



City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, Maryland  
20850-2364  
www.rockvillemd.gov

240-314-5000  
TTY 240-314-8137

April 7, 2021

The Honorable Council President Hucker and County Councilmembers  
Montgomery County Council  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Council President Hucker and County Councilmembers,

As the County Council deliberates the County Executive's FY22 Recommended Operating Budget, the Mayor and Council wish to share our perspective on municipal tax duplication.

Municipal services save the County from the expense and effort of providing certain services if the municipalities did not exist, and benefit the entire County (recreation and parks, roads, bridges, police, etc.). Rockville and all Montgomery municipalities are looking for fair and just compensation for services provided. While the County Executive's recommended increase in FY22 is a step forward, the County continues to significantly underfund municipal tax duplication.

Since 2012, municipal tax duplication payments from the County to municipalities have been substantially frozen, while the cost of providing these services in the County and in the municipalities, has significantly increased. It is imperative that the County and municipalities execute a formal and permanent process for municipal tax duplication and codify the formulas into the County Code. County Council support and involvement in this process is critical.

We request that the County Council amend the County's FY22 budget to adjust the municipal tax duplication payments to the amount for transportation (road maintenance), park and other services as outlined in the chart provided to Montgomery County municipalities in February, which would total \$14,203,314. Since municipalities have little authority to set rates for revenue other than the property tax, fair reimbursement for all municipal tax duplication costs is urgently needed.

Rockville's top-notch Police Department responds to 71% (2020 data) of calls for service in the city, which frees up the County Police to allocate resources to other communities. The City has never received reimbursement from the County for these services. We request that the County Council and County Executive work with the cities of Chevy Chase Village, Gaithersburg, and Rockville to fairly negotiate payments for these essential public safety services.

Montgomery County is a safe, attractive, and welcoming place because of the partnership between the County and municipalities to provide services that improve the quality of life for our residents. We respectfully ask the County Council to bring resolution to this long-standing issue by approving a fair amount of municipal tax duplication reimbursement - as referenced above - and codifying the formulas into the County Code. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter with you further. Thank you.

Sincerely,

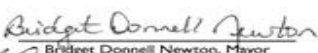


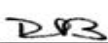
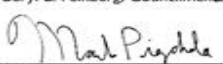
MAYOR  
Bridget Donnell Newton

COUNCIL  
Monique Ashton  
Beryl L. Feinberg  
David Myles  
Mark Pierzchala

CITY MANAGER  
Robert DiSpirito

CITY CLERK/DIRECTOR OF  
COUNCIL OPERATIONS  
Sara Taylor-Ferrell

ACTING CITY ATTORNEY  
Cynthia Walters

  
Bridget Donnell Newton, Mayor  
  
Monique Ashton, Councilmember  
  
Beryl L. Feinberg, Councilmember  
  
David Myles, Councilmember  
  
Mark Pierzchala, Councilmember

Mayor and Council of Rockville

cc: Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Executive