

# COUNCIL COMING ATTRACTIONS



## **Week of January 27, 2020**

### **Vision Zero Plan on Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety, Accessory Structures, Spending Affordability Guidelines for the Operating Budget, Community Grants, Forest Glen/Montgomery Hills Sector 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> .

### **The Council will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 28 at 9:30 a.m.**

-  Councilmembers Craig Rice, Evan Glass, Andrew Friedson and Nancy Navarro will present a proclamation recognizing the finalist of the I Voted Art Contest.
-  Council President Sidney Katz will present a proclamation recognizing the Lunar New Year.

## **COUNCIL**

### **Community Grants**

On Jan. 28 at 9:50 a.m. the Council will discuss the community grants process for fiscal year 2021. The Council staff report will be available on Monday, January 27.

### **Vision Zero Plan on Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety**

The Council will hold a briefing on the County's [Vision Zero Plan on Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety](#), which is a long-term plan that aims to eliminate fatalities and severe injuries on Montgomery County roads by 2030. The Council meeting will include representatives from the Maryland State Highway Administration, Montgomery County's Department of Transportation, the Montgomery County Police Department, Montgomery County Park and Planning, and Montgomery County Public Schools. The Council also is planning a Vision Zero town hall meeting on Sunday, Feb. 9 at 2 p.m. in Wheaton High School to hear directly from residents about the safety issues they are encountering on roadways, sidewalks and in

crosswalks located in Montgomery County. In Dec. 2019, Councilmember Evan Glass hosted, and several Councilmembers participated in, a similar meeting at the Council Office Building in Rockville. In addition, Councilmembers continue to advocate for specific pedestrian and bicycle safety improvement projects throughout Montgomery County and have secured speed limit reductions on some state roads. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200128/20200128\\_7.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200128/20200128_7.pdf)

### **Forest Glen/Montgomery Hills Sector Plan**

The Council will review the [Forest Glen/Montgomery Hills Sector Plan](#). This updated plan reevaluates land use and transportation strategies as part of the long-term visioning process for the area, including an analysis of existing traffic conditions, which will help inform the community and Planning Department staff as they make recommendations to improve transportation conditions. Specific topics to be discussed include the following:

- traffic congestion standards;
- intersection improvements at Forest Glen Road and Georgia Avenue, Seminary Road/Columbia Boulevard and Georgia Avenue and 16th Street and Georgia Avenue;
- extending Woodland Drive;
- a kiss-and-ride lot at the Forest Glen Medical Center property;
- access to the Metro Station and the Forest Glen Passageway;
- public school adequacy; and
- the fiscal impact statement for the plan.

Those expected to attend this session include the following: Casey Anderson, chair, Montgomery County Planning Board; Gwen Wright, director, Montgomery Planning Department; Mike Riley, director, Montgomery Parks; Leslye Howerton, master plan supervisor, Planning Department; Melissa Williams, senior planner, Planning Department; Katie Mencarini, senior transportation Planner, Planning Department; Lisa Govoni, housing planner, Planning Department; Stephen Aldrich, Functional Planning & Policy, Planning Department; Christopher Conklin, director, Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT); and Andrew Bossi, Director's Office, MCDOT.

The Council staff reports can be viewed here:

Part 1: [https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200128/20200128\\_8A-part1.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200128/20200128_8A-part1.pdf)

Part 2: [https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200128/20200128\\_8A-part2.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200128/20200128_8A-part2.pdf)

### **Corrective Map Amendment: H-130 for Takoma Park Master Plan**

The Council is scheduled to vote on Corrective Map Amendment H-130 for the Takoma Park Master Plan. This amendment would correct technical errors that occurred inadvertently and resulted in three split-zoned parcels along Carroll Avenue in Takoma Park. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200128/20200128\\_8B.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200128/20200128_8B.pdf)

### **Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) 20-02, Accessory Structures – Standards**

The Council will introduce ZTA 20-02, which would clarify that the Council's intended limitation on the footprint of accessory buildings or structures applies to all buildings or structures on the site combined. Councilmembers Andrew Friedson and Will Jawando are the lead sponsors. In a District Court case, the current limitation on accessory structures (50 percent of the footprint of the principal structure) was mistakenly allowed to each accessory structure on the site. The Department of Permitting Services has been interpreting the code such that the 50 percent limitation applied to the footprints of all accessory structures on the site. This ZTA would clarify the Council's intent and would not interfere with the size limitation of an accessory dwelling unit. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200128/20200128\\_8C.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200128/20200128_8C.pdf)

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

### **Spending Affordability Guidelines for the Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Operating Budget**

On Jan. 28 at 1:30 p.m. the Council will hold a public hearing on the spending affordability guidelines for the County's FY21 Operating Budget. These guidelines set the parameters for the overall operating budget by setting the ceiling on property tax revenues and the aggregate operating budget and the allocation of the aggregate operating budget. Any aggregate operating budget that exceeds the guidelines requires the affirmative vote of seven Councilmembers. This supermajority requirement is the most significant aspect of the spending affordability guidelines for the operating budget. The Council must adopt guidelines for the next operating budget by the second Tuesday in February. The spending affordability guidelines that must be adopted are: 1) a ceiling on the funding from ad valorem real property tax revenues; 2) a ceiling on the aggregate operating budget; and 3) separate budget allocations for all agencies and certain non-agency uses. A Government Operations and Fiscal Policy (GO) Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 6. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200128/20200128\\_6.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200128/20200128_6.pdf)

## COMMITTEES

### **Gang Activity and Gang Prevention Services**

On Jan. 23 at 9:30 a.m. the Health and Human Services (HHS) and PS Committees will meet jointly to receive an update on gang activities and gang prevention services in the County. The Council staff report will be available on Jan. 21.

### **Status of Gude Men's Shelter**

On Jan. 27 at 10:15 a.m. the HHS Committee will receive an update on the status of the Gude Men's Shelter. In December 2019 the HHS Committee met to discuss the work that is ongoing to analyze the findings and recommendations from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) health and safety review of the Gude Men's shelter and administrative offices in response to significant vibrations caused by adjacent landfill operations. These noises and vibrations caused ill effects among some staff and shelter clients. The administrative offices and shelter are currently not being used because of the impacts of these events. Those expected to attend the meeting include the following: Dr. Raymond Crowel, director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); Caroline Sturgis, assistant chief administrative officer; Adam Ortiz, director, Department of Environmental Protection; David Dise, director, Department of General Services; Amanda Harris, chief, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness, DHHS; Greg Ossont, deputy director, Department of General Services; Susie Sinclair Smith, executive director, Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless (MCCH); and Jennifer Schiller, chief programs officer, MCCH. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2020/20200127/20200127\\_HHS1.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2020/20200127/20200127_HHS1.pdf)

### **OLO Report 2019-14, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Performance and Opportunity Gaps**

On Jan. 27 at 2 p.m. the Education and Culture (E&C) Committee will hold a follow-up meeting on OLO Report 2019-14. This report describes trends in MCPS's performance and opportunity gaps by race, ethnicity and service group status and offers recommendations for the Council and Board of Education. Two sets of findings emerge from OLO's review:

- Performance gaps by race, ethnicity and service group status persist. Asian and White students outperform Latinx and Black students; students who are ineligible for service group programs outperform their peers eligible for free and reduced priced meals, ESOL programs and special education.
- Opportunity gaps by race, ethnicity and service group status also persist with MCPS concentrating Latinx, Black, English learners and low-income students in high-poverty schools and in turn under-

funding its high-poverty schools by under-funding ESOL and compensatory education programs relative to student need.

The report makes the following recommendations for Council action:

- Develop a Council resolution requesting that the Board of Education develop an integration and equitable funding plan to address existing opportunity gaps.
- Encourage the State of Maryland to require the Board of Education to expend all state compensatory education revenue on low-income students and high-poverty schools.
- Request that the Board of Education earmark County funding above state maintenance of effort requirements for compensatory education and ESOL programs.
- Request that the Board of Education annually report on student performance and resource allocations for general, special and compensatory education and ESOL programs analogous to OLO Report 2019-14.

The full report can be viewed here:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OLO/Resources/Files/2019%20Reports/OLORReport2019-14.pdf>

The Council staff report can be viewed here:

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2020/20200127/20200127\\_EC1.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2020/20200127/20200127_EC1.pdf)

### **Implementation of the County's Early Care and Education Initiative**

On Jan. 30 at 9:30 a.m. the E&C and HHS Committees will meet jointly to review the implementation of the County's Early Care and Education Initiative. In March 2019, then-Council President Nancy Navarro and County Executive Marc Elrich, in partnership with MCPS and Montgomery College, [jointly announced the Montgomery County Early Care and Education Initiative \(ECEI\)](#), a four-year action plan to significantly expand quality early care and education (ECE) options for infants, toddlers and preschoolers, provide greater access to more families, and support schools and community-based providers. More information can be found here:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS-Program/CYF/ECEPO/EarlyCareEducationPolicyOffice.html>

The Council staff report will be available on Jan. 27.

### **School-Based Substance Prevention Programming**

The E&C and HHS Committees also will review school-based substance prevention programs. The Committees will discuss comprehensive, consistent substance abuse issues including vaping prevention education in schools. The Committees have requested information on youth substance abuse trends, effective practices in delivering substance abuse prevention education to young people, MCPS sponsored/directed activities and collaborative efforts among MCPS, DHHS and other key stakeholders to implement prevention efforts in schools. The Council staff report will be available on Jan. 27.

### **Bill 36-19, Contracts and Procurement – Office of Grants Management – Established**

On Jan. 30 at 2 p.m. the GO and HHS Committees will review Bill 36-19, which would establish an Office of Grants Management as a principal office of the County's executive branch. Councilmember Nancy Navarro is the lead sponsor. Council Vice President Tom Hucker, Councilmembers Craig Rice and Gabe Albornoz, Council President Sidney Katz and Councilmember Hans Riemer are cosponsors. Bill 36-19 also would alter the circumstances in which a contract may be awarded without competition; prescribe the authorities and responsibilities of the Office of Grants Management; and generally amend the law regarding grants and related functions. The Office of Grants Management would have the following responsibilities:

- provide a central point of contact regarding grants that the County receives or awards;
- provide departments with information about federal and state grant opportunities;
- maintain a central database of grants that the County receives or awards;
- provide training and technical assistance for grants management to departments and principal offices;

- develop countywide policies and procedures regarding grants management, in coordination with the Office of Procurement;
- develop practices to ensure that grants management in the County is consistent with racial equity and social justice goals, in coordination with the Office of Procurement;
- perform public outreach regarding grants offered by the County; and
- perform any other grants function assigned by the chief administrative officer.

The goal of this legislation is to increase efficiency and transparency in the County's grants awarding process and in managing grants received by the County. The Council staff report will be available on Jan. 27.

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

**Spending Affordability Guidelines for the FY21 Capital Budget and Other General Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Assumptions**

On Jan. 30 at 3:30 p.m. the GO Committee will review the spending affordability guidelines for the FY21 Capital Budget and other general CIP assumptions. The Council staff report will be available on Jan. 27.