



## **CLIMATE COALITION**

### **Montgomery County, MD**

**Montgomery County Council**

**Legislation: Bill 24-23: Airpark Community Advisory Committee - Established**

**Organization: Climate Coalition Montgomery County**

**Position: Favorable with Amendments**

**Council Hearing: June 13, 2023**

Dear Council President Glass and Council Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify concerning Bill 24-23: Airpark Community Advisory Committee – Established.

As the climate assessment for this bill notes, it is well known that air travel contributes 3% of all greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to the atmosphere. This is significant. And while appointment of an advisory board in itself won't affect emissions (or noise, soil, or air pollution either), it is incumbent upon you to ensure that the Advisory Committee members that you appoint will take into account GHGs emissions in their deliberations - not just the effects of airplanes on noise, air pollution, and soils.

By the way, as a member of the Climate Coalition MoCo, I want to note that we have changed our name to underscore the fact that we advocate for action beyond what is in the Climate Action Plan. This bill is an example - while air travel was not in the CAP, our Coalition urges vigilance on the part of everyone in the County – including members of Advisory Councils – to improve our odds of significantly reducing our GHGs and advancing resilience.

I also want to take this opportunity to mention that it has been a year since the Climate Assessment legislation was unanimously passed and signed into law on July 25, 2022, effective Oct. 24, 2022. We have been reviewing OLO's climate assessments, as we did for this bill, and are waiting to see a climate assessment from Planning. We are becoming cognizant of some flaws in the process, and will be proposing to work with you, OLO, and Planning to refine and improve the ability of the 'climate' community to provide input into the assessments to ensure you are fully informed of the effects of your decisions on both emissions of GHGs as well as on community resilience.

Thank you for considering our edits on today's Bill 24-23, as submitted in writing, which include:

1. adding a 9th member representing the local environmental community;
2. adding to the committee's duties to also advise on environmental impacts; and
3. including in the annual report data on fuel use and estimated greenhouse gas emissions from flight operations.

These changes will ensure that Council and the Executive are fully cognizant of the contribution of County operations to climate change emissions and impacts.

Thank you.

Karen Metchis, ACQ Climate (Ask the Climate Question!)

Karl Held, The Climate Mobilization MoCo

Bill No. 24-23  
Concerning: Airpark Community  
Advisory Committee - Established  
Revised: 04/15/23 Draft No. 1  
Introduced: \_\_\_\_\_  
Expires: \_\_\_\_\_  
Enacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive: \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunset Date: None  
Ch. \_\_\_\_\_, Laws of Mont. Co. \_\_\_\_\_

## COUNTY COUNCIL

### FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Lead Sponsor: Councilmember  
Luedtke Co-Sponsor: Council  
President Glass

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**AN ACT** to:

- (1) establish an Airpark Community Advisory Committee;
- (2) specify the membership, responsibilities, and staffing of the Committee; and
- (3) generally amend the laws regarding airports within the County and regarding an advisory committee concerning airports.

By adding

Montgomery County Code  
Chapter 42. Revenue  
Authority Section 42-34A

<b>Boldface</b>	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment. Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

*The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:*

Sec. 1. Section 42-34A is added as follows:

**42-34A. Airpark Community Advisory Committee.**

- (a) Committee established. There is an Airpark Community  
Advisory Committee.
- (b) Membership.
- (1) The Committee consists of:

- (A) 9 voting members who are appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council;
- (B) 3 non-voting, ex-officio members.

(2) The 9 voting members include:

- (A) a representative of the Montgomery Village Foundation;
- (B) 3 members nominated by other homeowner's associations, civic associations, or community groups;
- (C) a representative of the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation;
- (D) a representative of a flight school operating at the Montgomery County Airpark; and
- (E) 2 representatives of business owners in the County.
- (F) **a representative of the local environmental community**

(3) The 3 ex-officio members include:

- (A) a designee of the Revenue Authority;
- (B) the County Executive, or the Executive's designee; and

(c) Terms of voting members of the County Council.

- (1) In general. A voting member serves for a 3-year term or until a successor is appointed and confirmed.
- (2) Term limits. A voting member must not be appointed to serve more than 2 full consecutive terms.

(3) Staggering of initial terms. Of the initial voting members:

(A) 2 members must be appointed to 1-year terms;

(B) 3 members must be appointed to 2-year terms; and

(C) 3 members must be appointed to 3-year terms.

(d) Duties. The Committee must:

(1) advise the County Executive, County Council, and Revenue Authority regarding Montgomery County Airpark operations, community concerns, safety, **environmental impacts**, and community impact; and

(2) report annually to the County Executive, County Council, and the Revenue Authority regarding:

(A) data on noise complaints;

(B) data on itinerate flight operations;

(C) **data on fuel use and estimated greenhouse gas emissions from flight operations;**

(D) data on local flight operations; and

(E) recommendations of the Committee regarding operations, safety, community impact, and other community concerns.

(di) \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings; quorum; officers; compensation.

(1) Meetings.

(A) The Committee must meet at the call of the Committee chair and at least 4 times annually.

1B The Committee must invite representatives of the annually.

51 \_\_\_\_\_ (2)  
52 Federal Aviation Administration and the Maryland  
Quorum. A majority of the voting members of the Committee Aviation Administration to  
attend at least 1 constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

Committee meeting

(3) Officers. The Committee must elect from among its voting  
53 members a chair, vice-chair, and other officers it deems  
54 appropriate.

55 (4) Compensation. A member must serve without compensation, but  
56 the member may request reimbursement for mileage and  
57 dependent care costs at rates established by the County.

58 (f) Staffing. The County Executive must designate a principal office or  
59 department identified under Section 1A-201(a)(1) to provide the staff  
60 support necessary for the Commission to perform its duties.