

## Testimony on Behalf of the County Executive

### Bill 37 – 21, Animal Control – Animal Services Advisory Committee – Established

My name is Tom Koenig, Director of the Office of Animal Services, and I am here today on behalf of County Executive Marc Elrich to testify for Bill 37-21. The County Executive is in support of the proposed Animal Services Advisory Committee Bill 37-21 as this will bring together animal welfare advocates throughout the County to lend their support and perspective regarding numerous animal related issues and concerns.

Bringing various animal welfare perspectives into a committee, along with those from the Office of Animal Services, has the potential of better serving our community's animal welfare needs. The collective sharing of information will be the key to creating a path forward for this new committee in identifying problems and creating opportunities to resolve them.

With help from this new committee, in partnership with the Office of Animal Services, we look forward to fostering conversations with passionate animal advocates on a broad range of animal care and welfare issues within Montgomery County.