

COUNCIL COMING ATTRACTIONS



Week of Oct. 28, 2019

Racial Equity and Social Justice Act, Air Conditioning in Rental Units, CROWN Act Natural Hairstyles, Policing Advisory Commission, Regional Affordable Housing Targets, Update from County Health Officer, WSSC Spending Control Limits, County Dental Services

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 will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 9:30 a.m.
-  Council President Nancy Navarro will present a proclamation recognizing October as National Women's Small Business Month.
-  Councilmember Craig Rice will present a proclamation recognizing the NAACP ACT-SO 2019 national participants and winners.
-  Councilmember Gabe Albornoz will present a proclamation honoring Nancy Leopold and Career Tracks.

COUNCIL

Resolution to Support Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' Regional Housing Targets for Montgomery County

The Council will introduce a resolution to support Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' (MWCOG) regional housing targets for Montgomery County. Council President Nancy Navarro is the lead sponsor of this resolution. All other Councilmembers are cosponsors. In 2019, MWCOG analyzed and reviewed cooperative employment and housing forecasts in the region. Employment growth is currently outpacing housing. Insufficient housing impacts housing affordability and undercuts economic

development that relies on an available workforce. In addition, regional transportation systems are strained as workers commute long distances. MWCOG has adopted three regional housing targets:

1. add at least 320,000 housing units to the region between 2020 and 2030;
2. at least 75 percent of new housing should be in activity centers or near high-capacity transit; and
3. at least 75 percent of new housing should be affordable to low- and middle-income households.

The new housing target is 75,000 more units than the current regional forecast and allocates 10,000 of these additional units to Montgomery County (including a portion in the City of Gaithersburg and the City of Rockville). The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20191029/20191029_2A.pdf



Update from County Health Officer and Annual Meeting with Commission on Health

The Council is scheduled to receive an update from Dr. Travis Gayles, County Health Officer, and hold its annual meeting with the Commission on Health. Dr. Gayles will provide the Council with an update on public health issues in the County. Desiree de la Torre, chair of the Commission on Health, will inform the Council about the Commission's priority public health areas that are the current focus of the Commission's work: school health, vaping and smoking, and communicable diseases. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20191029/20191029_5A&B.pdf



FY21 Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Spending Control Limits

On Oct. 29 at 10:15 a.m. the Council is scheduled to vote on the Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) Spending Control Limits. WSSC's spending control limits process was established in April 1994 via resolution by both Montgomery and Prince George's County Councils, with the goal of both Councils agreeing on certain budgetary limits by November 1 of each year. WSSC is the bi-county governmental agency charged with the responsibility of providing water and sanitary sewer service within the Washington Suburban Sanitary District, which includes most of Montgomery County and Prince George's County. The Transportation and Environment (T&E) Committee recommends enactment of the seven percent rate increase recommended by the County Executive and by the staffs of both the Montgomery County and Prince George's Council. The impact of this rate increase on the average residential account (assuming 165 gallons per day of water usage) would be approximately \$5.06 per month. Those expected to attend the meeting include the following: Fausto Bayonet, commissioner, WSSC; Howard Denis, commissioner, WSSC; T. Eloise Foster, commission vice-chair, WSSC; and Carla Reid, general manager and CEO, WSSC. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20191029/20191029_4.pdf

PUBLIC HEARINGS



Supplemental appropriation to the County Government's FY20 Operating Budget, Department of Health and Human Services - \$239,492 for ACCESS Harm Reduction Grant

On Oct. 29 at 1:30 p.m. the Council will hold a public hearing on a supplemental appropriation to the County Government's FY20 Operating Budget for the Department of Health and Human Services of \$239,492 for an ACCESS Harm Reduction Grant. The County has been awarded a \$239,492 grant to support efforts to address opioid and other drug addiction through the Leave Behind program (a naloxone and urgent follow-up program), the STEER (Stop, Triage, Engage, Educate and Rehabilitation) program which reduces the number of people in the criminal justice system through treatment and interventions after overdose, and training in the use of Narcan/Naloxone. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20191029/20191029_6.pdf



Bill 27-19, Administration - Human Rights - Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice - Racial Equity and Social Justice Advisory Committee - Established

On Oct. 29 at 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. the Council will hold public hearings on Bill 27-19, the Racial Equity and Social Justice Act. This legislation would create a Racial Equity and Social Justice Program for Montgomery County government that would be implemented across county government by a new executive branch Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice. Council President Nancy Navarro is the lead sponsor. All other Councilmembers are cosponsors. Under Bill 27-19, the County Executive would be required to adopt a county-wide racial equity and social justice action plan by regulation. Each County department and office also would be required to develop a racial equity and social justice action plan. In addition, Bill 27-19 would require that legislation, public policy initiatives and government programs, supported by budget requests, include a racial equity and social justice impact statement. The bill also would establish a Racial Equity and Social Justice Advisory Committee that would include members of the public.

Since land use plans and policies are major drivers for shaping communities, Bill 27-19 requires the Montgomery County Planning Board to consider racial equity and social justice issues when preparing master plans that are submitted to the Council. These plans include recommendations for land uses, transportation and public facilities such as schools, libraries, community and recreation centers, parks and fire and police stations.

Work on the Racial Equity and Social Justice Act officially began in April 2018 when the Council passed a resolution spearheaded by Council President Navarro, to create the framework to develop a racial equity policy. Since that time Council President Navarro has met with community members throughout the county on racial equity and social justice issues.

Formal community conversations on racial equity and social justice, which were co-hosted by Council President Navarro and County Executive Marc Elrich, began in March. These conversations in Silver Spring, Germantown and White Oak, and a youth meeting at Gaithersburg High School, were attended by more than 750 community members. Various community groups also hosted individual meetings at nonprofit organizations, religious institutions, community centers and in private homes. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20191029/20191029_7.pdf

#EquityMattersinMoCo is being used for this bill on social media.

COMMITTEES



MARC Rail Communities Sector Plan Sectional Map Amendment (H-133)

On Oct. 28 at 9:30 a.m. the Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee will review the MARC Rail Communities Sector Plan Sectional Map Amendment (H-133). SMA H-133, filed by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, is a comprehensive rezoning application to implement the zoning recommendations contained in the MARC Rail Communities Sector Plan, which was approved by the Council on April 30. Richard Weaver, Area 3 chief, Montgomery Planning Department; Fred Boyd, master plan supervisor, Montgomery Planning; and Roberto Duke, planner coordinator, Montgomery Planning, are expected to attend this meeting. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20191028/20191028_PHED1.pdf



Bill 24-19, Landlord-Tenant Relations - Obligations of Landlord - Air Conditioning

The PHED Committee also will continue its review of Bill 24-19, which would require a landlord to provide and maintain air conditioning service for rental housing located in the County between May 1 and September 30 and establish standards for air conditioning service provided by a landlord. Councilmember Tom Hucker is the lead sponsor. Councilmembers Will Jawando and Gabe Albornoz and Council President

Nancy Navarro are cosponsors. The goal of this bill is to ensure tenants in rental housing have access to a working air conditioning unit to improve public health and living conditions. Aseem Nigam, director, Department of Housing and Community Affairs (DHCA); Rosie McCray-Moody, DHCA; and Christopher Anderson, DHCA, are expected to attend this meeting. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20191028/20191028_PHED2.pdf

#MoCoRentalAC is being used for this bill on social media.



Bill 30-19, Human Rights and Civil Liberties - Race Discrimination - Protective Hairstyles (CROWN Act)

Oct. 28 at 9:30 a.m. the Health and Human Services (HHS) Committee will review Bill 30-19, the CROWN Act, which would prohibit discrimination based on certain natural hairstyles. Councilmember Will Jawando and Council President Nancy Navarro are the lead sponsors. The CROWN Act would ensure that individuals who are discriminated against because of the appearance of their natural hair can seek a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 through the County's Office of Human Rights. Montgomery County is the first local jurisdiction to introduce such legislation. The goal of this legislation is to prevent workplace and other forms of discrimination against people who wear such hairstyles including braids, locks, afros, curls and twists. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20191028/20191028_HHS2.pdf

#NaturalHairMoCo is being used for this bill on social media.



County Dental Services

The HHS Committee will close out its meeting with an overview presentation and discussion of the County's Dental Program for low-income residents and special populations. In FY16 and FY17, the Council added \$100,000 and \$230,000 respectively to the County's operating budget to increase capacity and reduce wait times in the County's six dental clinics. In FY18, the Council added \$161,906 to fund a new dental program director position. Dr. Boyce, who will present to the Committee at this session, is the County's new dental director. In recent years, the Council has also added funding to Care for Kids, which is used for medical and dental expenses. Dr. Raymond Crowel, director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); Dr. Travis Gayles, county health officer and chief of public health services, DHHS; and Dr. Tricia Boyce, director, County Dental Program, are expected to attend this meeting. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20191028/20191028_HHS1.pdf



Bill 14-19, Police - Policing Advisory Commission - Established

On Oct. 28 at 2 p.m. the Public Safety (PS) Committee will continue its review of Bill 14-19, which would establish a 13-member Policing Advisory Commission. The lead sponsor is Councilmember Hans Riemer. Councilmember Will Jawando is a cosponsor. The Policing Advisory Commission would advise the Council on policing matters; provide information on best practices in policing; recommend policies, programs, legislation or regulations; comment on matters referred to it by the Council and conduct at least one public forum each year for community input on policing matters and engage in public education. The group must also provide an annual report to the Executive and Council by July 1. The 13-member commission would include nine appointed public members with an interest in policing matters, with each Councilmember nominating one member. Four members would be nominated by the Executive. Non-voting, ex-officio members would include the police chief or a designee and a representative of an employee organization. Members will serve three-year terms. The goal of Bill 14-19 is to enhance trust and transparency between the police department and community members and to identify best practices in policing. Captain Ed Pallas, director, Policy, Planning and Quality Assurance Division, Montgomery County Police Department, is expected to attend this meeting. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20191028/20191028_PS1.pdf

#MoCoPolicingAdvisory is being used for this bill on social media.