for this bill on social media.

 **Bill 5-19, Development Impact Tax for Transportation and Public School Improvements - Exemptions - Amendments**

The Council will hold a public hearing on Bill 5-19, Development Impact Tax for Transportation and Public School Improvements - Exemptions – Amendments. Councilmember Hans Riemer is the lead sponsor. The goal of this bill is to limit the exemption of market rate dwelling units to situations where at least 25 percent of the units in a development are MPDUs with a long price restriction. A joint GO and Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 13. The Council staff report can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20190326/20190326_4.pdf

Key search terms for this legislation on the Council's website include: moderately priced housing, MPDU and development impact tax. #MoCoAffordableHousing is being used for this bill on social media.

 **Bill 6-19, Landlord-Tenant Relations - Termination of Lease - Tenant Health and Safety**

The Council will hold a public hearing on Bill 6-19, Landlord-Tenant Relations - Termination of Lease - Tenant Health and Safety. Councilmember Tom Hucker is the lead sponsor. The goal of this bill is to allow tenants to protect their health by providing them an opportunity to terminate their lease if there are serious health and safety violations that remain uncorrected. A PHED Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 10. The Council staff report can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20190326/20190326_5.pdf

Key search terms for this legislation on the Council's website include: renter, tenant, lease, health and safety. #MoCoRentersRights is being used for this bill on social media.

 **Bill 7-19, Environmental Sustainability - Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Program - New Construction**

The Council will hold a public hearing on Bill 7-19, Environmental Sustainability - Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (CPACE) Program - New Construction. Councilmember Tom Hucker is the lead sponsor. The goal of this bill is to promote environmental sustainability by allowing new commercial construction to be eligible for the CPACE program. A Transportation and Environment (T&E) Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 4. The Council staff report can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20190326/20190326_6.pdf

Key search terms for this legislation on the Council's website include: Clean Energy Program, new construction and environmental incentives. #MoCoCleanEnergy is being used for this bill on social media.

 **Supplemental appropriation to the Montgomery County Public Schools' (MCPS) FY19 Operating Budget - \$300,743 for the Learning in Extended Academic Programs Grant**

The Council will hold a public hearing on a supplemental appropriation to the Montgomery County Public Schools' (MCPS) FY19 Operating Budget - \$300,743 for the Learning in Extended Academic Programs Grant. This appropriation would provide an additional five days in the Extended Learning Opportunities Summer Adventures in Learning Program. The Council staff report can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20190326/20190326_7.pdf

 **Supplemental appropriation to MCPS' FY19 Operating Budget - \$1,350,000 for the Striving Readers' Comprehensive Literacy Grant**

The Council will hold a public hearing on a supplemental appropriation to MCPS' FY19 Operating Budget - \$1,350,000 for the Striving Readers' Comprehensive Literacy Grant. This appropriation would provide

families in the County, particularly those impacted by poverty, with resources and tools to build a literacy-rich environment before their children enter kindergarten. The Council staff report can be viewed at: https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20190326/20190326_8.pdf

 **Supplemental appropriation to MCPS' FY19 Operating Budget - \$2,068,305 for the Title IV, Part A: Student Support Enrichment Grant**

The Council will hold a public hearing on a supplemental appropriation to MCPS' FY19 Operating Budget - \$2,068,305 for the Title IV, Part A: Student Support Enrichment Grant. This appropriation would provide instruction in coding and robotics beginning at elementary schools; expansion of the digital citizenship program; personalized learning for at-risk students; expansion of restorative justice practices; and expansion of world language education in elementary schools. At the secondary level it also would provide: summer enrichment experiences to deepen college and career readiness; mental health supports; the costs for Career and Technology Education assessments; and students' project-based learning experiences with the fine arts. The Council staff report can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20190326/20190326_9.pdf

COMMITTEE

 **Bill 1-19, Police - Officer Involved Death - Independent Investigation**

On March 25 at 9:30 a.m. the Public Safety (PS) Committee will review Bill 1-19, Police - Officer Involved Death - Independent Investigation, also known as the Law Enforcement Trust and Transparency (LETT) Act. Councilmember Will Jawando is the lead sponsor. All other Councilmembers are cosponsors. Bill 1-19 would do the following:

- require an independent investigation of an officer involved death of an individual;
- establish qualifications for an independent investigation of an officer involved death;
- require the independent investigators to submit a final written report to the State's Attorney and make the written report public under certain circumstances; and
- amend the law governing investigations of an officer involved death.

The goal of this bill is to provide transparency in these investigations and to help promote public confidence in the Montgomery County Police Department. The Council staff report can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20190325/20190325_PS1.pdf

Key search terms for Bill 1-19 on the Council's website include: LETT Act, officer involved death and police investigation. #LawEnforcementTransparency is being used for this item on social media.

 **MARC Rail Communities Sector Plan**

On March 25 at 10 a.m. the PHED Committee will continue its review of the MARC Rail Communities Sector Plan. This limited master plan builds on the recommendations of the previous 1985 Boyds Master Plan, the 1989 Germantown Master Plan and the 2009 Germantown Employment Area Sector Plan, and examines the land uses, zoning, design and multimodal access to the two MARC stations located in Boyds and Germantown. The plan does the following:

- determines the appropriate land uses and densities at sites near each station;
- provides recommendations to improve multimodal access to each station (using information gathered during the Master Plan of Highways and Transitways and the Bicycle Master Plan to help inform the access portion of this plan);
- considers other concerns raised during the planning process (i.e. parking).

Casey Anderson, chair of the Planning Board, Gwen Wright, director of the Planning Department, and others are expected to attend. The Council staff report can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20190325/20190325_PHED1.pdf

Employee Wellness Program

On March 25 at 2 p.m. the Health and Human Services (HHS) and GO Committees will meet jointly to receive an update on the County's Employee Wellness Program. This program aims to cultivate a culture of well-being through holistic programs, resources and policies that empower employees of County government to lead a healthier lifestyle. Karen Plucinski, acting director of the Office of Human Resources (OHR) and Liliana Rojas, wellness program manager, OHR, are expected to attend. The Council staff report can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20190325/20190325_HHSGO1.pdf

Interagency Technology Policy and Coordination Committee (ITPCC) Work Plan

On March 25 at 2:30 p.m. the GO Committee will review the Interagency Technology Policy and Coordination Committee (ITPCC) Work Plan. This multiyear plan aims to coordinate and align technology solutions to improve how Montgomery County residents live, work and learn. Those agency and department heads expected to attend, along with members of the ITPCC CIO Subcommittee, include the following: Andrew Kleine, chief administrative officer for Montgomery County; Dr. Jack R. Smith, superintendent for Montgomery County Public Schools; Dr. DeRionne Pollard, president of Montgomery College; Carla Reed, general manager and chief executive officer for the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission; Casey Anderson, chair of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission; Stacy Spann, executive director of the Housing Opportunities Commission; and Marlene Michaelson, executive director Office of the Council. The Council staff report can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20190325/20190325_GO1.pdf

Agencies' FY20 Information Technology Programs and Budgets

The GO Committee also will receive an overview of agencies' fiscal year 2020 information technology programs and budgets. The presentations provide the opportunity for each ITPCC agency to highlight, in a common format, their work efforts and priority initiatives. In addition, this meeting provides a chance for the Committee to see the aggregate impact of IT investments across agencies, as well as to engage in a dialogue with the CIO Subcommittee regarding the potential to leverage technology investments, share approaches and indicate policy support for resident-centered service offerings across agency lines. The Council staff report can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20190325/20190325_GO2.pdf

ZTA 19-01, Accessory Residential Uses - Accessory Apartments

On March 26 at 9:30 a.m. the PHED Committee will continue its review of ZTA 19-01, Accessory Residential Uses - Accessory Apartments. Councilmember Hans Riemer is the lead sponsor. ZTA 19-01 would do the following:

- Allow detached accessory apartments as a limited use in R-200, R-90, and R-60 zones (currently detached accessory apartment are only allowed as limited use in RE-1, RE-2 and RE-2C zones);
- Allow an accessory apartment in a basement (currently accessory apartments are allowed in a cellar);
- Change the measure of the size of an accessory apartment from 50% of gross floor area to 50% on habitable floor area;
- Delete the absolute maximum size on an accessory apartment (currently the absolute maximum size is 1,200 square feet);

The goal of this zoning change is to streamline the process for having an accessory apartment, to help increase the supply of affordable housing. The Council staff report will be available on March 25.



Department of Environmental Protection

On March 28 at 2 p.m. the Transportation and Environment (T&E) Committee will receive an update from the County's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on the following topics:

- Stormwater Management Capital Improvements Program and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Status
- Gude Landfill Remediation Capital Project
- Solid Waste Master Plan/Aiming for Zero Waste Task Force
- Strategic Plan to Advance Composting, Compost Use, and Food Scraps Diversion
- Climate Change Mobilization

The Council staff report will be available on March 26.