Dear Montgomery County Councilmembers,

Please do not impose a vaccine passport upon our county. It will have no benefit to public health as vaccines do not prevent transmission. Vaccinated people are just as likely to go out and spread the virus as unvaccinated people, especially given that their symptoms may be milder and they may not realize they have covid. Unvaccinated people, on the other hand, may have a more severe case which will cause them to stay home.

The passport will only cause needless division in our communities and further harm to already struggling small businesses. Please listen to the business leaders from the first hearing on this matter. Only large businesses like Strathmore have the resources to implement this plan. If you support small businesses, you will not impose these new restrictions that they in turn must enforce.

Thank you for taking your communities’ wishes into consideration. I hope you will do the right thing.

Maria Alonso