

Council Public Hearing: Resolution to Increase County Income Tax Rate May 13, 2025

As a resident of Montgomery County for 64 years, I don't mind paying my state taxes for schools, fire and police protection, infrastructure, and a safety net for the disabled. However, I do strongly object to paying taxes for anything else. We pay sales tax, real estate tax, income tax, gasoline tax, utility tax, internet tax, cell phone tax, car emissions fees, driver's license and plate fees, toll road fees, refuse tax, alcohol, cannabis, and tobacco tax, grocery tax, mattress tax, car purchase tax, EV tax, and more. Once the taxes are added, they're never repealed.

We have affordable housing in the county but it's the taxes that make it unaffordable. Landlords need to pay higher real estate taxes which are passed along to the tenants. I was ready to buy a beautiful home in Takoma Park near my grandson but the real estate taxes were so high that I changed my mind.

Between the zoning issues, the bike lanes, and the taxes, I think the citizens of Montgomery County are waking up. Why should we pay the taxes for the developers who were given the deal of a lifetime with tax exemptions for 20 years? Why did you do this? What motivated you to help developers but hurt us?

Maryland is ranked 46th as one of the worst states for taxes so the most talented, wealthy, and intelligent people and businesses are leaving the county. I am seriously considering leaving and moving to Delaware and encouraging my children to do the same. The definition of insanity is to keep doing the same thing expecting a different result, so please do something different! Cut out the nonessential expenses using best business practices. Consider engaging a volunteer task force to conduct a fact-finding audit.

Montgomery County is at a tipping point. The citizens of MoCo want you to reduce spending and taxes which will attract business to Maryland and grow revenue. I hope you will do this so you can be re-elected and I can stay here for another 64 years.

Mary Jane Perraut

Silver Spring, MD