To the Montgomery County Council,

As a resident of Silver Spring, the county parks are incredibly important to me and my family. It brings us so much joy having access to so many wonderful parks within a short distance from our home, to explore nature, walk our dogs, and find some quiet in the city.

One of many things I am always impressed by is the mapping of the parks. When I go to Wheaton Regional Park, for example, I can easily access a trail map online, and also find the maps along the trails. Without these maps I would feel much more unsure wandering into a new park, but because of the maps available I can easily explore county parks that are new to me. Most recently, I am very impressed with the Montgomery County cherry blossom interactive map, which has helped me explore cherry blossoms in my own neighborhood instead of going to the more crowded Tidal Basin in D.C.

I want the parks to get more resources to continue to maintain and care for the abundant natural spaces in our county. It brings so much joy seeing all the people in our neighborhood enjoying the parks to play soccer, eat food, use the play equipment, and just be outside together.

Thank you, Lauren Tierney, Silver Spring