



CLIMATE COALITION

Montgomery County, MD

To: Montgomery County Council

From: Climate Coalition, Montgomery County

Re: Supporting passage of Bill 40-23, Tree Canopy and Roadside Tree Requirements

The Climate Coalition, Montgomery County is comprised of 20 organizations committed to making change happen with urgency for a livable climate for all. We applaud Council President Glass and Vice President Friedson and Council for introducing Bill 40-23, Tree Canopy and Roadside Tree Requirements. As stated so well in the County's press release about this bill, "Trees are one of the most important natural resources and one of the few truly renewable resources. Tree canopies play a pivotal role in enhancing quality of life and contributing to the well being of residents. A thriving tree canopy reduces air, water and noise pollution, alleviates heat stress and reduces heat islands, and positively impacts physical and mental health outcomes, among other benefits. Protecting the tree canopy will help mitigate climate effects and help Montgomery County reach its ambitious climate goals."

Updating the fee for removing trees on roadsides and County right of ways to reflect their current replacement cost is needed to support the County's Climate Action Plan.

Climate Coalition, Montgomery County, MD respectfully requests the Montgomery County Council vote YES for Bill 40-23.

Member organizations include:

350 Montgomery County
ACQ Climate (Ask the Climate Question)
Bethesda Green
Biodiversity for a Livable Climate
Chesapeake Climate Action Network
Elders Climate Action
Environmental Justice Ministry Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist
Church Environmental Study Group
Friends of Sligo Creek
Glen Echo Heights Mobilization
Green Sanctuary Committee of the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Silver Spring
Montgomery Countryside Alliance
Montgomery County Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions
One Montgomery Green
Poolesville Green
Safe Healthy Playing Fields
Sugarloaf Citizens' Association
Transit Alternatives to Mid-County Highway Extended/M-83 (TAME)
The Climate Mobilization Montgomery County
Takoma Park Mobilization Environment Committee (TPMEC)
Zero Waste Montgomery County