

Hello, my name is Susan Labin, Ph.D. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

My Children attended Montgomery County Public Schools and in the future, I would like my grandchildren to be able to safely do the same.

I support appropriation 23-12 with an amendment stipulating that none of this money will be spent on wireless technologies. For example, lighting and communication systems should not include any so called “smart” lighting or wireless communications.

For years, the Council has ignored the known, harmful effects of wireless radiation (RF) especially on children. Researchers at the respected non-profit, the Environmental Working Group, estimate that children should have an RF exposure limit several hundred times below current levels.<sup>1</sup>

Current FCC limits are not based on science, as The US Court of Appeals DC Circuit ruled in Environmental Trust et al. v FCC in August 2021. The Court specifically ordered the FCC to review the science on children—who have enhanced vulnerability to RF—something no government agency has ever done.

The Council urgently needs to develop a comprehensive strategy for protecting children and all residents and from radio frequency harms, just like they have done with monitoring of lead exposure in homes and schools, a bill that all nine of the current councilmembers cosponsored in 2019.<sup>2</sup>

The Council should be protecting children and all residents, not trying to increase exposure as in the proposed zoning text amendment 22-01, which will encourage proliferation of antennae close to children and schools. Even the wildly unpopular ZTA 19-07 had a setback of 30 feet from schools. 22-01 has no school setback whatsoever.

Thank you

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<sup>1</sup> <https://ehjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12940-021-00768-1>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20190507/20190507\\_4A-5A.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20190507/20190507_4A-5A.pdf)