



**Testimony of Greg Ramirez
On Behalf of Montgomery College
Montgomery County Council
April 8, 2025**

Good afternoon, Council Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today and thank you for your continued dedication to serving the people of Montgomery County.

My name is Greg Ramirez, and I serve as Vice President at Henley Construction, a long-standing partner of Montgomery College. At Henley, we've seen firsthand the transformative impact of Montgomery College's programs on our workforce and our community.

With 60 years in business, Henley Construction has consistently turned to Montgomery College to find skilled, reliable, and well-trained professionals.

We currently employ several Montgomery College alumni in key roles throughout our company. What we always know we can count on with these Montgomery College graduates is their invaluable technical skills along with a passion for excellence. And that drives our success.

As a proud graduate of Montgomery College, I know the exceptional education and training that the College provides.

It is a testament to the profound impact Montgomery College has on Henley Construction and the broader industry producing professionals who are not only equipped to lead but also to drive innovation at the highest levels.

My experience is just one of many. And I am proud to say that many top performers, not only those at Henley, but throughout the county, are also alumni of Montgomery College.

The educational programs at Montgomery College equip graduates with the skills they need to succeed in construction whether they are in the field or project management.

The construction sector continues to face significant labor shortages due to an aging workforce and increasing demand for skilled workers. Today, it's more important than ever that we have a steady pipeline of skilled workers to draw from.

That's why Henley Construction is so proud of our partnership with Montgomery College. We know that when we hire a Montgomery College graduate, they are well-prepared to step into a meaningful role.

At Henley Construction, we have a mutual goal with you (the Council) and Montgomery College.

That is, to strengthen our local community.

Graduates from Montgomery College are committed to staying and growing in Montgomery County. This relationship is not just about filling positions at Henley – it's about contributing to the growth and prosperity of our county. It's about providing good-paying jobs, leadership opportunities, and career advancement for local talent.

One of the things we especially appreciate is the collaborative spirit that Montgomery College fosters.

The College doesn't just provide education – it works closely with industry leaders, like Henley, to ensure that the curriculum aligns with the current market needs.

Thank you for your support of Montgomery College.

Your commitment to the College's operating budget has allowed to continue delivering high-quality education and workforce development.

The funding you provide allows Montgomery College to remain a leader in supplying local talent to businesses like ours.

As you make decisions in the coming weeks regarding the FY26 operating budget, I, along with many other area contractors, appreciate your continued support of Montgomery College. Your investment in the College is an investment in ALL of our futures, in our local workforce, in our businesses, and the continued growth and success of Montgomery County.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and thank you for your time and consideration.

Henley Construction's success and the success of many other businesses in this county are directly linked to the work that Montgomery College does. By supporting the College's operating budget request, you are helping to ensure that Montgomery College can continue its vital work of developing skilled, job-ready professionals who will contribute to the economic health and prosperity of Montgomery County for years to come.

Thank you again for your time and your continued support of Montgomery College.